

TREES and SPECIMENS

Guidance Notes - An explanation of specification sizes and constraints

When are field grown trees available?



We usually start lifting field grown trees in early November. Depending on species there needs to be some leaf fall, plus good soil moisture levels to avoid damaging roots if lifting in dry conditions.



Here in Kent if we experience a dry summer and early autumn we may have to wait for late autumn rains to fully penetrate the soil horizon before we can start lifting. Conversely, if the ground is too wet we may not be able to get the machinery in to lift the trees.



Each year is a little different. Generally we can safely lift trees in our fields by the early part of November and have them available for you up until the end of March for all but the early breaking species.

Our trees are lifted specifically to order and dispatched "field fresh" within a day or so.



We supply trees:

Bare rooted - (OG for Open Ground) from early Nov to late March

Root Balled - (RB) from end of Oct to early April*


Root Ball Coco Wrap - (RBC) root-balled to order for late season planting

Containerised - Trees grown in pots or bag pots. Available all year. (* subject to field conditions and species)

Bare Rooted or OG trees - Our OG trees will have been transplanted and undercut like all trees to encourage a dense fibrous root system like in the picture, (subject to species).



This fibrous root system allows the tree to be successfully transplanted. Suitable for trees up to 12-14-16cm size subject to species. Roots need to be kept moist and protected from sun and drying out.

 Root-Balls need careful handling due to weights and require risk assessments.

Root Balls - Our root balls come with a hessian lining with an ungalvanised wire cage. Both these items will rot away in 1-2 years and only need cutting away (once the tree is planted) from the main stem if they are liable to restrict growth.

Do not remove the wire cage before planting as it will cause the root ball to collapse and damage the roots. Please see our tree planting guidelines [here](#).

NOTE - root ball weights can vary with size, soil type and moisture content, a risk assessment is strongly recommended for all handling and unloading operations - see weight guidance below.

Coco Wrapped Root Balls - allow late season planting. Trees need to be root-balled to order in winter before any sign of bud break are wrapped with a thicker coco wrap (rather than a thin hessian) and the normal ungalvanised wire cage to hold the soil together.

These rootballs remain on drip irrigation and are viable throughout the summer for late season planting. May require some deposit with order.

Containerised Trees - Our container grown trees may have been field grown and then containerised for at least a season to ensure they have a fully developed root system in the container.

Trees may have a shelf life in the container of 2 or more years before there is a risk of circling roots developing. They are available for year-round planting.

Tree sizes are as follows:

Transplants We usually have these in 60-80cm (1+1) and 125-150cm (1+2) height sizes. (These are usually 2-year-old seedlings (1+1) which have been undercut or lifted after year one to create a fibrous root system suitable for transplanting.)

Whips and Maidens - These are feathered young trees up to 250cm tall

Feathered Trees - Trees measured by height where their side branches have been retained.

Standard Trees - These are where the feathers (side branches) have been pruned to create a clear stem of 150cm or more usually 180cm +

Standard trees are sized by their circumference/girth of the stem measured at one metre above ground.

Stem Circumference	Specification	Approx. Height	Times (BS8545) Transplanted	Weight Kg OG/RB	Min RB Size \varnothing cm diam.
6-8cm girth	Light Standard LS	2.0-3.0m	2x	4/-	-
8-10cm girth	Standard S	2.5-3.0m	2-3x	4/25	30cm
10-12cm girth	Selected Standard SS	3.0-3.5m	3x	5/40	30cm
12-14cm girth	Heavy Standard HS	3.5-4.0m	3x	7/50	40cm
14-16cm girth	Extra Heavy Standard EHS	4.0-4.5m	3x	10/100	45cm
16-18cm girth	Extra Heavy Standard EHS	4.5-5.0m	3x	15/150	50cm
18-20cm girth	Extra Heavy Standard EHS	4.5-5.0m	3x-4x	-/200	55cm
20-25cm girth	Semi Mature SM	5.0-5.5m	4x	-/250-300	60cm
25-30cm girth	Semi Mature SM	5.5-6.0m	4x	-/300+	70cm
30-35cm girth	Semi Mature SM	6.0-6.5m	4x	-/350	80cm
35-40cm girth	Sizes increase by 5cm steps in girth	6.5m>	5x	-/500+	90cm +10cm>