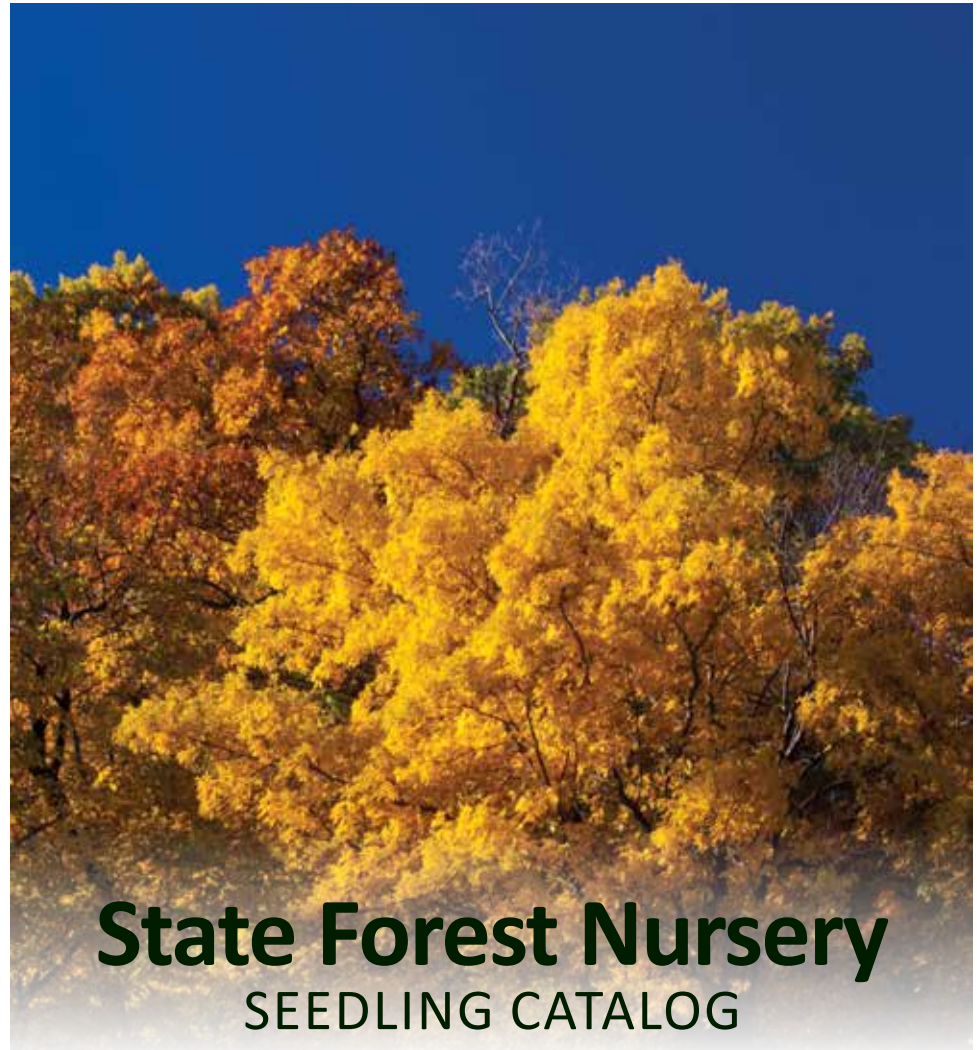


DNR
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IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



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WILDLIFE AND POLLINATOR BENEFITS: NATIVE HARDWOOD TREES						
	Wildlife (H = habitat, F = food)			Pollinators (SP = spring, SU = summer)		
	Pheasants and Quail	Turkey	Grouse	Habitat	Nectar/ Forage	Bloom Time
Black Cherry		F	F	●	●	SP, SU
Black Walnut		F		●		
Cottonwood		H		●		
Hackberry		F/H	F	●	●	SP
Shagbark Hickory		F/H		●		
Shellbark Hickory		H		●		
Hybrid Poplar						
Hybrid Willow			H			
Kentucky Coffeetree		F/H				
Sugar Maple		H	H	●	●	SP
Silver Maple		H		●	●	SP
Northern Pecan		F/H		●		
Black Oak		F/H	H	●		
Bur Oak		F/H	H	●		
Chinkapin Oak		F/H	F/H	●		
Pin Oak		F	F/H	●		
Red Oak		F/H	H	●		
Swamp White Oak		F/H	H	●		
White Oak		F/H	H	●		
River Birch		F	F/H	●	●	SP
Sycamore						

WILDLIFE AND POLLINATOR BENEFITS: SHRUBS & SMALL TREES						
	Wildlife (H = habitat, F = food)			Pollinators (SP = spring, SU = summer)		
	Pheasants and Quail	Turkey	Grouse	Habitat	Nectar/ Forage	Bloom Time
Aroniaberry		F	F		●	SP
Arrowwood		F	F	●	●	SP, SU
Buttonbush	F				●	SU
Chokecherry	H	F	F	●	●	SP, SU
Gray Dogwood	F/H	F	F/H	●	●	SP, SU
Redosier Dogwood	F/H	F	F/H	●	●	SP, SU
Elderberry	F/H	F	F/H	●	●	SP, SU
Hazelnut	F/H	F/H	F/H		●	SP
Highbush Cranberry	F/H	F	F/H	●	●	SP, SU
Nannyberry	H	F	F/H	●	●	SP, SU
Ninebark	F/H		F/H		●	SP
American Redbud				●	●	SP
Serviceberry	F	F	F/H	●	●	SP
Wild Plum	F/H	F	F/H	●	●	SP, SU

Federal and State law prohibits employment and/or public accommodation (such as access to services or physical facilities) discrimination on the basis of age, color, creed, disability (mental and/or physical), gender identity, nation origin, pregnancy, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, contact the Iowa Civil Rights Commission at 1-800-457-4416, or write to: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, 502 East 9th Street, DSM, IA 50319-0034 P: 515-725-8200

The State Forest Nursery welcomes the opportunity to help you with your tree planting needs. Our goal is to provide low cost, native seedlings to help make your tree planting successful and affordable. We strive to produce the best stock in the industry, and our staff will do everything they can to help you achieve your planting goals. Native, affordable seedlings are available to help make your planting successful, so please let us know how we can help! You can contact us by calling **1-800-865-2477** or visiting nursery.iowadnr.gov.

By planting trees today you will leave a legacy for your children and grandchildren, as well as a legacy for your home state, its people and its habitat. Let us help you leave your mark on the state you love- your children and grandchildren will thank you!

TO ORDER

CALL 800-865-2477 | **FAX** 515-233-1131 | **ONLINE** nursery.iowadnr.gov

PLACE ORDERS August 1 - May 31

Please **DO NOT SEND MONEY** with your mail order- we will bill you at a later date. Checks, VISA, MasterCard and Discover are accepted.

Seedlings may be planted for any purpose and given away to others. Seedlings may be resold as long as the appropriate licenses are obtained by the seller.

SHIPPING RATES

Spee Dee Delivery Service: 25-100 seedlings \$10 | 125+ seedlings \$.10 per seedling
Fed Ex (available for areas not serviced by Spee Dee):
25-100 seedlings \$20 | 125+ seedlings \$.15 per seedling

You can pick the week you would like to have your order shipped. Once a date is confirmed on your invoice, we will do everything possible to ship your order that week. Please leave a note for the shipper where to leave trees so they will not be in the sun. Fall shipments start the last week of October. Spring shipments start the first week of April. Weeks in April will become full as we can only physically ship a limited quantity each week.

PICKUP

You may also choose the week to pick up your order from the nursery in Ames. Please call 48 hours before picking up your trees to confirm that your order is ready.

Orders must be paid in full before they are shipped or picked up.

OVERSIZED STOCK

A few of our species are available in a 31" plus size. These seedlings are bundled at the roots and sold in groups of 25. The price per seedling is \$1.75 and the shipping cost is \$10.00 per bundle of 25. ..or they may be picked up at the nursery. Orders for this size must be placed directly over the phone. Call the nursery for more details.

GIFT SEEDLINGS A GIFTS

Purchase seedlings for birthdays, Christmas and other holidays. You will receive a gift acknowledgment to give to the recipient and the seedlings can be shipped directly to the recipient's address.

NATIVE IOWA HARDWOODS



Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

Height: 50-60' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: prefers moist and well-drained

Full sun to partial shade

Fall color: yellow

Valuable wood products, small cherries make good jelly and wine and are excellent bird and wildlife food, excellent firewood.



Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

Height: 50-80' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: deep, moist and well-drained

Requires full sun

Fall color: yellow

Valuable wood products, nuts are edible for humans and animals, excellent firewood.



Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)

(available as 14" cuttings or 12" rooted cuttings)

Height: 60-100' | **Rate of growth:** fast

Soils: wet to well-drained

Requires full sun

Fall color: yellow

Valuable for fuel-wood plantations, very adaptable tree.



Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*)

Height: 50-70' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: moist to well-drained

Full sun to partial shade

Fall color: yellow

Host plant for several butterflies, including Emperor, Question Mark and American Snout. The fruit is highly sought after by a number of bird and mammal species. A good substitute for ash in a tree planting; good for biomass plantings and firewood.



Hickory, Shagbark (*Carya ovata*)
Height: 60-80' | **Rate of growth:** slow
Soils: well-drained
 Full sun to partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Nuts are edible to people and wildlife, excellent firewood, shaggy bark provides bat nesting sites. Usually found on uplands with oaks.



Hickory, Shellbark (*Carya laciniosa*)
Height: 60-80' | **Rate of growth:** slow
Soils: adaptable to moist soils
 Full sun to partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Nuts are edible to people and wildlife, excellent firewood. Usually found within riparian areas.



Hybrid Poplar (*Populus deltoids X Populus nigra*)
 (available as 14" cuttings or 12" rooted cuttings)
Height: 40-60' | **Rate of growth:** very fast
Soils: moist to well-drained
 Requires full sun
 Fall color: yellow
 Seedless mix of cottonwood and black poplar, valuable for trainer trees and fuel-wood trees.



Hybrid Willow (*Salix ssp.*)
 (available in 14" cuttings or 12" rooted cuttings)
Height: 30-40' | **Rate of growth:** very fast
Soils: wet to well-drained
 Requires full sun
 Fall color: yellow
 Good for streamside plantings for erosion control, rapidly establishes cover and windbreak for wildlife. Host plant for Viceroy butterfly.



Kentucky Coffeetree (*Gymnocladus dioicus*)
Height: 60-75' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained
 Full sun to partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Very disease tolerant, leaves and seeds are toxic to sheep, cattle, horses.



Maple, Silver (*Acer saccharinum*)
Height: 60-80' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: prefers moist or moderately drained soils
 Full sun to partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Valuable wood products, good firewood. Seeds used by songbirds and small mammals. Commonly grows along rivers.



Maple, Sugar (*Acer saccharum*)
Height: 60-75' | **Rate of growth:** slow
Soils: prefers moist and well-drained
 Sun or shade
 Fall color: brilliant orange, red or yellow
 Valuable wood products, excellent firewood, used for maple syrup production.



Northern Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*)
Height: 70-100' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: deep, moist, well-drained
 Full sun
 Fall color: yellow
 Nuts are edible for people and wildlife.



Oak, Black (*Quercus velutina*)

Height: 50-70' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained, can survive on poor, dry and sandy sites
Requires full sun
Fall color: red to red-brown
Acorns provide good wildlife food, excellent firewood.



Oak, Bur (*Quercus macrocarpa*)

Height: 50-80' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained, adaptable to a variety of conditions
Requires full sun
Fall color: yellow-brown
Branches have great character; excellent firewood; acorns eaten by turkey, blue jay, grouse, deer and wood duck.



Oak, Chinkapin (*Quercus muehlenbergii*)

Height: 50-75' | **Rate of growth:** slow
Soils: Well-drained along bottomlands of dry bluffs, ridge tops and rocky slopes
Requires full sun
Fall color: varied but usually shades of yellow and brown
Grows to a medium sized tree in Iowa and is sporadically found. Leaves are toothed and not lobed like other oaks.
Acorns are smaller than most oaks. Bark is thin like the white oak. Strong tree, good for wildlife food and windbreaks.



Oak, Mixed (*Quercus* variety)

Height: 50-80'
Rate of growth: varies with species
Soils: varies with species
Requires full sun
Fall color: varies with species
Contains a mixture of oaks including red, white and bur in varying proportions.



Oak, Pin (*Quercus palustris*)

Height: 60-80' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained and pH below 7; tolerates poorly drained wet sites
Requires full sun
Fall color: bright red
Pyramidal shape, small acorns offer good wildlife food, excellent firewood.



Oak, Red (*Quercus rubra*)

Height: 60-80' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: moist and well-drained
Requires full sun
Fall color: red to red-brown
Valuable wood products, acorns provide good wildlife food, excellent firewood.



Oak, Swamp White (*Quercus bicolor*)

Height: 50-60' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: prefers wet but will grow in well-drained and prefers pH below 7
Requires full sun
Fall color: yellow-brown
Acorns provide excellent wildlife food, excellent firewood.



Oak, White (*Quercus alba*)

Height: 50-80' | **Rate of growth:** slow
Soils: prefers moist, well-drained upland soils
Requires full sun
Fall color: purplish-red
Valuable wood products, acorns provide excellent wildlife food, excellent firewood. Provides important habitat for colorful spring warblers.



River Birch (*Betula nigra*)

Height: 40-70' | **Rate of growth:** medium to fast
Soils: prefers moist soils
 Full sun to partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Peeling bark exposes reddish brown inner bark.
 Grows along rivers and drainages. Provides important habitat for colorful spring warblers.



Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*)

Height: 70-100' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: moist to well-drained; tolerates poorly drained soils
 Requires full sun
 Fall color: yellow-brown
 Enormous leaves, interesting bark on upper branches peels away to lighter colors. Provides important nesting habitat for Northern Parula and Yellow-throated Warbler.



Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*)

Height: 40-60' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained
 Can grow in partial shade
 Hardy, dense draping branches, more tolerant to deer than pines, good wildlife cover. Cones are favored by Red-breasted Nuthatch.



White Spruce (*Picea glauca*)

Height: 40-60' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained, gravelly sites.
 Can grow in partial shade
 Hardy, tolerant of hot dry summers, more tolerant to deer than pines, good wildlife cover. Attracts colorful winter finches.



Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*)

Height: 80-100' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: wet to moderately dry
 Full sun to partial shade
 This tree loses needles every fall and grows new ones in the spring. Very long lived tree, seed is good wildlife food, provides good wildlife cover. Wood is very decay resistant.



White Pine, Eastern (*Pinus strobus*)

Height: 50-75' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: rich, moist or moist sandy loams
 Requires full sun
 Soft, beautiful tree, good wildlife habitat, intolerant of air pollutants and ice storms, good wood products tree, widely used for Christmas trees. Provides roosting habitat for Eastern Screech Owl and other owls.



Red Cedar, Eastern (*Juniperus virginiana*)

Height: 30-40' | **Rate of growth:** moderate to fast
Soils: Well-drained. Tolerant of poor soils
 Turns brownish/purple color during winter months
 Prefers full sun
 Native to all of Iowa. Widely planted for wildlife habitat, windbreaks, shelterbelts and soil conservation. Tolerant of heat and drought.



Jack Pine (*Pinus banksiana*)

Height: 30-50' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: well-drained, very hardy on dry, sandy sites
 Requires full sun
 Somewhat open and loose appearing, tolerant to deer, good wildlife cover and erosion control.



Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*)

Height: 50-80' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: moist to well-drained
 Requires full sun
 Does not tolerate hot, dry winds, prefers a cool, protected site. Good wildlife cover, good lumber tree. Seeds used by songbirds and small mammals.



Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Height: 3-6' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: wet to moist
 Requires full sun
 Fall color: yellow
 Produces white button-shaped flowers in late summer and bears seed that benefits wildlife. Flowers are great nectar source for butterflies



Scotch Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*)

Height: 30-60' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: moist to well-drained
 Requires full sun
 Good wildlife cover, widely used for Christmas trees, should be considered for short term plantings as tree may not live past 20 years.



Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)

Height: 10-25' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: rich, moist to well-drained
 Full sun to slight shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Similar to black cherry tree but smaller. Bears red fruit that is good for many birds and mammals. Good wildlife cover.



Aroniaberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*, wild cultivated)

Height: 4-10' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: wet to drier soils
 Sun or shade
 Fall color: bright red
 Berries are high in vitamins, minerals and antioxidants and are edible for people and animals. White flowers in May and bears blackish purple fruit. Good wildlife food and cover.



Dogwood, Gray (*Cornus racemosa*)

Height: 10-15' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: prefers moist to well-drained; adaptable to tough sites like poor fertility, dry, compacted sites
 Grows best with full sun or partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Forms a large plant colony from the original, produces cream flowers followed by white berries. Fruit eaten by pheasants and grouse and provides good winter cover. Great habitat for migrant songbirds- especially warblers.



Arrowwood (*Viburnum recognitum*)

Height: 8-15' | **Rate of growth:** medium
Soils: dry to wet
 Sun or partial shade
 Fall color: yellow to red-purple
 White flowers in late May followed by bluish-black berries in the fall. Good bird and wildlife food and cover. Found in open woods, along forest edges and stream banks.



Dogwood, Redosier (*Cornus stolonifera*)

Height: 10-15' | **Rate of growth:** fast
Soils: wet to well-drained; very adaptable
 Grows best with full sun or partial shade
 Fall color: yellow
 Has attractive bright red stems, produces cream flowers followed by white berries, forms a large plant colony. Good wildlife food and cover. All dogwoods are host plants for Azure butterflies and food plants for many butterfly species.



Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)

Height: 5-12' | **Rate of growth:** fast

Soils: moist to well-drained

Full sun to partial shade

Fall color : yellow

Showy white, flat-topped flowers in June, produces berries edible for people and animals in fall that are good for jams and jellies. Good wildlife food and cover.



Hazelnut (*Corylus americana*)

Height: 8-10' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: well-drained

Full sun to slight shade

Fall color: yellow-brown

Produces nuts edible for people, squirrels, chipmunks, deer, grouse, quail, pheasants, blue jays. Provides excellent browse and shelter for deer and other wildlife.



Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)

Height: 8-12' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: deep, moist to well-drained

Full sun to partial shade

Fall color: red to purple

Showy flat clusters of white flowers followed by large bright red berries that hold on all winter. Excellent wildlife food and cover. Habitat includes stream banks and low moist ground. Host plants for Azure butterflies and food plants for many butterflies.



Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*)

Height: 15-18' | **Rate of growth:** fast

Soils: dry, well-drained, or moist sites

Sun or partial shade

Fall color: purple-red

White flowers in early May with bluish-black berries in the fall. Good bird and wildlife food and cover. Host plant for Azure butterflies and food plants for many butterflies.



Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)

Height: 5-9' | **Rate of growth:** fast

Soils: moist to moderately dry

Full sun to partial shade

Fall color: yellow-brown

Hardy, dense, compact grower. Has small foliage, produces clusters of white flowers in May followed by numerous red pods. Good wildlife food and cover.



Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

Height: 15-25' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: moist to well-drained

Sun or shade

Fall color: yellow

Small tree with low, horizontal branching on umbrella-like spreading crown. Very showy tree in the spring, producing lavender to pink flowers along the branches. Doesn't grow well above Hwy 20. Host plant for Henry's Elfin butterfly.



Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*)

Height: 6-20' | **Rate of growth:** medium

Soils: moist to well-drained

Prefers partial shade

Fall color: yellow, orange or red

Small, single to multi-stemmed tree, also known as Juneberry. Produces white flowers in early spring and bears edible purple berries in June. Good songbird and wildlife food. Fruit is especially important for robins, flickers, and waxwings.



Wild Plum (*Prunus americana*)

Height: 10-15' | **Rate of growth:** fast

Soils: rich, moist to well-drained

Full sun to slight shade

Fall color: reddish to yellow

This small tree forms thickets and has small soft thorns. White flowers appear in April followed by purple, edible fruit good for jams and jellies. Good wildlife food and cover. Especially good nesting habitat for rarer songbirds like Yellow-breasted Chat and Bell's Vireo. Provides food for bees and many butterfly species, including Tiger Swallowtail.

SPECIALTY PACKETS



SONGBIRD PACKET

This packet includes 16 favorite shrubs and 4 trees. These species will attract a variety of songbirds year round: 2 Bur Oak, 2 White Pine, 4 Wild Plum, 4 Chokecherry, 4 Gray Dogwood and 4 Serviceberry. Recommended by Iowa Audubon Society.

NEW! VISIT THE STATE FOREST NURSERY ONLINE STORE



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AMES, IA 50010-8037
PHONE (800) 865-2477



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Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Aron Flickinger, Nursery Manager
Kandy Weigel, Administrative Assistant

Kevin Barker, Nursery Technician
Evan Miller, Nursery Technician
Lee Goldsmith, Nursery Technician

PRIVATE LANDS SECTION & DISTRICT MAP

For information contact the State Forest Nursery at 800-865-2477 or your district forester.



DNR District Forester	Phone	Address
1. DAVE ASCHE	563-245-1891	500 Gunder Rd Elkader, IA 52043
2. GREG HEIDEBRINK & JASON WALKER	641-228-6611	621 Beck St Charles City, IA 50616
3. JOE HERRING	641-648-6304	524 Lawler St Iowa Falls, IA 50126
4. DAVID BRIDGES	319-462-2768	300 Chamber Dr Anamosa, IA 52205
5. LISA LOUCK	319-523-2216	260 Mulberry St Suite 4 Wapello, IA 52653
6. RAY LEHN	641-472-2370	Box 568-605 S. 23 rd St Fairfield, IA 52556
7. JEREMY COCHRAN	641-774-8733	1111 N. 8 th St Chariton, IA 50049
8. AARON WRIGHT	515-993-4133	1918 Greene St Adel, IA 50003
9. LINDSEY BARNEY	712-482-6245	Box 189 - 712 S Hwy 6 Oakland, IA 51560
11. RANDY GOERNDT	641-782-6761	904 E. Taylor Creston, IA 50801
12. MARK VITOSH	319-351-8886	3109 Old Hwy 218 S. Iowa City, IA 52246

EMAILS ARE FIRSTNAME.LASTNAME@DNR.IOWA.GOV

SUCCESSFUL TREE PLANTING TIPS

Before ordering, take time to plan. For assistance contact your DNR District Forester. (Page 19)

- Select tree and shrub species that will do well on your site and meet your objectives.
- Determine tree and shrub spacing and the quantity needed.
- Place your order early to ensure that seedlings are available.
- Consider existing ground cover and the steps needed to ensure your trees will not succumb to weeds. You may need to eliminate or reduce competing vegetation before planting.
- Consider what you will need to do to prepare the site.
- Decide if the site should be machine planted or hand planted.
- Decide if you can do the work yourself or if you need to hire a contractor.
- Small trees (8-16") may be better for hand planting projects and those new to planting trees.
- Large trees (17-24") may be better for more experienced tree planters and for contractors using equipment to help with properly planting the bigger root systems usually associated with these trees.

SITE PREPARATION

The objective of site preparation is to control competing vegetation and to ensure good soil to root contact for the newly planted seedlings. An ideal site is well tilled and free of weeds. However, the steepness of slope, rocks and other impediments and the need to control soil erosion often limit the degree of site preparation that can be considered practical.

Eliminate all vegetation in a strip 3-5' wide where the trees will be planted by cultivating or using herbicides. If the site needs protection from erosion, do all work on the contour.

SEEDLING CARE PRIOR TO PLANTING

The planting seasons in Iowa are generally from the end of October until the ground freezes for fall, and April 1st through May for spring. To get the best survival rate, plant the seedlings as soon as you receive them. If you need to store the seedlings, leave them in the packaging bags and keep them as cool as possible in an environment that does not allow freezing and thawing until you are ready to plant. Seedlings lose their vigor if stored for long periods.

ARE GRASSES & WEEDS REALLY A PROBLEM?

Grass and weeds are a problem because they grow faster and are often taller than young seedlings. Grass is a problem because: **1)** it competes for water and quickly dries out the soil, **2)** it competes for nutrients, **3)** it can have allelopathic properties that stunt the growth of seedlings (reeds canary grass and brome are two good examples) and **4)** it creates cover for wildlife such as rabbits and voles.

The primary reason for failed tree plantings in Iowa is poor control of grass and weed competition.

The only way to avoid these problems is to control the grass and weeds that cause them.

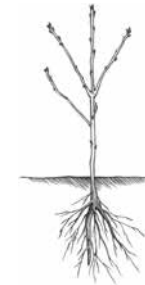
Keep weeds from growing in a 3-5' zone around your seedlings. Mow the area between rows in the fall to reduce hiding places for rabbits and rodents during the winter. This gives the seedlings space to start growing without competition.

SEEDLING CARE DURING PLANTING

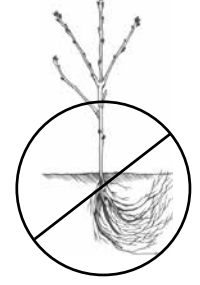
- An hour before you plant, place trees in a bucket with water covering the roots until they are planted.
- Keep unplanted and packaged trees out of direct sunlight.
- Plant seedling root collar slightly below ground. Trees may not survive with exposed roots.
- Plant seedlings with the main root straight down. Avoid doubled or sharply bent roots. Seedlings planted with "U-shaped" roots grow poorly. It is better to trim extremely long roots.
- Plant seedlings upright and firmly pack soil around the roots, leaving no air pockets.



Keep roots moist.



CORRECT planting position.



INCORRECT planting position.

SEEDLING CARE AFTER PLANTING

- Give seedlings an inch of water once each week.
- Control grass and weeds around seedlings to prevent animal damage.
- Use tree shelters to reduce animal damage.

HOW MANY TREES DO I NEED? WHAT IS THE RECOMMENDED SPACING?

Recommended spacing for trees is 8' between plants with 8' between rows or 10' between plants with 6' between rows (700 trees per acre). Spacing for shrubs is 4' between plants with 8' between rows (1400 shrubs per acre) or 5' between plants with 10' between rows (900 shrubs per acre).

For no additional cost, contact your DNR District Forester for additional questions (Page 19).

For more information about a species, such as its native range, please refer to the USDA plants database: <http://plants.usda.gov/checklist.html>.

EXTRA CARE PRODUCES HARDY NURSERY SEEDLINGS

Top pruning: We top-prune certain seedlings to maintain a balance between above ground shoots and the available root system. This practice helps the seedlings concentrate energy at the root level, which increases the survival rate. It also aids in packaging, allowing the bags to be sealed well so the roots stay moist.

Root pruning: Almost all of our hardwood and evergreen trees are root pruned. This practice helps develop more lateral roots and controls top growth, improving the seedlings' balance and survival with a larger root system and shorter top.