

FIELD GROWN TREES AND SPECIMENS

An explanation of specification sizes and constraints Guidance Notes for Customers



Holes prepared for RCB production



RCBs planted in the field



RCB grown tree - full of fibrous root



Root balling machine



RBs need careful handling due to weights and require risk assessments

On average, each year we start lifting field grown trees in early November. There needs to be some leaf fall, which is subject to species, and 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.

Generally we can safely lift trees in our fields by the early part of November and have them available for you 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: -
 or bare rooted (OG for Open Ground) from early Nov to late March
 or Root Balled (RB) from end of Oct to April*
 or Root Control Bags (RCB) from Sept/Oct to late April*
 we use a 35 litre (RCB) (35cm diameter)
 and 60 litre (RCB) (45cm diameter) sizes at present
 * subject to field conditions and species

Root Control Bags (RCB) or Fielders

These are an in-ground container made of a fabric which restricts, and eventually prunes, every lateral and vertical root creating a significantly better and denser fibrous root system. Stock transplanted from root control bags are less shocked than any other field grown stock and are proven to root away faster, with higher rates of successful establishment. They also have a longer lifting season. It is important to remove the fabric before replanting.

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 from the main stem if they are liable to restrict growth (and once the tree is planted). Do not remove the wire cage before planting as it will cause the root ball to collapse and damage the roots. **PLEASE 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.

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 side branches have been kept.

Standard Trees

These are where the feathers (side branches) have been pruned to create a clear stem of 150cm or more usually 180+cm. Standard trees are sized by their circumference/girth of the stem measured at one metre above ground.

Stem Circumference	Specification	Approx Height	Approx Weight Kg OG/RB
6-8cm girth	Light Standard LS	2.0-3.0m	4/-
8-10cm girth	Standard S	2.5-3.0m	4/25
10-12cm girth	Selected Standard SS	3.0-3.5m	5/40
12-14cm girth	Heavy Standard HS	3.5-4.0m	7/50
14-16cm girth	Extra Heavy Std. EHS	4.0-4.5m	10/100
16-18cm girth	Extra Heavy Std. EHS	4.5-5.0m	15/150
18-20cm girth	Extra Heavy Std. EHS	4.5-5.0m	-/200
20-25cm girth	Semi Mature SM	5.0-5.5m	-/250-300

Sizes increase by 5cm steps in girth
 The largest trees we have supplied were 45-50cm girth



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