



LORENZ VON EHREN
THE NURSERY. SINCE 1865

The proper planting – expert tips

Transport and unloading on the construction site

Unload plants immediately upon arrival at the construction site plants are sensitive - unload carefully.

Note: The plant is only lifted at the root ball !

Use sling with counter strap to the trunk.

Using an arm/spike spider with a lateral lifting sling to the trunk (photo) is the most gentle method, which can also be used to unload container plants.



Never lift directly at the trunk, only secure with a counter strap!
Do not use unpadded tools to secure the tree directly at the trunk.
Never pull the tree down from the truck to avoid injuries at the roots and the trunk.

Storage of the plants on the construction site

Plant immediately after delivery!

When the plants have to be stored, protect them from direct sun, wind and frost, especially in the root area.

Store plants upright, keep the root area moist and cover the plants with moist jute bags, leaves or soil.

Keep the root area moist during the entire storage period.

Place bare-rooted plants in the ground, or store them lying down for a short time, root to root, under a damp cover.

Cut lacings, loose bundles, unpack pallets (especially important for evergreens).

Protect stored plants from rodents.

Pruning – before planting

Pruning must take account of the characteristics typical of the species and is decisive for the growth.

The aim is to create a balanced root to crown ratio and reduce evaporation via the leaves.

Remove redundant thin, crossing and abrasive or damaged branches.

Release the leading shoot of the tree, remove thicker shoots.

Cut the crown of the tree narrowly or to a narrow triangular shape, shortening clearly at the sides! Shorten the leading shoot which is

typical for the species, especially in fast-growing species like *Acer platanoides*, *A. pseudoplatanus*, *Tilia*, *Robinia*, and *Salix*.

Rule: By pruning the tree, the crown volume should be reduced by approx. 30%.



before pruning



after pruning

The branch is not cut directly at the trunk, but where the diameter of the branch to be removed has already significantly reduced.

Especially for species such as *Crataegus*, *Gleditsia*, *Robinia*, or *Salix* an even stronger cut back of the crown improves the growth of the tree.

When shortening the branches, always cut directly above a bud growing outwards. For tree species with opposite buds (e.g. *Acer*), remove the buds growing inwards.

If whole branches are removed, always cut on an astring.

Rule: Try to leave as small cut surfaces as possible and only little wood above the outer bud.

Trunk protection

Trunk protection is particularly necessary for trees with smooth bark (e.g. *Acer*, *Aesculus*, *Tilia*) to avoid trunk cracks caused by direct sunlight.

Trees with coarse or special bark structure like *Platanus*, *Corylus*, or *Betula* do not require a trunk protection.

Reed mats or trunk protection paint are most suitable.

Rule: The trunk protection should last 10 years. It should reach to just below the base of the crown and protect the stem from direct sunlight.

Fertilization

Trees need fertilizer in their growth phase.

At the beginning, mix the fertilizer into the soil or substrate before filling the planting hole; or sprinkle it near the bale after creating a watering edge.

Rule: For trees with a trunk circumference of 14-16 or 16-18, add approx. 100 g N-P-K fertilizer, which should contain approx. 12-15% nitrogen (= 2 handfuls).

For trees with a trunk circumference of 18-20, 20-25 or 25-30, depending on the size, add 150-200 g of N-P-K fertilizer, which should contain approx. 12-15% nitrogen (= 3-4 handfuls).

Organic fertilizers have a lower nitrogen content (often only 8%), so in this case increase the amount accordingly.



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The planting hole



Rule: The planting hole must be at least 1.5 times the diameter of the bale.

When digging the planting hole, the different layers of soil must be stored separately. When filling up the hole, reinstall in layers accordingly.

Avoid stagnant water in the planting hole! Hence thoroughly loosen the bottom of the hole before planting or drain off excess water by draining the bottom of the planting hole.

The planting depth

Plant the tree approx. 5-10 cm higher than it was before in the nursery, because the loosened soil in the planting hole is still sinking.

Rule: It is better to plant the root slightly higher than too deep.



Treatment of the wire mesh



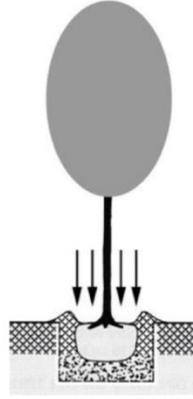
When the tree is standing in the planting hole, contrary to all other tips, only the wire mesh on the trunk should be cut and opened slightly (photo left).

You can also cut the two knots of the jute baling cloth and open the cloth and basket slightly (photo right).

NOTHING ELSE, because the wire mesh and also the jute bale cloth will rot in the ground after approx. 3 years if planted properly.

Extract from the brochure "Richtig pflanzen – so klappt's",
Chamber of Agriculture Schleswig-Holstein,
Horticulture Department,
Dr. Andreas Wrede, Hendrik Averdiek and Thorsten Ufer

The watering edge



The arrows in the illustration indicate where the water seeps away when the watering edge has been created correctly.

(illustration modified according to FLL 2015, Recommendation for tree plantations, Part 1)

Rule: The inner diameter of the watering edge should correspond to the outer diameter of the bale!

The watering edge must ensure that all the water seeps into the ground directly above the bale, so that the water can reach the roots.

The watering edge should be 15-30 cm high.

Make sure that the watering edge is sufficiently stable.

Artificial watering edges made of plastic are also suitable, but they must not be too large (e.g. see figure "AquaMax").

Under no circumstances create the watering edge from bark mulch!

Watering

A freshly planted tree must be thoroughly watered after the planting hole has been closed and the watering edge has been erected. This ensures that any cavities between the soil and the root ball are closed.

The amount of water should guarantee that the surrounding soil or substrate as well as the root ball are well moisturised.

Rule: Depending on the size of the tree, 5-10 buckets full of water (= 50-100 l water) per tree should be used for watering.



Please find further information about the proper handling of plants at www.LvE.de

