



emaho trees

Preparation, planting and after care guide for field grown trees

(To be used as a guide only)

www.emahotrees.com.au



Preparation

The trees are dug with a tree spade with four concave blades which ensure that the root ball shape corresponds with the natural growth pattern of the roots.

As the trees grow, they are root-pruned and again prior to digging. Following the root pruning, they are fed with Auxinone (Vitamin B1 root stimulant) which stimulates the growth of fibrous/feeder roots and minimises any transplantation shock. This also ensures that the trees develop strong root systems and adapt readily to their new environment.

As soon as the trees are dug, they are put in holes (dug by the tree spade to the same size) in which the reinforced wire tree baskets (lined with hessian) have been placed. The hessian around the root balls is placed around the trunks of the trees and eight tensioned straps ensure that the trees have minimal movement in their baskets while in transit. Following this procedure, the trees are watered-in and fed with seaweed extract and Auxinone (Vitamin B1 root stimulant).

The north orientation is marked on the root balls, as it is important for some species to be planted in the same direction in which they have grown.

Top left: Skid steer and tree spade

Top right: 1.4 m wide x .8 m deep strapped root ball ready for loading

Middle: *Flindersia schottiana* being loaded onto truck – note supporting sling on the trunk

Bottom: Truck loaded – note straps to secure root balls and shade cloth being placed to protect trees in transit



For enquiries, quotations and forward ordering, please contact us at barbara@emahotrees.com.au or phone +617 4697 8018.

Three different sized wire tree baskets are used, depending upon species, height and caliper size. Below is a guide based on height only:

- 1.4 m wide x .80 m deep
(trees from 3.5 m – 5.5 m in height)
- 1.6 m wide x 1.2 m deep
(trees from 6 m – 8 m in height)
- 2.0 m wide x 1.5 m deep
(trees from 6.5m – 15m in height
– depending upon species).

They are loaded onto a truck and rest against each other, supported by tree yokes where necessary, strapped and secured for transit. The truck trailer carrying the trees is then covered with shade cloth to protect them from wind damage. At site, if the trees are carried on a truck with an on-board crane, the driver can crane the trees straight into their holes, provided the truck can get within 7 – 8 metres (depending on the truck and weight of the tree) to where the trees are to be planted.

Recommended hole size for the different wire tree basket sizes:

- 1.4 m wide basket, a hole of approx. 1.8 m wide x 1 m deep
- 1.6 m wide basket, a hole of approx. 2 m wide x 1.4 m deep
- 2.0 m wide basket, a hole of approx. 2.4 m wide x 1.7m deep.

This ensures that there is a buffer of loosened soil around and at the bottom of the root ball which provides a good environment into which the new roots can grow. Depending upon the quality of your soil, the backfill for the hole should be a good quality soil mixed with compost. If drainage is an issue, place around 200 mm coarse gravel in the bottom of the hole. The trees should have the top of the root ball level with the ground or slightly higher.

The trees when dug (including a moist root ball) approximately weigh:

- 1.4 m wide basket: 850 – 1200 kg
- 1.6 m wide basket: 1200 – 2000 kg
- 2.0 m wide basket: 2000 – 3000 kg.



Elaeocarpus eumundii

Brachychiton acerifolius
strapped and supported
with tree yoke



1.4 m wide x .8 m deep engineer rated
wire tree basket with strapping



Planting and after care

1. **The trees are to be planted in their baskets to keep the root balls intact.**
The hessian rots down quickly and the wire degrades over time. The strapping can be left in place as this will assist in preventing the trees moving in their baskets during their establishment period. If the trees are 6m and over, it would be advisable for the installer to guy the trees, particularly in high wind situations.
2. Make sure that the top of the root ball is level with the surrounding soil or it can be slightly raised if drainage is an issue.
3. While back-filling with soil/compost, use a hose to apply water down the edge of the root ball to expel air pockets.
4. Water once a week for the first month, using approx. 150 – 200 litres of water.
5. Water once a fortnight after the first month, three times (6 week period) – this is assuming there is no rain in that time period. After this, the trees should not need further regular watering unless there are prolonged dry periods.
6. After the first month, seaweed extract can be applied as a foliar spray at the recommended rate.
7. Ensure that the site where the trees are to be planted has adequate drainage. Poor drainage can remove the oxygen available to the roots from the soil. It is wise, before planting, to dig a test hole around 300mm wide x 300mm deep. Fill the hole with water and see how long it takes for the water to drain away. If it takes more than 6 hours, you may have a drainage issue.
8. Do not drown the tree – the root ball only needs to be moist. Overwatering and poor drainage are the main cause of tree failure.
9. We do not recommend applying slow release/solid fertilisers at the time of planting. These can be applied after six months. We recommend an organic fertiliser, e.g. Organic Xtra.

Bottom left:
Flindersia pimenteliana
and inset flowers

Bottom middle:
Rhodospaera
rhodanthema 6m
and inset flowers

Bottom right:
Tristaniopsis luscious
and inset bark



Advantages of our field grown trees

1. Develop larger, stronger trunks and are more balanced in terms of height and spread. They are similar in form to trees grown naturally in the landscape.
2. Grow stronger root systems through the practice of root pruning which stimulates new fibrous/feeder roots. Also, when the trees are dug for dispatch, even more fibrous/feeder roots develop and within a couple of months are spreading out into their new environment. Our trees are treated with Auxinone (Vitamin B1 root stimulant) and seaweed extract which further encourages strong root growth.
3. Are hardy and need less water than container grown stock. In the field (once the trees are over 2 m in height) they are only watered by natural rainfall, so have adapted to going through dry periods.
4. Suited to a wide range of climates throughout Australia as they are produced at an elevation of 750 metres. This includes Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Toowoomba, Sydney and Melbourne.
5. Adapt more readily to their new environment, as they are grown in soil rather than a potting mix.



Magnolia grandiflora
Coolyn Gloss

Emaho Trees plantation



For enquiries, quotations and forward ordering, please contact us at barbara@emahotrees.com.au or phone +617 4697 8018.