

The Garden Tutors



GARDEN DESIGN & EDUCATION

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Hot Weather Planting Guide

Before you plant:

Be sure all your plants are moist before planting.

Digging the hole:

Remember that the harder the soil the larger the planting hole. In general the planting hole should be twice the width and half again as deep as the root ball. In addition when planting in compacted soil the planting hole needs to get through the compacted soil.

Planting the plant:

The bottom of the planting hole and the sides should be conditioned with Fir Mulch or Gold Rush (a blend of fir bark and chicken manure).

A very important rule is always have the top of the soil from the can be visible when you are through planting. Never allow your natural soil to cover the root ball. This acts as a lid preventing water getting to the plant.

Firm the soil around the root ball, but do not pack it tight. Use a Starter fertilizer as a root building fertilizer when you plant.

Building the water basin:

After planting at the correct level, build a 2-4" high watering basin around the plant to hold water (as shown).

Water after every third or fourth plant is planted. Do not allow plants to sit in dry soil more than half an hour in hot weather.

Starting the plant:

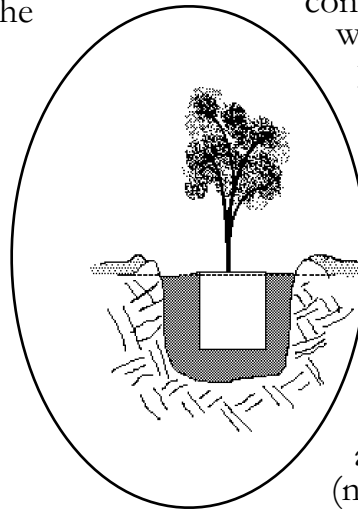
Water the plant with a solution containing both Soil Penetrant and Vitamin B1. The Soil Penetrant ensures complete water penetration to the root ball and the B1 stimulates new root development.

Water two more times with plain water as the water drains out of the basin. This ensures the soil is settled and in good contact with the new root ball. After watering check the soil around the plant and fill in if necessary. A one or two inch mulch of Gold Rush will hold the moisture and keep the roots cool.

Check the root ball carefully during the next few days to be sure it is **MOIST** (not wet).

The plant should be checked about 2 to 3 times a week over the next 2 or 3 weeks. Carefully check to make sure the root ball and surrounding soil are moist (not wet). If necessary you may want to invest in a moisture meter.

This can be an inexpensive guide to correct watering. During very hot weather, you may need to check more often. Be sure to have an organic mulch on plants that are grown in the hot sun to keep the soil and roots moist and cool.



Watering amounts:

#1 size use 1 gal of water

#5 use 5 gal of water

#15 use 15 gal of water