







PLANTATION OPERATIONS & TECHNIQUES

STEPS IN PLANTATION OPERATIONS

Planning Survey & Site Selection **Site Preparation** Fencing Alignment and Staking 6) Earth working – digging pits Transportation of seedlings / plants Sowing / Planting Manuring & Fertilization Irrigation Maintenance & Tending

Step 1. Planning

- Prepare Plantation time table
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zeag3B s7F7M

Land

- Analyse information of nursery stocks
- Arrange for labour
 - Daily wagers
 - Labour contract
 - Regular Mazdoors



District Plantation and Environment Committee meeting at Raebarely

Step 2. Survey

Detailed information is gathered during survey regarding

- Boundary
- Terrain, Soil and geology
- Vegetation cover
- Drainage conditions
- Communication approach
- Rights and privileges of local people

The Best site that matches objectives of planting programme is finally selected well in advance

Treatment Map

- Map of the plantation site on a suitable scale
- Earlier plane table survey, but now handheld GPS survey should be done.
- Clearly mention boundaries and other natural features
- Clearly mark the treatment and choice of species to be planted
 - Ploughing
 - Fertilization
 - Irrigation facilities, if any
 - Blocks / Strips / lines w.r.t. Species
 - Special interventions like gully plugging, check dams, trenches, inspection paths
- To be placed in PLANTATION JOURNAL

PREPLANTING SURVEY AND TREATMENT MAP contd...

Soil map is prepared to demarcate different zones of soil depth viz.

Zone I - shallow soil depth < 10 cm.

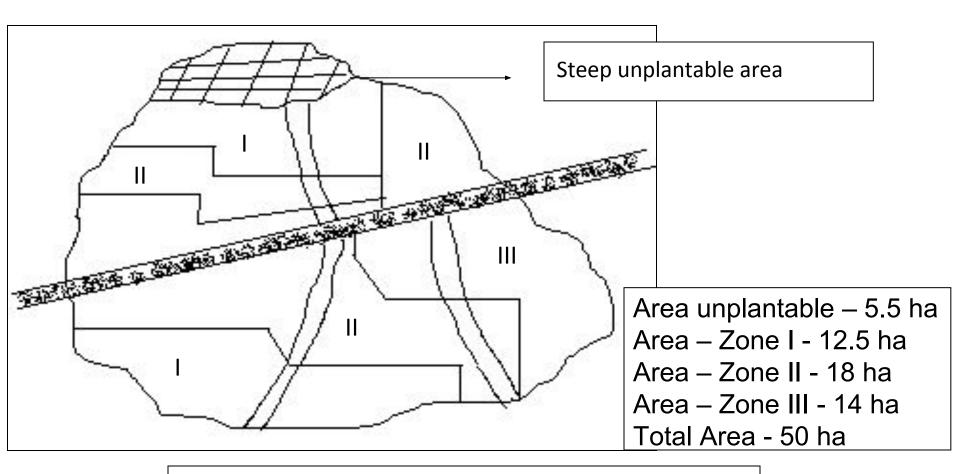
Zone II - Medium soil depth - 10 - 30 cm and

Zone III - Deep soils - > 30 cm.

TREATMENT MAP

- Treatment map is then drawn on a suitable scale (say 20 cm=1.6 km) or 1:15000 scale indicating the type of treatment to be given to each zone, categorized as below:
 - Zone I Extremely refractory area, where considerable research and experimentation would be necessary to evolve suitable soil conservation and afforestation techniques.
 - Zone II Suitable for pasture development coupled with tree planting.
 - Zone III Suitable for tree planting.

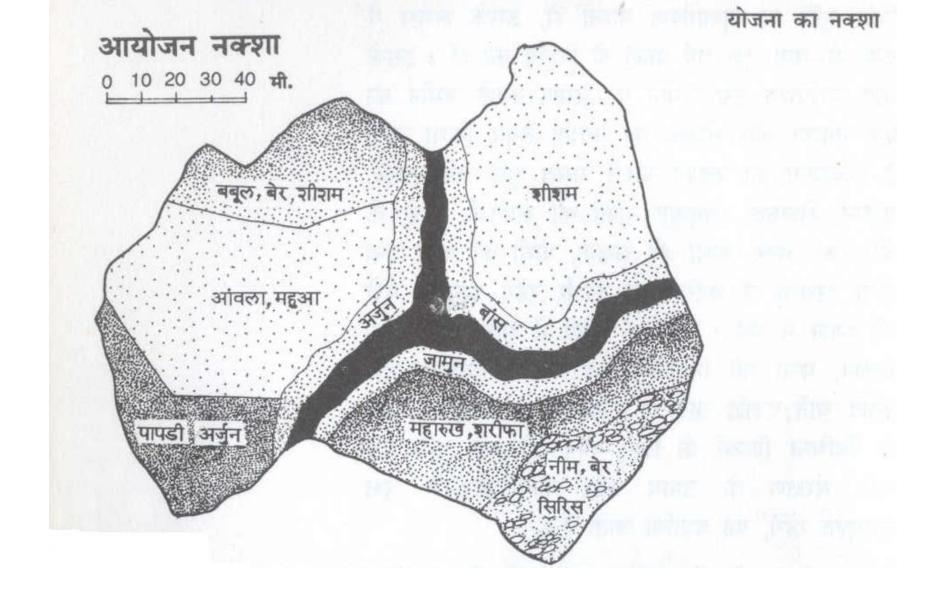
THE MANAGEMENT MAP AND APPRAISAL REPORT



TREATMENT MAP OF DEGRADED AREA

TREATMENT MAP contd...

 Treatment map shows details of river & water courses flowing through the area, water points, layout of roads & inspection paths, slope of different parts of area, soil depth, soil texture, nature of erosion, quality class or nutrient status and area allotted to each species and other such details as may be helpful for plantation or afforestation works.



Treatment Map

Step 3. Site Preparation

- Clearing the land
 - Slash disposal (fire and pest / disease hazard)
 - Remove stumps of harvested trees (pest / disease hazard like rots)
 - Removal of weeds and unwanted shrubs (in strips / patches / complete)
 - Inferior trees that may affect growth of seedlings
- Ploughing on hard soils (practiced in plains)
- Improve drainage
- Moisture conservation activities



Step 4. Fencing

- Keep out domestic cattle, wild animals, human beings
- Kinds of fencing
 - Cattle proof barbed wire fence
 - Game proof fence
 - Pig and porcupine proof fencing
 - Stone fencing
 - Trenching

Cattle proof barbed wire fence

- Fence post either wooden or RCC Post or angle iron
- Wooden is cheapest
- 3-5 strands of B-wire stretched, height of more than 1.5m
- Wooden posts
 - Cheapest, easily available
 - Preference to species like
 Erythrina, Lannea etc that sprout easily
- RCC and angle iron fence post costs Rs. 200-300 per post
- Interlacing of B-wire strands with thorny bushes and live hedges.
- Reinforce with live fencing like Agave, Vitex, Ipomea



Game proof fencing

- Interwoven barbed wire at the bottom
- 5-6 strands of B-wire
- Porcupine and wild boar proofing by burrying bottom b-wire mesh



Stone fencing

- Possible as per availability of flat / rectangular stones and cheap labour
- Costly
- Common in Lahaul-Spiti of H.P.
- Not penetrable by domestic cattle, wild boars and porcupines
- Trenches dug around plantation to keep out elephants, cattle etc.
 - Very costly, not common

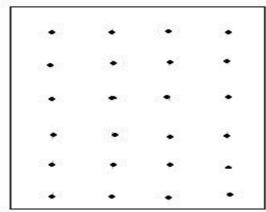


Step 5. Alignment & Staking

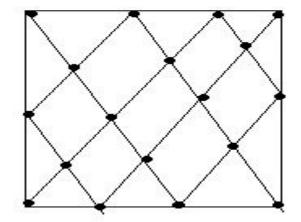
- Staking out: Marking position of lines, rows and pits to be dug using small wooden or bamboo pegs is known as Staking out.
- Use ropes, lime and measuring tapes for alignment and staking out at required spacing.
- The Planting pattern should be pre-decided for staking out.

Planting pattern

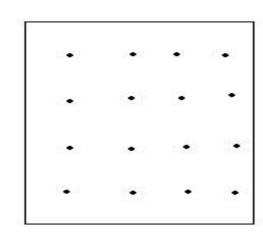
- Line Planting: Planting in line, with each line separated by a particular distance (eg 3m x 2m). Plants occupy four corners of rectangle
- Square planting: Plants occupy four corners of a square (eg: 3m x 3m)
- Triangular planting: Plants occupy three corners of equilateral triangle
- Quincunx planting: An extra plant is placed in the centre of each square



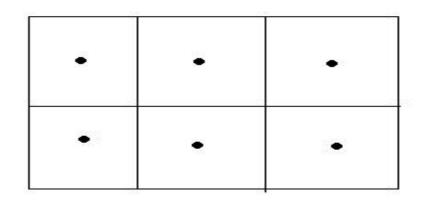
LINE PLANTING



TRIANGULAR PLANTING



SQUARE PLANTING



QUINCUNX PLANTING

Calculation of plants required (Per Ha):

Line planting

 $N = 100 \times 100$ (dist. of plants in lines) x (dist btw lines)

Square planting

N = 100 X 100 / (Square of planting distance)

Triangular planting

N = 100 X 100 1.155 / (Sq. of planting dist)

Quincunx planting

 $N = 2 \times 100 \times 100 / (Sq. Of the side of planting sq.)$

Step 6. Earth work

- Earth / Soil working is done for:
 - Enabling the establishment of tap root of seedlings
 - Improve aeration in root zone and infiltration of water, moisture conservation
 - To accommodate root system of plants during planting
 - To provide better nutrients to plants

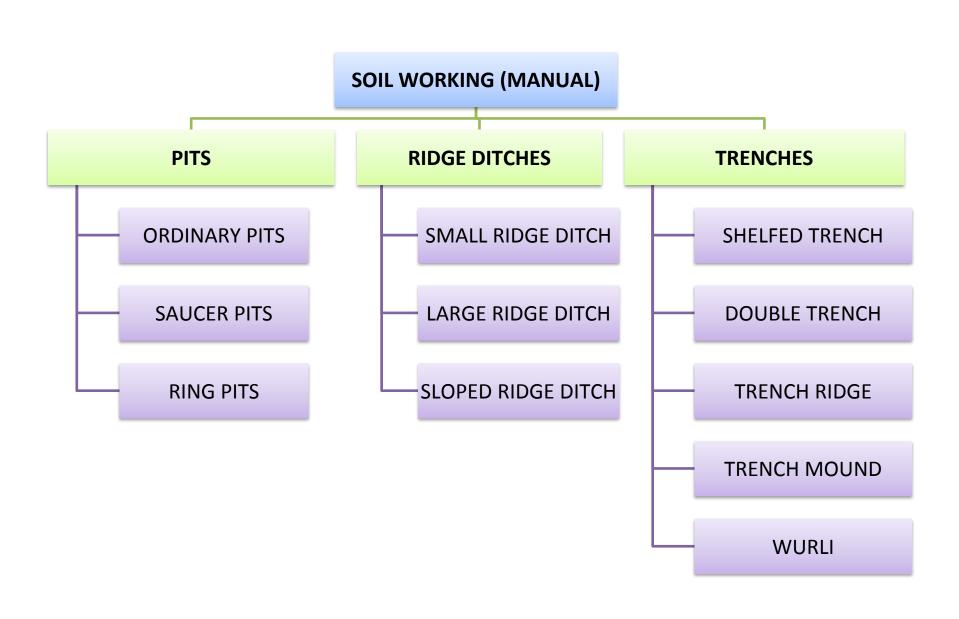
Activities in Earth working

- Ploughing and turning the soil
 - Disc harrows
- Soil working depends upon
 - Method of AR Sowing or planting
 - Locality factors plain, hill slope, water logging, dry area etc

- Patches dug out for patch sowing
- For planting
 - Pits
 - Trenches

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_RI8OZO
XwU

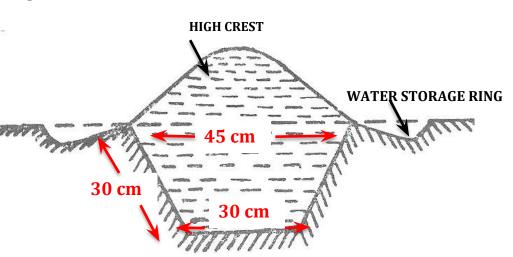
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aoQfA6Ma
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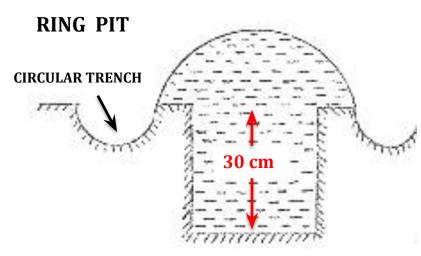
ORDINARY PIT

PITS

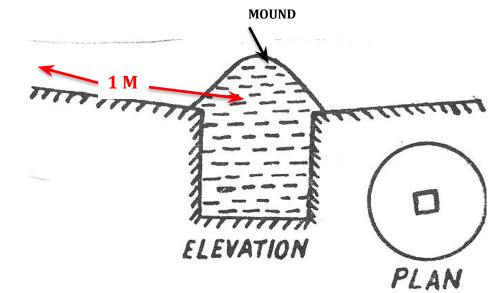


Minimizes water logging and collection of salts near the seedlings. Suitable for clayey and saline alkaline soils

SAUCER PIT



Circular pit collects rain water for supply to moisture. Suitable for sandy soils



Suitable for loamy soil in dry areas

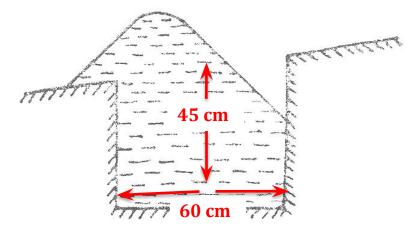
RIDGE DITCH (TRENCH WITH VERTICAL SIDES)

SMALL RIDGE DITCH

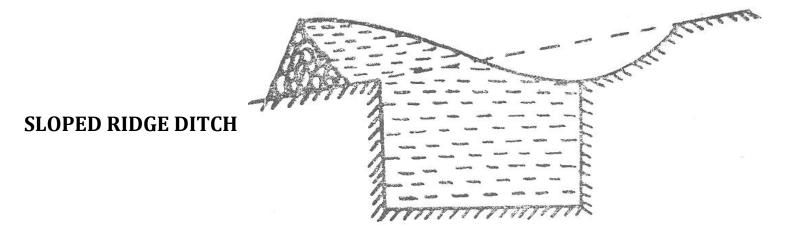
30 cm 45 cm

Suitable for areas towards moister part of dry areas and loamy soils

LARGE RIDGE DITCH



Suitable for low rainfall and deep soil conditions

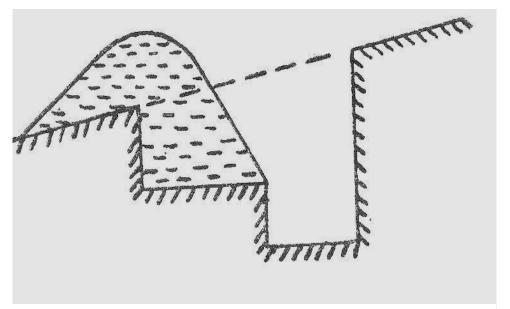


Suitable for shallow soils with large number of rainy days

SHELFED TRENCH

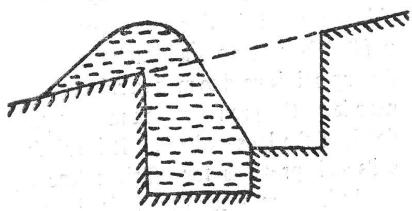
Shelf is made on one side of the trench. Suitable for peninsular soils which contain very fine tenacious clay dispersed in a matrix of fine to coarse grain laterite. The clay forms an impermeable crust on wetting and drying and also binds the granular laterite into hard clods.

SHALLOW FILLED SHELFED TRENCH



Rainwater is stored in the deeper part of the trench and does not come in direct contact with the major worked up soil. But it infiltrates into and below it.

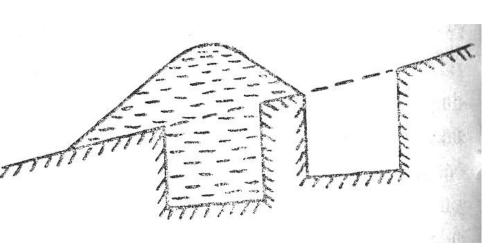
DEEP FILLED SHELFED TRENCH



Suitable for peninsular sandy soils in areas with low to high rainfall received in small number of rainy days as heavy showers thus requiring large storage capacity

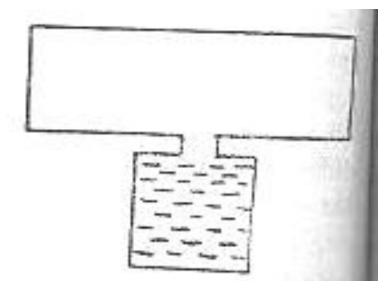
DOUBLE TRENCH

TRENCH PIT



Here there are two trenches one filled with soil and the other for storing water

DOUBLE TRENCH

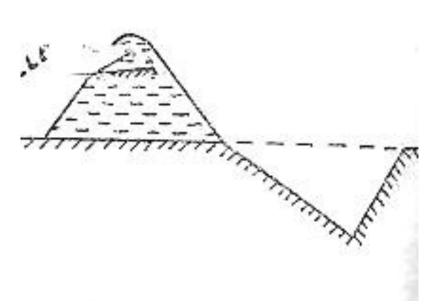


The pit is filled and used for planting while the trench remains unfilled and used for water storage

TRENCH RIDGE

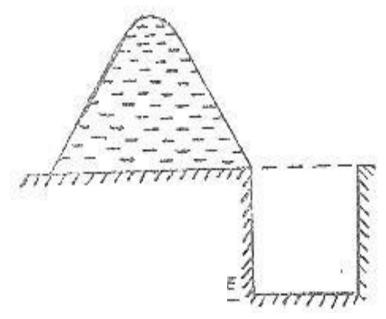
Here trench is dug and kept unfilled for water storage and the dug up soil is used to make a ridge near it on the ground. Suitable for salt –impregnated soils as it provides for efficient leaching of salts from the seedbed

SHALLOW TRENCH RIDGE



Suitable for saline alkaline soils with rainfall spread over a large number of rainy days

DEEP RIDGE TRENCH

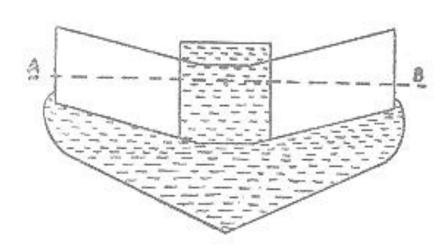


Suitable for areas with high salt content in soil and scanty rainfall received in heavy showers

TRENCH MOUND

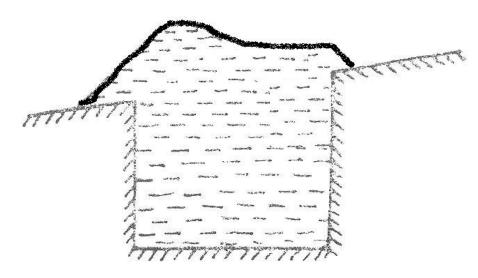
In areas with low, erratic and badly distributed rainfall, a mound is made at the middle of the trench and surplus soil is made into a sloping ridge at the lower side of the trench

INCLINED TRENCH MOUND



Suitable for areas with a gentle slope

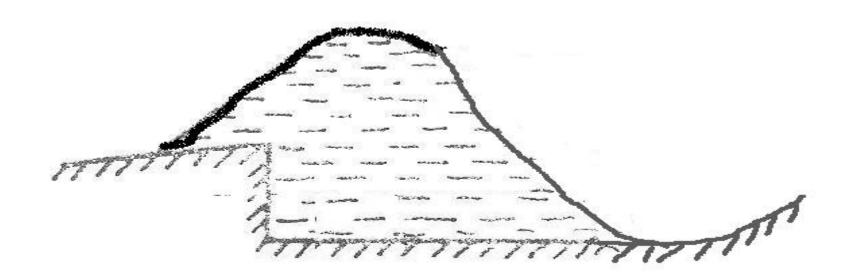
STRAIGHT TRENCH MOUND



Suitable for flatter areas

WURLI

It is a kind of shallow trench ridge and suitable for gentle slopes with loamy granular soil in areas with rather high and well distributed rainfall



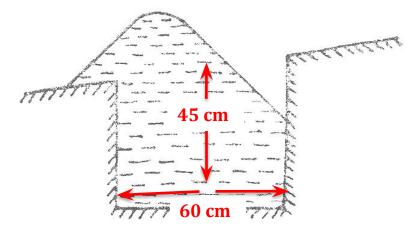
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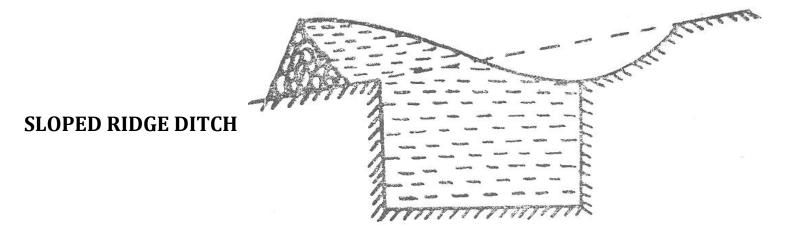
30 cm 45 cm

Suitable for areas towards moister part of dry areas and loamy soils

LARGE RIDGE DITCH



Suitable for low rainfall and deep soil conditions



Suitable for shallow soils with large number of rainy days

Contour trenches











PIT digging





Step 7. Transportation of seedlings

- Screen out poor performing seedlings in nursery using yardstick
 - Height of seedling
 - Collar girth of seedling
- Cause minimum disturbance to seedlings while loading
 - ball of earth should not be disturbed
- Load the seedlings in such a way that they don't shake and bounce in the vehicle – keep seedlings in baskets or crates in the vehicle
- Plan sourcing in such a way that long distance journey is avoided
- Keep seedlings in shady and moist area at the plantation site, if need arises.







Step 8. Sowing / Planting

Direct Sowing

 Methods: Hand broadcasting, Aerial broadcasting, Dibbling, Line sowing, Strip sowing, Patch sowing

Advantages

Disadvantages

and abiotic stresses

greater biotic

Cheaper	Large quantities of seed are required
Trees are not disturbed after germination	Irregular stocking is achieved
Species like <i>Acacia</i> and <i>Prosopis</i> give equally good results on direct sowing	Greater amount of soil working and weeding operations are required
	Seedlings have to survive greater bioti

Time of sowing

- Generally seeds should be sown just before the time it germinates in nature
- As a rule all temperate species in early spring as the snow melts but for all practical purposes sowing is done before the snow falls. Eg Deodar, silver fir, walnut, ash
- Spruce gives better results with rain sowings
- Chir pine and most tropical deciduous species should be sown in the beginning of the rainy season



Planting

ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Proper utilization of site and facilitates cultural	Costly
operations	Requires more skill
Fast growth and establishment of stock	Labour intensive
Plantation is the only means of afforestation for	
difficult sites	
Only means of afforestation for species that	
produce little or no seed and for vegetatively	
propagated species	
a 6	

Season of planting

SEASON	DETAILS
Monsoon	Common. Planting is done immediately after a good shower when the ground has been moistened to the depth of planting. Deodar, silver and spruce in Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh and almost all the tropical deciduous species
Premonsoon	If irrigation is available or summers are accompanied by fairly good showers. It lengthens the period of growth .eg. Morus alba
Winter	Most temperate species are best planted before winter. In Bengal Toona ciliata, Chukrassia, Cinamommum, Dalbergia latifolia and Bombax ceiba in North India . Deodar in Himachal Pradesh.
Spring	In parts of Kashmir the SW monsoon does not reach hence spring planting of conifers is resorted to

CHOICE OF SPACING

- RATE OF GROWTH
- WEED GROWTH
- SOIL MOISTURE AND NUTRITION
- OBJECT OF MANAGEMENT
- COST
- ORGANIC MATTER DEPOSITION
- VOLUME OF TIMBER

COMMON SPACINGS

2m x 2m	Teak, Eucalyptus, Dalbergia sissoo, Casuarina, Prosopis, Cedrus deodara, Abies pindrow
3m x 1m	Prospis spp, Acacia spp etc, Cedrus deodara, Casuarina equisetifolia, Cryptomeria japonica etc.
2m x 4m 3m x 3m	Albizzia lebbek, Adina cordifolia, Gmelina arborea, Santalum, album, Acer spp., Terminalia spp., Acacia catechu, Cedrus deodara, Pinus roxburghii, Spruce etc.
4m x 6m 5m x 5m 6m x 6m	Bombax ceiba, Populus spp., Dendrocalamus strictus, Azadirachta indica
6m x 8m 8m x 8m 10m x 10m	Anacardium occidentale, Artocarpus spp, Mangifera indica, Bambusa arundinacea and other fruit trees

Planting process

- Place plants in pits without damaging roots, carefully remove the polythene bag.
- DO NOT DISTURB BALL OF EARTH
- IMPORTANT: Only good top soil should be filled back into the pit mixed with Farm Yard Manure / Compost.
- Soil should be firmed around the plant by moderate foot pressure
- Plastic bags should be removed before planting













Step 9. Manuring & Fertilization

- Generally done in wastelands, problem soils
- Short rotation crops for commercial purposes
- Initially mix FYM / Compost in the pits at the time of planting if soil is deficient in nutrients



Step 10. Irrigation

- To be carried out only if needed
 - Nearby water source is available
 - The ground is flat
 - Roadside Avenue plantations
 - Agroforestry systems
 - Commercial short rotation plantations
 - Problem areas where reclamation is to be supported
 - Cost factor

- NURSE CROP: Tree crop raised to protect the main plantation species from sunlight, frost, winds etc.
 - Nurse crop is usually fast growing as compared to main species or planted previously
 - Eg: Gmelina arborea for Dipterocarpus turbinatus,
 Acacia auriculiformis for Vateria indica
- Cover crop: Herbs / shrubs / creepers grown for providing immediate ground cover in plantation
 - improve nutrient status of soil nitrogen fixing
 - Suppress weed growth
 - Eg: Cajanus cajan (pigeon pea, tur), Crotolaria juncea,

Team

