

## Bare Root Hedging Planting Guide

40/60cm 60/90cm to 90/120cm

This guide is for those who wish to plant their bare root hedging themselves.

### Delivery & Storage

When you receive your bare rooted stock you really need to plant them as soon as possible but if there is a short gap between delivery and planting them into the ground we suggest leaving them in the packaging they have arrived in, just overnight. Planting in extreme weather (very cold, frozen, wet or windy) is not ideal so you may wish to delay. If you have already broken the packaging to inspect your plants then it is best to wrap them up again. Storing your plants in cool environment is ideal, do not store them in your greenhouse or similar as when the temperature rises they will dry out quickly. The ideal place is somewhere outside with shelter from the elements and frost or a cool frost free shed, always ensure you retain moisture to the roots. Check from time to time and do not let the roots dry out. If you intend on leaving them for more than a few days before planting we recommend you “heel” them into some suitable ground so the roots are covered and watered in.

### Preparation for Planting

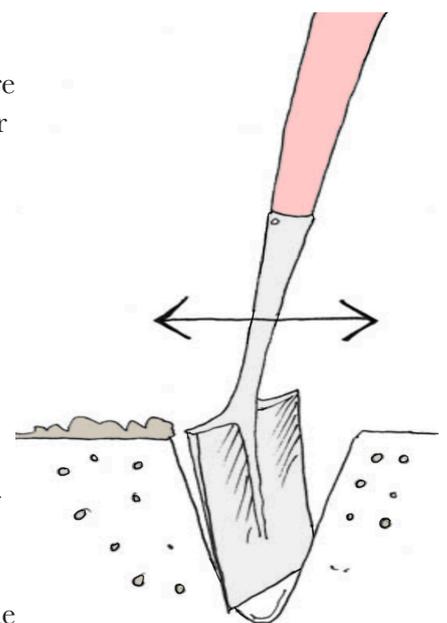
Giving your plants the correct start is crucial for successful transplanting, this means taking the time to prepare the soil prior to planting. The first step is to remove any unwanted weed or grass growth which may be growing along the line of your proposed hedge. This can be completed effectively prior to planting using a herbicide such as ‘RoundUp’ (glyphosate). If you do not wish to use herbicides then prepare the ground by hand or machine rotovator. If you have a heavy, compacted or clay soil it’s important to dig thoroughly to ensure the plants have good drainage, if you are in any doubt of the soil condition/fertility then incorporate some good peat free compost such as our organic eco green compost and some fish blood and bone, make sure both are well worked into the soil.

### Planting

Hedges are usually planted in either single or double staggered rows. There may be variations according to species, but as a guide allow three plants per metre for a single row. For a thicker stock (people proof) windbreak hedge allow five plants per metre in a double staggered row.

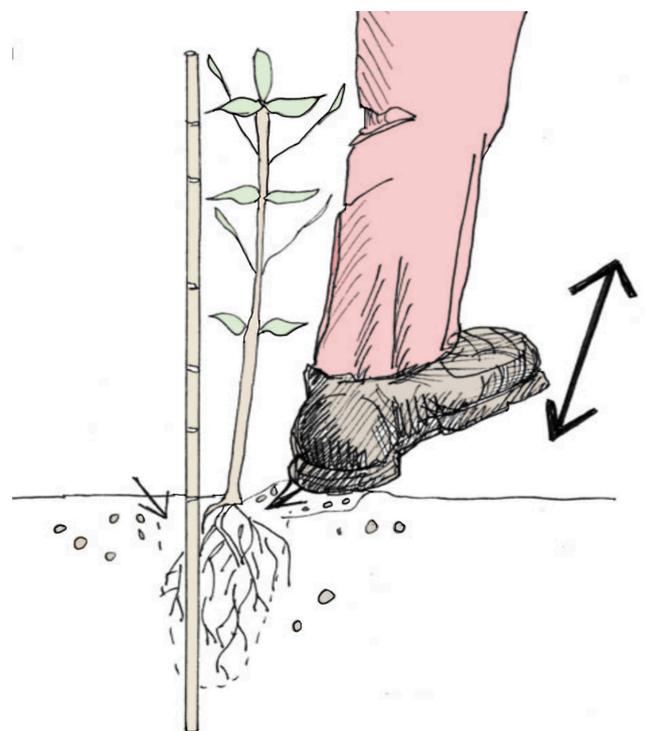
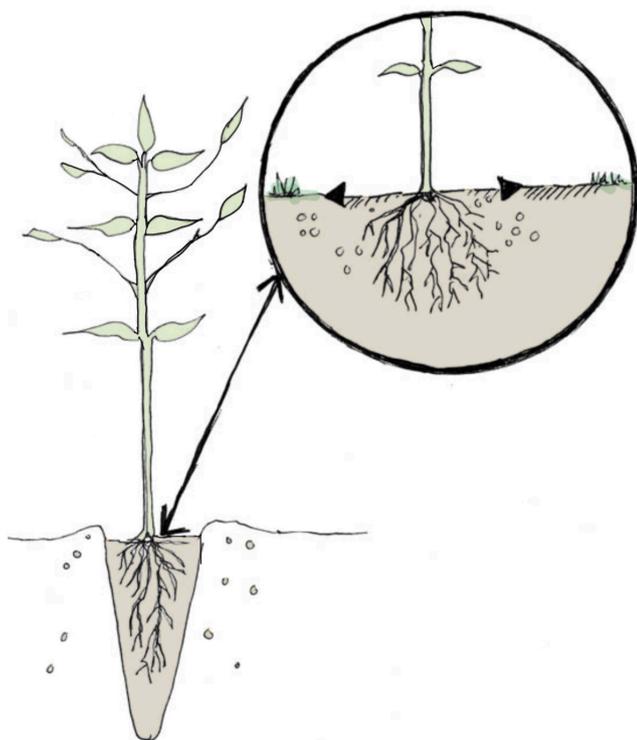
We advise purchasing a few more plants than you will need and plant them at the end of the row so in the unlikely event of any failures you can plant in the next available planting season with stock at the same age as your hedge.

Choose a day when the soil is not too wet and is not frozen. The wrapping should not be removed until immediately before planting. Damaged roots should be cut back cleanly with a sharp knife or secateurs. Take your spade and create a slit in the ground to the full depth of the spade, move the spade back and forth making a small crevice/gap.



Put the plant in to its original planting depth then use your heels to close the soil in around it. Where ground conditions are particularly difficult, for example in sandy, clay or impoverished soils include mycorrhizal inoculants such as Rootgrow, this must be applied directly to the roots as it helps with root establishment and improves growth by increasing the nutrient uptake.

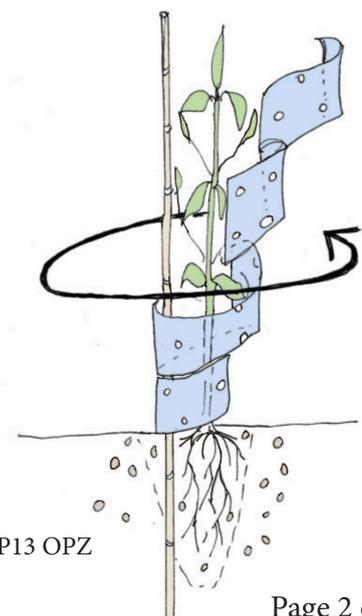
RootGrow	Plant quantity	Plant Sizes
150g Sachet =	40 x	60/90 bare root plants
	8-10 x	2L pots
	2-3 x	10L pots
2.5L Pot =	800 x	60/90 bare root plants
	120 x	2L pots
	40 x	10L pots

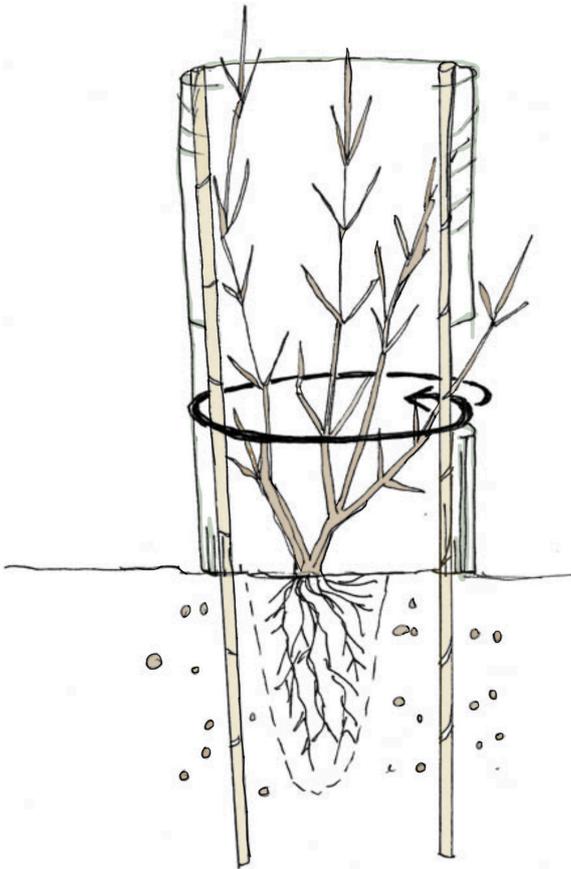


### Protection, Mulching and Irrigation

If you have a problem with rabbits it is essential to protect your plants using a number of products designed for the job, have a look at our website for more information.

Fitting spirals is easy, start by pushing the 3ft cane in very close to the plant, once you have your cane in place, you then wrap the spiral around. Alternatively slide your 3ft cane inside the spiral if the spiral has already been applied. The advantage of putting the cane down first is it will give support when wrapping the spiral around the plant.





**F**or particularly bushy plants such as hazel or multi stemmed dogwoods we recommend using shrub shelters. To see the full selection please see our website. Slide the shelter over the top and put two of your 3ft canes inside the shelter at opposite ends to give stability. The shelter also provides a good micro environment. Make sure you have watered all your plants in.

**W**hen you are ready to start mulching there are a few options to consider, raw garden, non peat based compost such as our municipal eco green compost or one of the pre packed products such as bark. All will do the same job of keeping the moisture in the ground and preventing weed growth but eco green compost will also act as a fertiliser and get pulled into the ground by worms, it will only last for a year or so due to this effect. If you are using bark it will last a lot longer but does not have the same fertilising effect.

**T**he benefits of mulching are enormous; by suppressing weed growth you can improve growth by up to 40%.\* By mulching you retain moisture and fertilise the plant.

**T**o encourage good healthy growth of your newly planted hedge watering is essential. We recommend installing a drip tape irrigation system which is simple and effective. We can advise you on all your irrigation questions and provide all the necessary parts you need as well as offer simple advice.

\*Forestry Commission Research.

