



Forest Service



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Shortage of Scots pine and European larch plants

Given the current plant shortages of European larch and Scots pine the following will be allowed to cover planting taking place this summer.

1. Oak sites – already mounded

In sites already mounded for the current oak mixture pattern the Scots pine and European larch can be substituted by a mixture of birch and oak (even though this oak will be along the nurse lines and at 2m spacing).

2. *Oak sites - not mounded*

In sites that have been ripped or not yet cultivated they may be planted following cultivation with large bands of oak with a nurse line of a mixture of Alder/Birch/European larch (at least two of these present in the nurse line).

3. Planting pattern

The pattern should be set up as follows: -

Overall inter row spacing as normal of 2m (including blank rows (see diagram on next page))

Nurse plant spacing of 1.5m

Oak plant spacing of 1m

Planting pattern ... + 10 lines of oak + blank line + nurse line + blank line + ...

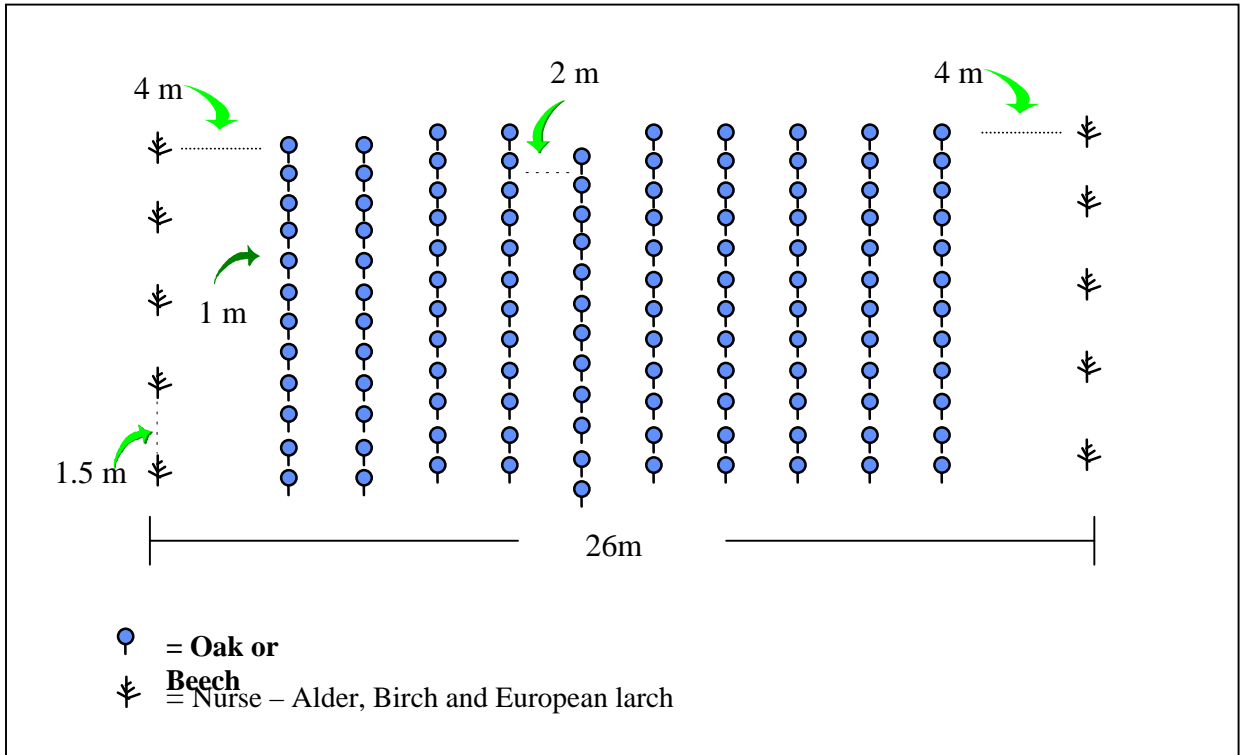
Therefore there is 26m from one nurse line to the next.

Please note 1, 2 and 3 above also applies to the planting of beech in mixture.

This solution will be reviewed at the end of this planting season and alternative mixtures will be considered for the autumn planting. At this stage we are committed

to moving away from the alternate lines for planting oak and we will also consider any arrangement that will help reduce costs while remaining silviculturally suitable.

Diagram of oak or beech spacing arrangement



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