

ORDERING YOUR PLANTS AND MATERIALS

Plant Ordering

For anyone with an approved grant, please remember to check with the nursery that the origin / provenance of the trees is as specified on your contract plan. When you claim the grant, you will be asked to produce confirmation of this from the nursery which supplies you, as the grant is dependent on this. Downy Birch, Rowan, Aspen, Eared Willow, Grey Willow and Tea-leaved Willow should all be of Orkney native provenance. Other species should be of north of Scotland, preferably coastal provenances. All trees should be grown in Scotland. Make sure you place your order well in advance to ensure that you can get the plants when you need them.

Ask for a certificate of provenance from your supplier/s as you will need to produce this when you claim your grant

The following is a list of suppliers who may be able to supply plants for your project :

Local Nurseries:

- Barry Jones, Blinkbonny, Longhope. (barryjones33@btinternet.com)
Tel / Fax 01856 791322.

Small quantities of various Orkney natives, including downy birch, grey and tea-leaved willow plants and cuttings, perhaps a few aspen, occasionally rowan. Sometimes alder of north of Scotland provenance.

NB. The above supplier is the only local supplier who always supplies native species which have been propagated from local native stock. These are therefore suitable for use in all local tree planting projects.

Suppliers outwith Orkney:

- Christie-Elite Nurseries Ltd, Forres, Moray, IV36 3TW
Tel 01309 672633

(please speak to Brian McCamon only, as he knows our stock)

This is a large nursery which has grown plants from Orkney native seed sent to them by Orkney Woodland Project. They have good quantities of Orkney downy birch, some Orkney rowan and Orkney aspen. Make sure to ask for Orkney plants. They also have a good range of Scottish natives eg Alder, Ash (usually, but not now with *Chalara* disease causing a stop on the movement of ash), Bird Cherry etc. Catalogue available, but best to email or speak to Brian, (brian@christie-elite.co.uk)

NB The above list is not necessarily exhaustive.

Costs

Costs will vary between nurseries and species. An average cost of 50-60p per plant should be achievable when you are buying in good quantities. Remember there is sometimes VAT and delivery on top. If you are planting at the same time as a near neighbour, putting in a combined order may help reduce these extra costs.

Specifications

Plant size should be between 30-40 cm. Bare-rooted plants should only be supplied and planted in the dormant season ie when there are no leaves on the plants. Cell-grown plants (ie those that are grown in containers and come with their own plug of earth) can be supplied and planted all year round, but may need watering until established if planted in a warm or dry period. Best to avoid late April to August.

Willows are better obtained as cuttings, as you gain little by paying more for a plant. Native Orkney willow cuttings (tea-leaved, grey and eared) should only be obtained locally as no external nurseries have these of local provenance).

(Please note that the silvery leaved willow - *Salix hookeriana* - often wrongly called the Balfour willow locally, should not be used in grant schemes, as it is neither native, nor does it fit well within a native woodland mix, being overly ornamental and also prone to wind-rock and branch break on exposed sites. A great one for the garden though!)

Mulch Mats

Rolls of silage cover (black plastic) are available from local agricultural suppliers and are generally about 8m x 50m in size (other sizes are often available). Mats can be cut from this. Old, preferably hessian-backed, carpet can also be used, or any other waste plastic / other materials which you can recycle and which don't contain toxins.

Treeguards

Suitable net / mesh guards are available locally from agricultural suppliers (Birsay Farmers) or can be ordered direct from manufacturers. Make sure they come with two ties to each guard. Better to avoid solid guards. Cost guide : 1.00p + (depending on quantities)

Stakes

Stakes can be ordered from local builders merchants, or made by sawing up tiling battens, or using any waste / recycled wood of appropriate dimensions. Cost guide : 25 - 30p

Fertiliser (Only necessary on poor or peaty soils)

Available from local agricultural suppliers. If you are planting on very peaty ground, you may need an application of phosphate based fertiliser to encourage the root development.

Herbicides

Available from local agricultural suppliers.

Fencing

There are a number of local fencing contractors.

Recycling

We are all keen to promote the recycling of materials, so if you have any materials which you no longer need and could be reused by anyone else, please use Radio Orkney's Bruck Programme, Orkney Freegle, Steptoze Yard in Stromness, local notice-boards etc etc.