1. Open seedling bundles immediately
   * Inspect seedlings and dampen roots only.

2. Heel-in seedlings if they can’t be planted within two days
   * If the seedlings can be planted within two days, re-tie the bundle and store in a cool place.

   ![Diagram showing steps](Diagram)

3. When ready to plant the seedlings:
   * Remove seedlings from the bundle or heeling-in bed.
   * Place seedlings in a bucket.
   * Keep roots covered with thin mud or water at all times.
   * Carry bucket of seedlings to planting site.
   * Remove and plant one seedling at a time.

   ![Correct and Incorrect example](CorrectIncorrect)

4. Plant as soon as possible - delay reduces the chance of survival!

(over)
**PLACEMENT IN PLANTING HOLE**

**CORRECT**

**INCORRECT**

**PLANTING DEPTHS**

- Too deep
- Too shallow
- Correct depth

**PLANTING WITH A DIBBLE BAR**

1. Use a dibble (planting) bar to create a hole for the seedling by inserting the bar into the soil and pushing in one direction to create the hole.
2. Insert the seedling to the proper planting depth (see figure above).
3. Push the planting bar away from the plant.
4. Insert the planting bar into the ground outside of the planting hole.
5. Push the planting bar back and forth.
6. Push the soil towards the planting hole by pushing the planting bar back and forth.
7. Restore the soil surface by tamping around the seedling with your foot.

**PLANTING WITH A MATTOCK**

1. Drive mattock into the soil the full length of the blade (handle parallel to ground level).
2. Place your foot beside the blade and lift the handle 45 degrees. Draw the mattock backward slightly.
3. Insert the planting bar into the ground outside of the planting hole.
4. Push the planting bar away from the plant.
5. Push the soil towards the planting hole by pushing the planting bar back and forth.
6. Restore the soil surface by tamping around the seedling with your foot.
7. Place the seedling against the side of the hole with the mattock still in place.
8. Remove the mattock and allow the soil to fall back into place and tamp the soil around the seedling firmly with your feet.