

Planting Instructions:

ORDERING THE PLANTS

After locating the plants at one or more nurseries, go look at them before you pick them up or have them delivered. In the past I have been very disappointed with the vigor and condition of some of the plants the nurseries told me they had. I always look at the plants before I buy them.

SITE PREPARATION

- 1) Mark out, scrape surface or flag spots for planting shrubs
- 2) Set up irrigation system with timer, valve, filter
- 3) Lay out ½' irrigation tubing
- 4) Insert two ½ GPH emitters 1.25' apart (6" at each side of the future planting hole)
- 5) Run the system and soak the planting area

COMPOST AND MULCH

- 1) Order 1 cubic yard of compost (ex. On Central Coast-from Z Best: \$32/yd and \$35 delivery (approximate)
- 2) Order 30 yds of Agricultural Mulch (no plastic in it-go look at it first) (from Z-Best) to be delivered after the plants are in the ground, to be dumped with a side-dump along the length of the hedgerow. Cost: \$9/yd (may be more or less); Delivery: I don't know, but you are close, so probably not too much

PLANTING

- 1) Pull irrigation tubing back away from planting area
- 2) Lay out plants: put same species together by 2's or 3's
- 3) Dig holes in flagged spots, already pre-irrigated by drip tubing; holes don't have to be too big, but 2X bigger than a one-gallon pot, and slightly bigger for any 5-gallon pots
- 4) Put several shovel-fulls of compost in each hole: use up your compost- it can only help the heavy clay soils
- 5) Pour in a 5-gallon bucket of water – let it drain
- 6) Put in the plants: don't pull them out of their containers by their stems: bang them out from the bottom
- 7) Plant on mounds 6" or more high-reverse coffee cup, not in basins
- 8) Fill in the dirt ½ way up the hole
- 9) Pour in another 5 gallons of water – let it drain, then fill in the rest of the dirt
- 10) Pull the irrigation tubing back on- you can weave it around the plants (i.e. not all on one side of them-doesn't have to be every other one)
- 11) Distribute the mulch – approximately 6" deep around the plants and along the whole area between the plants
- 12) Monitor the irrigation to make sure the plants stay wet, but not too wet.