

After Care Guide



Watering

The most common reason trees fail is because of a lack of water. It is essential that the tree is well watered for the first two growing seasons.

Thorough watering in is crucial. Trees that have been used to a regime of daily watering in the nursery are susceptible to water stress once they are planted out and are no longer being watered so frequently.

Frequent light watering will encourage superficial roots that will be prone to drying out. A drip irrigation system is the most simple and effective means of watering trees thoroughly.

Irrigation systems should be programmed to include separate watering for trees as their root profile is deeper than that of other newly planted plants and their water requirements are different.

It is very important to monitor drainage and irrigation once the tree is planted out. This is especially important through the first growing season. Early recognition of potential problems can be resolved before they become detrimental to the long-term health of the tree.

Use the following schedule as an approximate watering guide:

45lt tree water every day for first summer with 10 litres
100lt tree water every day for first summer with 20 litres
200lt tree water every day for first summer with 40 litres

Surroundings

We cannot over emphasize the importance of keeping a one-metre wide weed/lawn free area around the tree. The reason for this is that any weeds/lawn will compete for water and nutrients resulting in the same problems you get when the tree is not watered enough.

Mulching

It is best if the tree is well mulched so the soil remains moist. Mulching also assists in minimizing weed competition. When mulch comes in contact with the tree trunk it may cause rotting; to prevent this, mulch should not be placed right up to the tree trunk. Ensure that ties and stakes are not causing damage such as abrasion or ring barking. It is recommended that the trees are fertilized each spring with a good quality slow release fertilizer. This type of fertilizer can be purchased from Arborwest Tree Farm or any good Garden Centre.

Need More Support

If at any stage you have a question about how to care for your tree please contact one of our tree specialists on 9405 7740