

WILDLIFE TRENDS

December 2003

Volume 3, Issue 12

Establishing Hardwood Plantations for Wildlife Habitat, Diversity, Revenue, and Conservation of Our Natural Resources: Part 2 of 2

By *Don Anderson and Derek Dougherty*

This is the second of two articles on establishing hardwood plantations.

With all the management and design plans completed, it is now time to actually plant the trees. In the South, the planting season generally runs between mid-December through late March. For frequently flooded areas, this period may sometimes be extended to April or May. Any needed site preparation, including subsoiling to break up existing hardpans or herbicide application to kill fescue or other competing grasses, is generally completed in the late summer or early fall prior to planting. Seedling quality and the use of correct planting techniques are vital for the successful establishment of a hardwood plantation, thus it is critical that you purchase morphologically sound seedlings and use an experienced planting contractor. A quality hardwood seedling should be at least 18 inches tall above the root collar and exhibit good root development (a minimum of 5-7 large lateral roots and minimum root collar diameter of 1/4"). Bare-root seedlings are generally packaged in paper seedlings bags and sprayed with a moisture-saving gel. Containerized



Nuttall Oaks growing in a nursery.

In this Issue

- **Establishing Hardwood Plantations for Wildlife Habitat, Diversity, Revenue, and Conservation of Our Natural Resources: Part 2 of 2**
By Don Anderson and Derek Dougherty
- **Successful Turkey Management, Part 2 of 3: Hardwood Enhancement**
By Ted DeVos
- **Now is the Time to Plan Ahead**
by Kedric Nutt
- **Supplemental Income from Wildlife on Your Land**
By Wildlife Trends Staff

Visit us at
www.wildlifetrends.com

Call us at
1-800-441-6826