

Using RTI's "NEW" Planter-paks

Planting Instructions

Importance of Placement

Nothing is more critical to obtaining the benefits of RTI's NEW Planter-paks than their placement. Keeping this in mind is very important when placing the teabag. The nutrients are released from the NEW Planter-pak in the same manner that tea leaves in a teabag diffuse the liquor into the teapot. If the NEW Planter-pak is too close to the seedling plug it will potentially supply too potent a brew that can damage the seedling. If the NEW Planter-pak is placed too far away, the solution is too weak and the benefits that produce growth will be lost.

Spacing

RTI's NEW coating technology provides you the opportunity to do something you can't do with the other teabags: place them in the same hole as the seedling. If done carefully, and under the correct soil moisture conditions, the teabag can safely be placed quite close to the seedling plug.



RTI's NEW Planter-pak planting procedure

As per the photo below, place the seedling at one side of the hole and the NEW Planter-Pak at the opposite side, leaving a small space of approximately 1" between the two. The space can consist of either air or soil. The slit in the ground made by the shovel should provide an easy highway for the roots to get to the NEW Planter-Pak. If the teabag touches the plug accidentally it should not (but not 100% guaranteed) damage the seedling, so you will want to monitor the planters closely.

Soil conditions must be moist to wet at the time of planting. Given you don't want to be planting into dry soils anyways, this shouldn't be much of an issue. However, if these conditions occur or you are planting into a time period where it is anticipated that there may be a prolonged moisture deficit within a month or so of planting, it is recommended to plant the NEW Planter-Pak in a separate hole 1-2" away from the seedling plug.



Depth

Placement needs to be 1" below the soil surface. You don't want the NEW Planter-Pak lower than 2" as the soils are cooler at lower depths and lower temperatures will inhibit the release of the fertilizer. Tell the planters to make sure the planting hole is closed at the top but not to pack it shut.

Field Handling and Storage of NEW Planter-pak

The plastic bags that contain NEW Planter-paks are relatively waterproof and should protect the Paks from exposure. However, as a precaution, NEW Planter-paks must be covered during periods of rain or they can turn into mush. Any product that is not used should be stored undercover in a cool, dry location away from moisture. They can be safely stored this way for years.

Safety Information

MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) are available by contacting Darius Bucher of Integral Forest Management Ltd. (integralfm@telus.net).

Other Safety Information

RTI tests and monitors "Heavy Metal" content in all our products and lab reports are available upon request. A planter health study looking at potential exposure when handling teabag fertilizer has also been conducted jointly by FERIC, Work safe BC, and the Western Silviculture Contractors Association. There is little risk to planters being exposed to the fertilizer in our products if proper, common sense precautions summarized in the report are taken. Copies of the report are available by contacting Darius Bucher of Integral Forest Management Ltd. (integralfm@telus.net).

Feedback

We always welcome feedback regarding the performance of our products. Further questions can be answered by sending an e-mail to Darius Bucher of Integral Forest Management Ltd. (integralfm@telus.net). We would love to hear from you!

