

BARE ROOT PLANTS

What are "Bare Root" Plants?

Bare root plants are dormant (not actively growing) perennial plants that are dug up and stored without any soil around their roots. Usually, these plants are dug when they're dormant and then refrigerated until it is time to ship them to you. Once you place the plant in the ground or in potting soil and add moisture, the plant will start to grow again.

Types of Bare Root Plants:

Bare-root seedlings are described using two numbers, such as 1-0, 2-0, or 2-1 stock. The first number refers to how many years the seedlings grew in the original nursery seedbed, and the second refers to how many years they grew in a transplant bed.

- 1-0 Hardwood - These are seedlings that were grown in the seed bed for one year before being lifted from the bed and packaged for shipment.
- 2-0 Hardwood - These are seedlings that were grown in the seed bed for two years before being lifted.
- 2-1 Hardwood - These are seedlings that were grown in the seed bed for two years and one year in a greenhouse before being lifted.
- Plug 1 - This is a seedling that was grown in a plug tray for one season in a greenhouse and then transplanted into the ground for an additional year.

When to Plant Bare Root Plants?

Bare root plants become available in late winter and early spring. Bare root trees and shrubs can be planted as soon as the ground has thawed, and the soil can be worked. The roots will start growing weeks before any foliage. It will generally take 10 to 14 days for your plants to start rooting in. Cool weather can delay bud break, but it does give the roots more time to grow before top growth starts.

Storing your Bare Root Plants:

Be sure to store your plants in a cool, dry place until you're ready to plant them because they can begin to come out of dormancy, become stressed, and suffer if they are exposed to too much heat and humidity.