



SOWING STANDARDS

Effective April 1, 2007

These standards apply, in addition to the [General Standards for Ministry funded Programs \(FS 1001\)](#), to all seedling sowing activities funded under Ministry funded Programs.

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ARTICLE 1: DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 In this document the following words shall have the following meanings.
- “**Seedlings**” means forest tree seedlings.
 - “**Seedlot**” means a unique identifier of a pool of genetic material as assigned under the Ministry of Forests and Range seedlot numbering system.
 - “**Sowing**” means sowing seed to produce Seedlings.
 - “**[Ministry Seedling Stock Specifications](#)**” means the seedling stock specifications posted on the Ministry of Forests and Range’s website at the time of Sowing.

ARTICLE 2: SOWING STANDARDS

Seedlot Specifications

- 2.1 Seedlots chosen for Sowing must:
- (a) be suitable for the expected planting location;
 - (b) meet any Specified criteria;
 - (c) meet *Forest and Range Practices Act* Legislation requirements for genetic quality; and
 - (d) unless otherwise approved by the District Manager, be within the Ministry of Forests seed transfer limits for the expected planting location as specified in the [Chief Forester's Standards for Seed Use](#)

Stock Specifications

- 2.2 When choosing stock types for Sowing the following must be considered:
- (a) the specifications in any applicable Treatment Plan or Work Plan;
 - (b) the tree species being sown;

- (c) the planting site conditions at the expected planting location;
- (d) the vegetative competition; and
- (e) any other relevant factors.

Timing of Sowing

- 2.3 Seed must be sown by a date that would reasonably allow the achievement of [Ministry Seedling Stock Specifications](#) by the date required for lifting.

Limits on Number of Seedlings Ordered

- 2.4 Unless otherwise approved by the Administer, the number of Seedlings ordered for Sowing must not exceed the lesser of that which:
- (a) is required to plant the area expected to be available for planting in the year the Seedlings will be available;
 - (b) is required to plant areas identified as high or medium priority for FIA or FFT funding; or
 - (c) can be planted within the expected planting budget in the year the Seedlings will be available.

Choice of Nurseries

- 2.5 Seed must only be sown at nurseries that have previously grown and substantively met the [Ministry Seedling Stock Specifications](#) for the stock type and species being sown.

ARTICLE 3: INSPECTION & NOTIFICATION

Quality Inspection

- 3.1 All Work must be inspected by a person (the "Inspector") who is:
- (a) the Registered Professional Forester (RPF), or operates under the direction of the RPF, who will sign and professionally seal reports for the Work;
 - (b) experienced and competent in conducting inspections of Seedlings;
 - (c) familiar with the Treatment Plans and Work Plans for the Work Areas; and
 - (d) not engaged in the direct conduct of the Sowing operations.
- 3.2 An Inspector must carry out inspections to the extent necessary to ensure all Work is performed to the Ministry Standards, FIA Standards or FFT Standards and Seedlings are likely to meet [Ministry Seedling Stock Specifications](#).

Requirement to Notify the Administrator

- 3.3 A Recipient must immediately notify the Administrator as soon as it becomes known that a substantial number of seed sown have or are likely to fail to meet the [Ministry Seedling Stock Specifications](#).