

### **Lodgepole pine (Pli) Cone Shipment Recommendations**

To ensure highest possible quality cone shipments and therefore, full recovery of all volumes sent to the TSC for processing, the following steps are recommended:

1. Use good quality, higher gauge sacks. Place uniform volumes in sacks (i.e.) 0.4 hl/sack for closed cones and 0.25 hl/sack if cones are open and releasing seed.
2. Tie sacks securely – spilled cones may not be recoverable. The tie should be 6”-8” down from sack opening, not tight against the cones. This will allow cone volumes within to level out when stacking, increasing the stability of the sacks on the pallet.
3. Clearly identify seedlot numbers inside and outside each sack – unidentified sacks of cones cannot be processed under the *Chief Forester’s Standards for Seed Use*. Cone sack tags are available from the TSC, at no charge by sending an e-mail request to [Agnieszka.Ellis@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Agnieszka.Ellis@gov.bc.ca) or calling Aggie at 604-541-1683 extension 2223.
4. Ensure that sack counts by seedlot are accurate.
5. Use pallets of acceptable quality. Labels should all be facing outward and sacks stacked securely on pallet. Recommended 5 sacks per layer, 3 sacks facing one direction (tags out) with 2 sacks laid perpendicular (tags out) along seam end of first three sacks. Next row should be reversed (cross stacked) for increased stability. If double stacking pallets in truck, individual pallet volumes should be kept between 5 and 6 rows. If pallet stacks are unbalanced, placing plywood between them and down the centre will stabilize the load. Use coloured flagging tape to show separation of seedlots in load and/or pallet. It is preferred to receive pallets maintaining single seedlot identity but if combining is required, ensure that seedlots are located separately on pallet and division clearly marked. Pallets should be placed in trucks so accessible with a forklift for unloading.
6. Organize load, placing sacks of same seedlot together. Fax schematic of load if available to 604 541-1685 attn. Debbie Picard.
7. Contact Debbie Picard, TSC Cone & Seed Processing Supervisor at 604-541-1683 extension 2227 or Reception extension 0 in advance of the shipment. This will provide critical information to Debbie and ensure that space and staff are available to receive your shipment.
8. Every effort to ensure that rodents (alive or dead) or rodent nests do not arrive with shipments is appreciated by TSC staff.
9. For winter shipments of Lodgepole pine stacks of cones can be shrink wrapped on pallets as a very effective means to protect against spillage and ensure load stability particularly if pallets are stacked two-high in the trailer.
10. Confirm shipment details with Debbie Picard: date and time shipment left; seedlots and volumes; incomplete or complete seedlots; expected date and time of arrival; carrier name and contact number.

If you have any questions regarding shipments or cone and seed processing please contact Debbie Picard, Cone and Seed Processing Supervisor at 604 541-1683 ext 2227 e-mail [Debbie.Picard@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Debbie.Picard@gov.bc.ca) ; Dawn C. Stublely, Operations Supervisor at 604 541-1683 ext 2239 or e-mail [Dawn.Stublely@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dawn.Stublely@gov.bc.ca) or Tree Seed Centre Reception ext 0 for someone to direct your call. For your reference the Tree Seed Centre Website is <http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hti/treeseedcentre/index.htm>