



Almond Digging

Almond digging

Dig trees at the right time and manage them for higher orchard yields and profits.

1. **Tree age**
 - a. Dig trees at 1-2 years (usually 1 year)
2. **Dig trees when dormant**
 - a. Dig before root growth recommences
 - b. All leaves should be gone - if not, defoliate either manually or chemically
 - c. If necessary, decrease irrigation to ensure dormancy
3. **Rouging**
 - a. Remove and destroy diseased, weak or off-type trees before digging.
4. **Marking**
 - a. Color code both rootstock and scion wood prior to digging.
5. **Digging**
 - a. Remove tree to a depth of 36-40 cm
 - b. Mechanical root cutter is preferred. Shovels cause too much root damage.
 - c. Shake trees to remove earth from roots.
6. **Grading**
 - a. Grade trees according to uniformity and quality
 - b. Size trees based on tree diameter 5 cm above the bud union
7. **Bundling and tagging**
 - a. Sort trees by size – remove and destroy weak trees.
 - b. Bundle trees in groups of 5 or 10 trees of the same diameter
 - c. Attach a tag to identify each bundle
8. **Watering**
 - a. Keep roots moist by covering with moist sand or wood shavings.
 - b. Continue to apply moisture to keep roots damp but not wet.
9. **Storing**

Sell and plant trees as soon as possible. If trees need to be stored, then

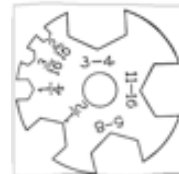
 - a. Store trees at 0-2°C and keep the roots moist
 - b. Do not store trees with fruit of ethylene producing plant materials (such as apples or pears).



Use non-toxic colors to mark trees



Horse or tractor drawn tree cutter



Grading Size Tool

Prepared by John Driver, Corky Lovin, Louise Ferguson and Mark A Bell.

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