

# A BRIEF SUMMARY OF BUDDING PROCEDURE.

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## I. BUDDING IN THE FIELD.

### OPERATIONS.

1. *Budding and shading with leaves.*—On clear hot days no time should be lost in tying on the leaf shade as soon as the binding is completed.

2. *Interval of 18 days.*—In dry weather this period may be extended to 20 days; under showery, vigorous growing conditions it may safely be reduced to 16 days.

3. *Opening.*—Remove the shade of leaves and the waxed bandage; carefully re-open the tongue of stock bark covering the bud, cut it off carefully, level with the lower edge of the bud patch. Replace the shade of leaves, fresh leaves being used where necessary.

4. *Interval of 7 days.*—

5. *Ringling.*—(See note below). On lightly scratching the bud patch both above and below the bud with the point of the budding knife the bright green colour of the “under-bark” indicates successful union of the patch and stock. A ring of bark about one inch wide is removed from the stock about 6 inches above the bud where the union has been successfully established.

6. *Interval of 7 days.*—

7. *Pruning the Stock.*—After re-examining the bud patch to ensure that death has not taken place, the stock is sawn off with a sloping cut commencing about half an inch above the bud patch and sloping towards the ground on the opposite side at an angle of about 45 degrees. When the latex has ceased flowing and the pruning cut is dry, paint with wax or a suitable wound dressing, (The wax used in preparing budding cloth is suitable).

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NOTE :—The ringling operation is often omitted in field budding thereby saving the cost of an extra examination. In such cases the buddings are examined about 10 days after opening and those which appear to be successful up to this stage are pruned at once as described under 7.

Though a slightly higher percentage of losses is generally recorded after pruning where previous ringling is omitted, the economy effected in the cost of an extra examination is often sufficient to outweigh this loss.

Split bamboo shields about 18 inches long and 3 inches wide may now be placed in position about two inches away from the pruned stump and immediately opposite the 'patch'. These serve the double purpose of shading the bud patch and encouraging erect growth of the young bud shoot.

8. *Pruning side branches.*—During the first year of growth of the young budding remove all the side branches up to a height of from 6 to 8 feet from the union. To prevent the development of ugly "snags" side shoots should be removed in the "green" stage.

## II. BUDDING IN THE NURSERY FOR TRANSPLANTING TO THE FIELD.

### OPERATIONS.

1. *Budding.*—Shading is necessary in a wide planted nursery but in a closely planted stock nursery only the outer exposed rows of buddings need shading.

2. *Interval 14 days.*—

3. *Opening.*—Remove bandages and cut off tongues as described under Budding in the Field.

4. *Interval 10 days.*—

5. *Testing the patch and pruning the stock.*—The testing of the bud patch for successful union is carried out as described above under Field Budding. Pruning is carried out as follows:—

(a) If the buddings are needed for planting as soon as possible the stock is pruned off from 5 to 6 inches above the bud patch.

(b) If not required for immediate planting no pruning of the stock is done at this stage. The grafted bud will remain dormant as long as nothing is done to check the vigorous top growth of the stock. Buddings may be safely allowed to remain in this condition for six months.

6. *Interval (after pruning the stock) 4 to 7 days.*—

7. *Transplanting.*—The budded stocks are carefully drawn (4 to 7 days after the pruning described above). The tap root is pruned to 18 inches or two feet, the small lateral roots removed and strong laterals pruned to 3 inches. To prevent drying out immediately after transplanting, the top of the stock should be treated with melted wax, a non-injurious paint, or a suitable wound dressing. If the stumps have to be transported some distance it is advisable to dip the cut ends of the roots in the protective wax or mixture to prevent

drying out in transit. Transplanting should be carefully supervised in view of the valuable nature of budded material. After transplanting, the bamboo shields should be placed in position as in the case of buddings made in the field.

This method of transplanting is not the only one possible but it is considered to have given the best results so far.