

Post Oak Germination

Growing Post Oak Trees from acorns in Arlington, Texas and the Southern Cross Timbers

www.ThePostOaks.org

Post Oak Trees and Seedlings have small diameter roots and a diffuse root system.

It is because of this type of root system that growing post oaks from acorns is an *art* and *science*. Care is needed in handling and growing these roots.

Every other characteristic of the Post Oak Tree makes it most desirable to have on lawns and in the community.

The following offers guideline recommendations for growing post oak tree seedlings from acorns in the North Central Texas Region.

(This is intentionally written in notes form to assist in train of thought).

November

collect acorns, 200, for approximately 100 trees yield
bright orange color on cup end, free of the cup, white healthy inside.
Put in water, discard the ones that float.
Put acorns in zip lock bag, dry, and put in refrigerator
fill bag completely with acorns and / or fold bag to make bag tight
store bag same side up, this produces straight roots.
Only plant straight acorns with straight roots, not curly roots.
Curly roots will never straighten out.
70% germination rate.

March

Plant acorns in rootmaker pots.
For 5 gallon mix (this amount is relatively easy to handle)
20% Canadian peat moss
80% Pine bark fines / soil conditioner (ground up pine bark)
1-2 Tablespoons Pelletized Lime (Dolomite)
2 cups osmocote or miracle grow (the one with the most micro-nutrients).

(slow release, 8-9 month release best, 3-4 month release ok)
water twice a day about 10 minutes each time
fully saturating the plant mix
water with mist from sprinkler head, not by pouring water in / on plant mix
purchase an inline water timer
find the “sweet spot” on the amount of watering
if temperatures drop to 8, 10, 12 degrees outside, move plants inside

10 to 16 weeks replant trees from trays to pots or the soil.

If post oaks have stayed in the trays too long and roots grow too numerous consider cutting bottom portion of root ball off to allow roots to grow into new larger pots or the soil.

July

plant trees in ground
till and amend soil in the areas before planting
tree tubes can be used to protect the tree seedling and assist in increase in growth rate

There is much more on this subject in the websites –

www.DrCarlWhitcomb.com

“Carl Whitcomb Video's”

www.LaceBarkInc.com

www.NativNurseries.com

(How To Videos)

www.TreeProtectionSupply.com

