TRACE YOUR TREES

From seed to sale, track your trees every step of the way

All photos by Neil Aldridge

1

KEEP DETAILS OF ALL THE SEEDS YOU COLLECT

Record what tree seeds were collected, where, when, who by and what quantity. Label each batch of seeds collected with a unique number.

2

NOTE DOWN KEY POINTS ABOUT PROCESSING

When processing seeds, make a note of the quantity processed, the batch number and the processing method used to aid future learning.

3

KEEP TRACK OF TREES IN THE NURSERY

Label each nursery bed, root trainer and pot with the batch number of the seeds planted. This will help you trace the trees along their journey.

Photo by Salhouse Community Tree Nursery Norfolk

4

ADD INFORMATION ABOUT PROVENANCE TO YOUR TREES

Label trees for sale with their batch number, and add information about the source of the seeds to the customer's invoice. This helps buyers understand where their tree came from and share its story.

5

KEEP YOUR RECORDS SAFE FOR FIVE YEARS

Make sure to keep the details of all the trees you've sold for five years. Traceability – being able to track trees along every stage of their journey – can help tackle arboreal diseases and pests.

DON'T SKIP IT. RECORD IT.

Keeping good records not only helps you manage your trees and learn what works best for your nursery, it can also help trace them. If one tree is unhealthy, or shows tolerance or resistance to disease, the whole batch may share these characteristics. Your records can help them be traced. Knowing the history from seed to tree to wood product adds value to a tree's heritage.

Discover our practical tips about keeping records on YouTube: **https://bit.ly/3We4LJc**

Research Centre Agroecology, Water and Resilience | Coventry University | Growing Connections | the tree council