



# CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

## Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

Have you ever thought about how many times a tree is handled before it is planted? We carry many different sizes of trees. We carry potted trees and B&B trees from 1" to 5", all of which are handled in different ways. Some plants are handled with machines while others are handled with just our hands.



Let's take a look at the basic number of times a tree is handled before it goes into the ground. When a tree is ready for sale the first time it is handled is when the grower digs it. Then it is collected from the field and prepped for shipping. It is loaded on to a semi-truck and shipped to its destination, where it is unloaded. After it is unloaded

the tree is moved to a storage location until it is sold. From there it is loaded onto the customer's truck and taken to the job site. There it is unloaded again and either put into the ground or stored again until it can be planted. So if we look back the minimum amount of times a tree is handled from grower to ground, it is eight times. That is a lot of opportunity for something to go wrong where damage could occur to the tree, so please remember to be careful when you handle them.



The tree can be damaged during loading, shipping, or anytime that it is moved. Damage that is caused during loading is usually caused by letting the tree fall uncontrolled onto another tree when laying it down. There can also be damage when shipping a tree if it is not secured or tarped properly. If a tree is not secured when transported it may roll or shift causing it to rub on something or break branches as it moves. If a tree is not tarped properly the leaves can get wind burnt and cause the tree to defoliate. Other types of damage that can occur when moving a tree are, a tree can fall through the forks of a machine causing damage to the trunk or root ball and mishandling the root ball can cause it to lose soil. So remember to properly handle the tree to keep it in the best possible shape, because a damaged tree will take seven or more years to replace from the growers fields.



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