

Ref. 3/2011

10th February 2011

To the Forestry Company or Forester named in the address

Oak and Beech Spacing 3300 stems/ha

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please note that the revised stocking rates for oak and beech recently announced in Circular 10/2010 includes the following specification changes

- Oak and beech to be planted pure at a stocking rate of 3300 stems per hectare on all sites and at a spacing of 2 x 1.5 metres
- On large sites where additional shelter is required a nurse species may be introduced as long as there are at least 10 lines of oak/beech between each nurse. Other patterns will be considered on case by case basis. All nurse species must be planted at a spacing of 2 X1.5 metres.
- If a nurse species is introduced the overall stocking of trees must not fall below 3300 stems per hectare
- For species diversity on pure sites, up to 5% of planted trees may contain other species intimately mixed or planted in groups.

This circular replaces *circular 14/2009 – Interim oak and beech planting pattern*. All sites not yet mounded must conform to the revised stocking arrangements outlined above.

Yours faithfully,

Gerry Fogarty
Assistant Principal