



NatureBid Auction Measure Specification

Lines of Tree Planting



Planting lines of trees and shrubs across slopes and flow pathways have the following flood-related benefits:

- Provides a physical barrier to field run-off
- creates a grassy strip that aids infiltration and uptake of water
- Reduces soil erosion as roots help bind the soil

Other benefits include:

- Reduced risk of nutrient leaching into nearby watercourses by increasing nutrient uptake
- Increased habitat diversity, wildlife corridors and food sources for insects, pollinators, small mammals and birds
- Well located lines of trees have high landscape value
- Planting lines of trees require less management than hedgerows
- Double fencing the line of trees can create an area of rough grassland around the trees which can further help to slow the flow of run-off and nutrients

How to go about planting lines of trees

	Tree Planting
Where	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Across slopes to interrupt flow pathways• Where grass buffer strips alone are unlikely to reduce run-off
What	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant native species similar to those in surrounding landscape and hedges (Oak, Field Maple, Wild Cherry, Birch are suitable for most settings—FWAG SW can provide advice on suitable species)• Native woody shrubs such as Hazel can be planted at intervals between standard trees that will allow for future laying and coppicing to create a natural filter barrier
When	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Between November and March when whips will take
How	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plant 60-90cm whips and use 1.2m tree shelters for protection• Plant trees in a slightly staggered row with uneven spacing to create a more natural looking landscape feature• Trees should be spaced approximately 1.5m apart• If interplanting with native woody shrubs, trees should be no closer than 2m apart• Fence off the planted line of trees as a length to create a grassy continuous strip between the new plants• Ensure fencing is at least 1m away from the tree plants

Management of trees

- Clear weeds (particularly grass) around each plant until it has established

Consent and Licences

You may need to inform the Rural Payments Agency if these areas are considered Permanent Ineligible Features. Inform the Rural Payments Agency if the new line of tree planting splits one existing field parcel into separate fields. You may need consent from Natural England if the land is designated as a SSSI or in an agri-environment agreement. Your FWAG SW adviser can help you with this.

Trees planted as part of this auction will need to be in the ground by 31st December 2021

