

Coles grow in stature!



Tree Production Manager, Clinton Barratt, with maiden *Sorbus aucuparia* (Mountain ash)



Fraxinus excelsior (Ash) grown in Coles' unique Pot-in-Pot tree system



Newly-expanded 45 litre container tree production at Gaddesby, Leicestershire

Navigate the Leicester ring road towards Peterborough and the A47 brings you to the head office of James Coles & Sons, a nursery originally formed back in 1914.

The current owner, James Cole, is the great grandson of the original founder. As the largest supplier of field-grown specimens in the UK, this nursery has grown in stature in recent years. Mention trees and shrubs and the landscape professional will usually think of James Coles. Their field-grown and container material is cultivated over 190 hectares. As active promoters of tree planting in the Local Authority, Landscape and private sector, the nursery is also a sponsor of GreenSpace and supports National Tree Week. Container grown trees are grown up to 65 litres and bare-root trees up to extra heavy standards (4-4.5m tall) with the exact requirement from a client's brief met by the NPS code. This National Plant Specification illustrates size, form and height/stature to which the trees should conform.

URBAN/AMENITY PLANTS FOR LANDSCAPING

Tree Production Manager Clinton Barratt kindly took the time to show Planteria around both the Queniborough and Gaddesby open ground nurseries - two of seven growing sites in the East Midlands. This is fresh ground which is used for growing on or for potting into containers. Here we saw a range of material ranging from bare-root maiden *Sorbus aucuparia* (Mountain Ash) to *Fraxinus excelsior* (Ash) grown in Coles' own unique Pot-in-Pot system. This involves the potting and growing-on of a bare-root tree in a 65 litre container which is, in turn placed into a same-size sunken container in the ground, providing a sound anchorage at the tree's base. This also prevents physical damage. The level of water requirement is reduced by a drip-irrigation system.

SUPERROOT FIELDER

James Coles also grow trees in the Superroot Fielder at one site. Also known as a 'root control bag', trees are planted in these and, in turn, planted into the ground to grow until ready for lifting. A more vigorous and radial root system is established and the use of peat is eliminated because these trees are grown in native, mineral soil. This system also extends the planting season as there is no root disturbance when lifting. Varieties such as Oak, Beech, Birch and Conifers enjoy wider availability and a more successful transplant rate. Up to 40,000 trees using this concept are grown at Queniborough with around 2000 potted per annum.

COMPREHENSIVE CD FOR PLANT SELECTION

To assist with plant selection, James Coles have produced an excellent CD including searchable price lists. Plant buyers can also view weekly availability on their website. Later this year, Coles will be hosting another of their biennial trade networking events on-site. For more information on the company and/or the event on Thursday 11th September, please contact Lynn Hunter on Tel: 0116 241 2115, email: marketing@colesnurseries.co.uk or visit www.colesnurseries.co.uk



Conifer production (*x Cupressocyparis leylandii*) in 10L

Great demand for larger trees



Deepdale Trees is currently expanding to meet the demand for large specimen trees and contract-grow schemes.

Established in 1996, Deepdale Trees Ltd is a nursery specialising in the production of both field and air-pot container grown, semi-mature and specimen nursery stock. The production area covers more than 90 acres in total, with trees ranging from 12cm to 140cm in girth.

Since he first started working with Deepdale, Managing Director Matthias Anton has witnessed a rapidly increasing demand for larger trees and instant hedging. "Everybody is looking for instant impact. For most projects, the bigger the tree, the better it is."

Deepdale is now selling more large trees and hedging than ever before. Recent orders have included: six 90cm girth, 13m high *Quercus palustris* for Kew Gardens' new aerial walkway project; four 140cm girth, 10m high *Sequoiadendron giganteum* for a private garden in London, and nearly seventy 50cm girth, 8-10m high *Fraxinus excelsior* for the new international train station at Ebbsfleet in Kent.

NEW CONTAINER BED

Demand for larger trees is currently so high that Deepdale has just invested over £150,000 constructing a new 4.5 acre container bed, specifically for trees over 30cm girth. The new bed will hold over 500 trees between 30 and 60cm girth, and 300 multistems up to 10m high. All the trees will be containerised in air-pots, and therefore available for supply and planting all year round.

As well as giving Deepdale the best range of large air-pot container grown trees in Europe, the new bed will also provide the extra space required to accommodate the increasing popularity of advanced procurement and contract grow arrangements. Deepdale has already won many prestigious contracts including, Paradise Street in Liverpool, the Quartermile project in Edinburgh and Belfast City Centre Public Realm, and is looking forward to securing many more in 2008.

www.deepdale-trees.co.uk

Tel: 01767 262636



Premier producer

An integral part of Hasmead Plc with a distinguished tradition in large tree production, Bedfordshire based Premier Trees are a major producer of mature trees, shrubs, pines and instant hedging.

They are amongst the largest growers in the U.K. within its specialist domain in both field and container grown stock. A wholesale nursery, supplying the trade from 72 hectares of production, Premier Trees offers a wide range of varieties ranging from 14-16cm girth up to extra large semi-mature trees of 100cm girth plus, and in addition offers a large range of multi-stemmed plants, and a selection of 'instant hedging'.

Adrian Shippey is General Manager at Premier Trees with 36 years experience in the industry, and he outlined to Planteria his view on the continued success of this nursery. "Premier Trees are leaders in the field of procurement and we work closely with landscape architects to enable their design ideas to become reality. The company supplies nationwide and customers include Local Authorities, Landscape Contractors, Landscape Architects,

Garden Designers, House Builders, Developers, Private Estates and Golf Courses."

Jon Todd, Managing Director, explains the nursery's philosophy. "It is my aim that Premier Trees at all times meets and fulfils our client's requirements to the full. To produce trees that are of a quality that shines above the industry standard and to create a lasting relationship with our clients that makes Premier Trees their first choice landscape provider."

New for this season Premier Trees has developed a wholesale cash and carry outlet based in a 300 year old walled garden within its grounds. As well as the standard range of stock, available on site is the Pride of Premier range - including instant hedging ranging from 1.2m to 1.8m and a selection of varieties of multi-stems unique to Premier Trees. **Tel: 01462 813 390**

Innovative, revolutionary and advanced - the Air-Pot growing technique used at A.Hill & Sons has allowed the North East based nursery to offer superb quality products with fantastic root structures, resulting in high success rates for customers and planting schemes.

They offer a comprehensive range of varieties and sizes of trees grown using this unique system, which has become an integral part of their business. The company has an extensive customer base, ranging from local authorities to landscapers throughout the UK.

Air-Pots are made from 100% recycled plastic and can spectacularly enhance the quality of the plants' root systems. As the roots grow, they are guided to the open-ended cones in the side wall of the pot where the tip of the root is pruned as it dehydrates. For every root pruned, many more new roots grow from behind, dramatically increasing the amount of fibrous roots. Continuous pruning eliminates root circling and results in a large number of active white-tipped roots being developed, strongly promoting vigorous growth of the tree.

Another advantage of the Air-Pots at A.Hill & Sons is that they have a watering aid built in to the root ball to allow water to be delivered directly to the roots when planted on site, further encouraging vigorous growth. This minimizes evaporation and makes watering more efficient, cost effective and simpler than conventional methods.

The Air-Pot grown trees offered at A.Hill & Sons are superb quality, environmentally friendly, lightweight and easy to use. They are available for planting all year round and the improved establishment results in a higher success rate.

**Contact John Watson or Simon Hill on
01642 711281 www.hillandsons.co.uk**