



Chatfield EZY-Planter 2000 & Direct Seeder (Tree Planter)

User Guide

Before Transporting

1. The Tree Planter weighs just under 2 tonne. The legal speed limit for towing a farm implement in restricted speed limit areas is 20kph under the limit – e.g. 60kph speed limit zone: the towing speed would be 40kph. **You will need a tongue towbar with a pin to tow the machine & a flashing light (no lights on machine).** (Width: 2150mm; Height 2850mm; Length 4550mm)
2. Before moving the Chatfield for on-road transport, lock hydraulic safety locks on each side of machine into place, and on arrival at site, release locks to carry out planting. Ensure adequate clearance of tyre and discs prior to moving the machine.
3. Check ripper point – if worn, replace prior to use. This is a 30-20 ripper point and the Gillamii Centre will have spare points available.
4. Make sure battery is charged.

Before Seeding/Planting

1. **Seedlings:** Approximate seedling spacings should be calculated prior to placing your order. This can be done by the hectare (100m X 100m). Divide 100 by your planned row spacing and then X the answer by itself to get seedlings required for the total hectare. For example: $100/4\text{m spacing} = 25$, $25 \times 25 = 625$ seedlings for that species pe/ha at 4m spacing (you should do this for all species). Row spacings should be 4m between centers to minimize risk of wind erosion on light sandy soils. This means leaving approximately 2 m unscalped between rows. Push row centres closer together on heavier soils, to around 3 m spacings. This can be achieved by running the tractor tyre near the edge of the spoil of previously planted row. Mix seedlings as much as possible so that shrubs and trees are well mixed up. Seedlings less than 10 cm height will probably have to be planted by hand. Please make sure the seedling root ball is soaking wet before loading onto tree planter.
2. **Seed: There are two seed boxes, it is recommended to mix coarse seed and legumes in one seed box, and fine seed in the other.** Rate of seed/ha can be calculated by the seed supplier or the Gillamii Centre. Fine seed and coarse seed need to be bulked out into two separate batches, mixed with a fertilizer suitable for natives and bulking agent (vermiculite), to be delivered at 4 L/box/ha.

Course Seed (bulk up the 4L/ha):

- 2 L/ha Nitrophoska (BASF) (2 kg = 2 L/ha) or Osmocote low P if proteaceae spp. in mix
- 1 L/ha Eziwet (soil wetter and spongelite) or spongelite
- 0.7 L/ha fine vermiculite



Fine Seed (bulk up the 4L/ha):

2 L/ha Nitrophoska or Osmocote low P if proteaceae spp. in mix

1 L/ha Ezi-wet or spongelite

1 L/ha fine vermiculite

To start off, put in one third of this mix and check at one third of a ha for adjustment (1ha equals 3km at 3m spacing's between rows). Set cog at roughly 10mm for coarse seed and 5mm for fine seed.

The fine seed should be put in the box on the right and the coarse seed mix on the left. The fine seed will fall to the edge of the mound and the coarse seed will fall out behind the press wheel. It is recommended to drag a chain or a branch behind the machine to lightly cover the seed.

It is important to keep the mixture dry so that it will flow freely through the machine. If leaving seed in the machine overnight, be sure to tie plastic bags securely over the ends of the seed outlet pipes, so that no moisture can get in. Ideally, try not to leave any seed in the machine overnight.

Using the Machine

1. 125hp is recommended to pull the machine, and dual wheels are an advantage for traction.
2. Do not scalp at all on bare sand. On weedy, water-repellent sites, 90cm wide scalp, 15 cm deep in middle no depth at edges, and the winder wound out to 23 cm from the machine. To achieve this, set the blade on the second hole from the top at the front of the machine and on the middle hole at the sides. Scalping over previous scalping to remove weed seeds – 60cm wide scalp and 2.5 cm at middle front to nothing at sides.
3. The deep ripping and mounding attachment will not be needed on deep sands. Precision seeding attachment has ripping tynes attached. For heavier soils, the deep ripper will be needed as well as the precision-seeding attachment. Discs are only needed on water-logging prone soils.
4. When taking off, gradually put the seeding arm down so it is seeding on scalped soil or will take a plug of dirt and block seed flow. Alternatively, scalp a little bit, reverse and put the seeder down on clean soil. Check regularly to make sure the seeding attachment is not blocked at the base. Planted seedlings will need to be checked to ensure root ball is well covered and pressed in to minimize air spaces.

For more information on site design, species selection and weed/pest control please refer to Gillamii's Revegetation Guide which can be found online on our website and at our office.

Happy planting!