

**BMP 6**

# Proper Planting of Tree Seedlings by Machine

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## **Purpose**

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Degradation of water quality from the movement of soil from the erosion of planting slits produced by mechanical tree planters during the planting of tree planting stock should be minimized.

## **Definition**

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**Mechanical tree planters**, or tree setters, have a chisel plow and/or coulter-type disk and create a planting slit. Generally they are most suitable for use on relatively even or gently rolling topography where slopes do not exceed 20 percent. Regardless, the planting slit is a continuous linear strip of furrowed disturbed ground that has the potential to erode.

## **Specifications**

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Mechanical tree planters should be operated along the contour to the maximum extent possible to prevent erosion and soil movement originating from the continuous planting slit.

## **Regulatory Requirements for BMP No. 6**

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*(See Appendix A for explanations)*

- All silvicultural operations: (410 KAR 5:026, 5:029, 5:030, and 5:031)
- Activities near high-quality waters and outstanding national resources waters: (401 KAR 5:029, 5:030, and 5:031)
- Activities near wild rivers: (KRS 146.200 *et seq.* and 401 KAR 4:100-140)

## **Summary: AWQA Minimum Requirements for BMP No. 6**

The producer should:

- operate mechanical tree planters only on the contour during tree planting operations