



## **Transplanting Tips:**

When we transplant seedlings, trees, shrubs, or other plants, they experience shock. To diminish the negative effects of being moved, these easy steps will help provide strength and adjustment to the new environment.

- 1. Prevent shock effectively by gently uprooting. Dig up as many of the roots as possible and don't shake the dirt off. Refrain from cutting roots, unless a plant has been root bound.
- 2. To strengthen the plant, cut it back about a third and make sure to remove any flowers, dead leaves or dying limbs. This will help the plant regenerate more quickly without exerting extra energy. Don't over prune or you'll worsen the effects of shock.
- 3. Provide clean, nutrient-rich soil for the transplants. Buy bags of topsoil or potting soil, depending on where you are transplant-ing.
- 4. Before transplanting, boil eight cups of water with eight tablespoons of sugar. Stir and allow cooling to room temperature. Before putting the roots in the new soil, pour two cups of this liquid on the transplant. Save two cups for each plant after the transplant. This recipe is good for two plants. Increase recipe to make as much as needed.
- 5. Dig a large enough hole for the transplant as a major cause of shock is placing a plant in too small of a hole and not providing enough water.
- 6. After planting in your new location or container, pour the remaining two cups of sugar water on the plant.
- 7. Water the transplant thoroughly. This helps the roots settle into the new soil.
- 8. Monitor water on a regular basis. Proper watering is essential for rapid recovery.
- 9. Wilted, shriveled, scorched, rolled, curled, or yellow leaves are indicators of shock. An immune system booster for transplants is to treat with aspirin water. Smash two or three aspirins in a gallon of water. Trickle water on your plants to increase plant health.

Add three to four inches of organic mulch around the plants to reduce symptoms. Mulch will insulate the plant, maintaining a consistent temperature while prevent erosion.

- 10. Continue to water deeply yet be diligent not to drown the roots.
- 11. Give the plants time to recover and settle into their new home. Have patience. It's shocking to be uprooted!

... continued on page D14

Privet is a fast growing shrub that is used for borders, privacy screens, and in formal gardens.