

# McHort Cultural Notes for Landscapers

## Griselinia sp. as a hedging plant

**Risk assessment:** Griselinia sp. is especially vulnerable to both root rot and stem blight *Phytophthora* sp. and insect attack especially Scale.

There are 3 preventative strategy categories :

**1. Cultural.** Avoid damaging the root system or putting it under any stress. Common threats come from unnecessary root pruning, allowing the root system to dry out or having stock stood in water. Any of these situations can invite ever present root rot.

Rough handling of the aerial parts of the plant resulting in bruising the stem or breaking branches may leave a wound site that can allow the entry of stem blight.

Avoid placing fast acting soluble fertilisers in close proximity to either the base of the stem or in direct contact with the root.

Planting at the correct height is critical and ensuring the plant is secure from 'wind-rock' will help prevent collar rot.

Avoid planting in sites prone to water-logging.

**2. Chemical.** The use of approved preventative fungicides; Copper oxychloride, Diathane, Aliette and Chlorothalonil at label rates as preventatives for various leaf and stem fungal pathogens including Rusts, Black Spot, Mildews, etc.

**3. Biological.** The use of TrichoProtection biological fungicide applied to the foliage as TrichoSpray Nursery or to the root zone as TrichoPel Nursery.

For control of Scale insect a foliar spray of Plant Soap PS1 is recommended as a biological alternative to approved chemical insecticides. Plant Soap PS1 may be tank mixed with TrichoSpray Nursery.

### Pre-planting:

Stock may be treated with either a foliar application or drench of a Fosetyl-Aluminium compound such as Aliette or Fostonic.

Alternatively stock may be treated with TrichoProtection products TrichoSpray Nursery or TrichoFlow Nursery.

Stock should be carefully inspected before planting and, if necessary, treated for any pre-existing pest or disease problems.

Ensure that the planting site is free from any standing water.

**At planting:** Use a long term controlled release planting fertiliser such as APEX 'Endure' 16-5-11 at an appropriate rate for the size of the stock being planted. Apply at a rate of 50g/pb 6½.

This should be positioned above ground adjacent to the stem of the plant in the zone wetted by the drip irrigation outlet.

**Post planting maintenance:** Allow new growth to firm and harden before clipping or trimming. Aim to keep clipping or trimming activity to the absolute minimum frequency. Avoid periods of rainfall or high humidity for any clipping or trimming operations.

Either prior to or immediately after any trimming or clipping, apply an approved chemical fungicide foliar application. Keep a look out for pest infestation.