

**THE TREE PLANTER AND PLANT  
PROPAGATOR. BEING A PRACTICAL  
MANUAL ON THE PROPAGATION  
OF FOREST TREES, FRUIT TREES,  
FLOWERING SHRUBS, FLOWERING  
PLANTS, POT-HERBS, ETC.**

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The Tree Planter and Plant Propagator. Being a Practical Manual on the Propagation of Forest Trees, Fruit Trees, Flowering Shrubs, Flowering Plants, Pot-Herbs, Etc. by Samuel Wood

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**SAMUEL WOOD**

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# THE TREE PLANTER

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BEING A PRACTICAL MANUAL ON

THE PROPAGATION OF FOREST TREES, FRUIT  
TREES, FLOWERING SHRUBS, FLOWERING  
PLANTS, POT-HERBS, Etc.

WITH

NUMEROUS ILLUSTRATIONS OF GRAFTING, LAYERING, BUDDING,  
CUTTINGS, USEFUL IMPLEMENTS, HOUSES, PITS, Etc.

By SAMUEL WOOD

AUTHOR OF "GOOD GARDENING," "MULTUM IN PARVO GARDENING," "THE GARDEN  
OF RULES," "THE TREE PRUNER," ETC.



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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE propagation of plants is a most useful and interesting art; and although in most cases it certainly requires care, patience, and perseverance, yet there is a pleasure connected therewith that is quite original in its nature, and those who are masters of the art of propagation are as far in advance of the ordinary course of gardening as an inventor of a piece of machinery is before the man who merely makes the machine according to a given plan.

The practical theory for the propagation of plants is scattered over the whole of the literature of gardening; so that if you want to find how to multiply a certain plant you may possess, probably you may have to buy or borrow some book, hard to come at, possessing the required information, before you dare venture to cut your plant for propagation, lest you should lose both the cuttings and the original, which is frequently the case. This has at times cost the loss of a man's professional reputation, and frequently his place too. It is true some books profess to embody the art of propagation of most plants, the information in which may be sufficient in detail for the experienced professional, while conveying mere hints not sufficiently definite for the novice. Here, then, I find good ground for the present attempt to produce a book which in itself shall meet the demand without further reference, trouble, or expense.

I well remember when I first took a lively interest in the art of propagation, as I was determined to

be a plant propagator and plant grower, what anxiety, research, expense, and loss of time I encountered to find how to proceed with some particular class of plant I had in hand. In the present pages I hope I have obviated the necessity for all this trouble, and I trust that under each head enough is detailed for all classes of plants and all classes of plant growers.

I think I may assert for a truth, that to become a proficient tree and plant propagator is impossible within a very short space of time without consulting works of reference, because it frequently happens that the propagation of some kinds may not practically come under the observation of a person once in his life. Yet by reading an article, and by working in the abstract on the subject, a young man may become more than half acquainted with the method of the propagation of the tree or plant. To be a successful forest-free planter, a man should really know the true physical and functionary powers of the plant, and this can scarcely be practically known unless a man is a propagator: for instance, no one will grow Oak timber well unless he understands the nature of its physical powers and is aware of its peculiar construction, and so on with other trees and shrubs. Those who propagate them are well aware of the formation of the roots, and how the plants perform their functions below the surface, which, no doubt, is knowledge most vital for success.

The reader will observe that I have placed the most common classes of trees first. I have done so because they are of more real importance to man in general than the more ornamental classes; and again, these are generally passed over by most writers. I have placed the Oak first, as this grand forest tree should be cultivated to a much greater extent than it is. There are localities which will not grow the Oak well, and there are others which will not grow the Elm; and if a man plants these indiscriminately, without making the necessary observations beforehand, the probable result will be timber at some future time not worth much. I once



knew a timber merchant who purchased an entire estate of Oak timber, consisting of a little less than 20,000 trees of a good size, clean, and to all appearance of first-class quality ; but it was found to be otherwise, I was informed, when the timber was cut down. Many of the trees were worthless for shipbuilding in the centres, the hearts being partially decayed. This was on account of the locality not suiting the Oak. So it is with reference to other kinds of trees—as, for instance, the Apple, which will luxuriate in some places, and in others will remain almost stationary and not get much larger ; it will neither grow nor die.



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