

## **Hardwood Plantations:**

The establishment of young hardwood trees in a uniform manner, in areas that have been clearcut or previously used for agricultural purposes.

## **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Hardwood seedlings must be purchased from a recognized tree nursery or experienced grower (i.e. can't be dug-up and replanted)
- Documentation of seed source is required for all seedlings
- Hardwood seedlings must closely match the soil type for the area
- Minimum size of seedlings to be planted is 6" and maximum of 6'
- All trees must be protected by either tree guards, shelters, cages or fenced in.
- All trees must have the site prepared, grass competition removed and some type of vegetation control in place (i.e. brush blanket, filter fabric, herbicide treatment, etc.)
- All sites must be pre-approved by SNB before planting, to approve of species mix and site quality
- Native hard mast producing species is preferred with some exceptions to be considered for soft mast producing trees such as apple, sugar maple, yellow birch, etc.
- 100% apple tree planting or orchard establishment is not funded under this program
- Maximum apple tree and/or fruit trees (i.e. peach, pear, nectarine, sweet cherry, etc.) percentage to be funded would be 25% of the species mix
- Scattered clump plantings are not eligible, only uniform contiguous blocks

### **Eligible Species**

red, white & bur oak

butternut

black walnut

sugar maple

yellow birch

white & black ash

black cherry

\*other approved Zone 3-5 hardy species

\* must be clearly demonstrated that it will grow in our southern NB climate and nursery documentation provided if requested

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### Inspection Criteria:

- Site cleared of all competing vegetation and setup to provide easy access for annual maintenance
- All trees planted properly, protected and vegetation control measures/strategy in place
- A minimum of 100 trees planted and spaced out according to the species profile
- An overall target density reaches 300-500 trees/acre depending on the species profile and minimum block size is ¼ acre.
- Trees are all in rows and spaced out in a uniform manner.

### SNB Fund Assistance Rate:

\$500 per 100 trees planted to max of \$1,000 per site

#### Estimated Cost Per Site (averages only)

Hardwood trees (6-12") = \$3 each \*\*\* fruit trees +\$10  
Tree guards/Stakes = \$5 each  
Vegetation Control Measures = \$2 each  
Site preparation = \$500 (or \$5/tree for 100 trees)  
Planting & Guard Installation = \$5 each

A very rough estimate of the cost for a landowner to plant 100 trees would then be ~\$2,000. That would make the funding level for the smallest plantation of \$500 to be at the **25%** level.

## **Hardwood Plantation Tending & Maintenance**

The tending of hardwood plantations previously established through the SNB Forest Management Fund.

### **Eligibility Criteria:**

- Hardwood planted stock has become overtopped by competing vegetation.
- Hardwood plantation is less than five years old.
- Stocking of planted hardwood species is a minimum of 60%.
- Hardwood planted stock has not become overly suppressed and is expected to respond to a release.
- Planting tubes (if used) require maintenance due to animal and or wind damage.
- Replacement of damaged or dead seedlings is also eligible.

### **Inspection Criteria:**

- All competing vegetation has been removed from planted hardwood stock through the use of manual brushing, bush hogging or application of herbicides.
- Planted stock has not been damaged and stocking remains at 60% or more.
- All damaged planting tubes have been replaced or repaired and are standing upright.
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### **SNB Fund Assistance Rate:**

The SNB Fund will contribute 50% of the gross cost for annual maintenance and tending expenses, up to an annual maximum of \$200 per plantation. Hardwood plantations are only eligible for the first five years after establishment.