



# QUALITY AND GRADE DESCRIPTIONS FOR NORDMANN FIR AND NOBLE FIR CHRISTMAS TREES 2012/2013



	Excellent
	Family
	Nature Mix

## Action/Activity Trees

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ALL GRADES:

**Size:**

a) Height is measured from

- Either the cut surface (cut trees)
- Or the root collar (rooted trees)

to the point on the terminal leader to which the top whorl of branches can reach when the shoots are bent upwards along the terminal leader.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, height must always be defined as one of the following height classes or as a combination of height classes:

	100/125 cm	175/200 cm
	125/150 cm	200/225 cm
80/100 cm	150/175 cm	225/250 cm

b) Handle

The shootless handle must be 5-15% of tree height.

**Cultivation:**

The Christmas tree production sites owned by GreenTeam in the various EU countries are cultivated in accordance with current EU legislation on the use of:

- Pesticides
- Fertilizers
- Work environment



### EXCELLENT

**General description:**

The tree must have an attractive appearance. It must be symmetrical with evenly distributed branches and there must be sufficient lateral branches to ensure uniform density.

**Colour:** The tree must have a uniform fresh green colour.

**Trunk:** The tree must have a straight trunk, located at the centre of the tree.

**Shape:** Tree width must be less than tree height but greater than 50% of tree height.

**Density:** To achieve an attractive appearance, trees in this grade must:

- have at least 4 branch whorls if 100-150 cm in height
- have at least 5 branch whorls if 150-200 cm in height.
- have at least 6 branch whorls if 200-250 cm in height.

**Top:** The tree must have a terminal leader of reasonable length.

**Defects:** Needles may not show clear signs of damage

Shearing and repair pruning may be used to improve shape, density and symmetry.



## Nordmann Family

### FAMILY

**General description:** The tree must have an acceptable general appearance and resemble a Christmas tree.

**Colour:** The tree must have a uniform fresh green colour.

**Trunk:** One tree one trunk.

**Shape:** Tree shape may vary considerably and trees may be non-symmetrical.

**Density:** The trees are more open and have fewer lateral branches than desirable.

Trees in this grade must:

- have at least 3 branch whorls if 100-150 cm in height.
- have at least 4 branch whorls if 150-250 cm in height.
- have at least 5 branch whorls if 200-250 cm in height

**Top:** Trees have a leader.

**Defects:** Damage to needles and branches may occur. Shearing and repair pruning may be used to improve shape, density and symmetry.

## Nordmann Nature

### NATURE MIX

**General description:** Nature Mix is a very broad grade containing trees of both Excellent and Family quality – i.e. the trees are graded solely for size. The trees reflect the innate variation of the provenance in question and the natural variation of the cultivation site.

The aim shall be a 50% Excellent and 50% Family distribution, but a fluctuation of 40 to 60% in favour of both grades shall also be acceptable.

### ACTION TREES/ACTIVITY TREES

All trees which are not Excellent, Nature or Family are action trees/activity trees.

**Note:** Trees in this category are marked solely with customer labels.

