



# **Native Plant Propagation**

## **Air Layering**

---

**David Moulder, CEC**

**University of Georgia, Bryan County Extension**

# Air Layering

---

## Steps

- Choose a branch
- Cut and strip bark
- Apply rooting hormone
- Prepare and apply moss
- Cover with plastic
- Cover with aluminum foil
- Wait

# Choosing a Branch



**Pick a healthy, non-flowering branch that is the size and shape of the plant you want to produce.**

**Choose a spot on the branch that will result in a proper prune when the air layer is removed**

***Note : Plants used for demonstration are not native plants;***

# Air Layering Procedures



**Make two incisions in the bark, one inch apart, around the diameter of the branch and connect with another incision**

# Air Layering Procedure



**Remove the bark between the incisions using the connecting incision as a starting point.**

# Air Layering Procedure



**Apply rooting hormone**

# Air Layering Procedure



**Place damp, not wet, sphagnum moss around the wound. Squeeze the moss.**

# Air Layering Procedure



**Compress and shape sphagnum moss to cover the wound - about one to two inches on either side of the wound.**

# Air Layering Procedure



**Cover with plastic.**

# Air Layering Procedure



**Cover with aluminum foil, (I prefer heavy duty), and twist tight.**

# Air Layering

---

## Maintenance

- **Continue to wait**
- **Check for roots**
- **Cut branch**
- **Pot**
- **Keep in moist soil and in shade until root system has started**

# Maintenance of Air Layering



**Leave it alone for a few months.**

**Check occasionally for roots. Be sure to rewrap.**

# Air Layering Completed



**Process completed; pot and keep in shaded area with moist soil until plant has a chance to build a root system.**

# Air Layering Completed



# The End

