

# Hazelnut Seedling vs. Clone

## Factsheet



The OHA would like to help you in making a sound, informed decision when deciding to plant hazelnut clones or seedlings in your new orchard.

This can be used as a starting point for understanding what type of hazelnuts you want to plant in your orchard.

Hazelnuts are not self-pollinating and require 2 compatible varieties to ensure proper fertilization.

### Seedlings

- Trees that are grown from seed result in each tree having a different genetic makeup, since the pollinator ("father") is unknown. This makes it unpredictable to know what kind seedling you are getting and can never be considered true to either parent.
- Nut size, shape, and shell may be different from one seedling to the next
- Nut ripening dates will vary between seedlings
- Nut production can vary- from a heavy harvest to a light harvest
- Removing husks- this can be easy for some and not so easy for others
- Resistance to EFB can vary drastically - some being nearly immune and others being extremely susceptible
- Tree hardiness can vary
- Can require higher use of pesticides
- Can face market restrictions

Therefore, the results of seedlings are considerably varied and unpredictable, due to unknown or varying genetic makeup that they can have.

### Clones

- Hazelnut clones are trees that are reproduced by asexual means
- They can be produced by layering, tissue culture, or by using cuttings
- The offspring that are made through these methods will have the same genetic makeup as the "mother" tree that was used
- It is predictable to know what the characteristics (such as those discussed in the seedling section) of the tree/nuts will be
- It is easier to select appropriate pollinators

Therefore, with clones, you are able to predict the outcomes of what kind of tree you will be planting in your orchard.

