

Riverina Nut Company

Pistachio Budding PIT Group 27th Of November 2024

About us

- ▶ Founded in 2021 by four experienced nut professionals.
- ▶ 75 hectares of pistachio orchard established in two stages: 2021 and 2024, in Leeton, NSW.
- ▶ Our nursery is currently cultivating 150,000 trees in Leeton, NSW.
- ▶ Specializing in UCB1 rootstock.
- ▶ We supply both rootstocks and grafted pistachio trees, along with expert budding and grafting services.

Traditional pistachio budding

- ▶ T-budding is performed using summer budwood, which is available from late December.
- ▶ The bud begins growing two weeks after budding and continues for approximately two months.
- ▶ Advantages: Reliable and suitable for variable rootstock sizes.
- ▶ Disadvantages: Limited availability of summer budwood, as it becomes ready halfway through the growing season. Dependence on fresh wood supply.

Budding using dormant budwood

- ▶ Dormant budwood budding can begin as early as mid-October if rootstocks are of appropriate size.
- ▶ Buds benefit from the entire growing season to develop.
- ▶ Dormant budwood offers the advantage of maturity consistency.
- ▶ High success (strike) rates.
- ▶ Requires more frequent desuckering compared to T-budding.

- ▶ Winter budwood must be kept fresh and alive till grafting



- ▶ Orchard budding with dormant wood. Tree budded 2/10/2024



- ▶ Winter 2024 planted rootstock budded 18/10/2024



- ▶ Nursery stock budded 18/10/2024



- ▶ Heading after budding is important to speed up bud growth



Essentials for successful budding

- ▶ Right budwood (one season old)
- ▶ Correctly stored budwood
- ▶ Skills grafters, good match of budwood cambium layers and budwood cambium layers
- ▶ Strong tape/band pressure on the bud
- ▶ Max temps above 26 degrees for callusing
- ▶ Tree must be headed at grafting

Thank you

