

PLANTING OAKS IN ARKANSAS: THREE CASE STUDIES

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In 2001-2003, we used one-person power augers to plant 1-0 northern red oak (*Quercus rubra* L.) and white oak (*Q. alba* L.) seedlings in 1/2-1 ac group selection openings in three upland oak stands in Arkansas. Site preparation in each stand consisted of chainsaw felling, or girdling and chemically injecting, all stems > 1 in. dbh. This paper reports 3-year seedling survival and height growth results from one stand (site index=65-70), 2-year seedling survival and height growth results from a second stand (site index=90), and 1-year seedling survival and height growth results from a third stand (site index=65-70). Oak seedling survival was high, but height growth was slow. The relatively rapid height growth of competing non-oak species, particularly on better sites, indicates that a release may be needed to ensure continued seedling survival.

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