

Gurteen Agricultural College

# Environmental and Sustainable Farming

Level 6 Certification

In association with

**Susliving**

Module 6

Sustainable Farming and Environmental  
Protection Schemes, Biotechnologies

## **6.3 Stock-Proof Hedge Planting**

### Step-by-step Planting of a Stock-proof Hedge

- Use good quality plants only
- Cultivate the soil – basic requirement
- Control weeds / grass to prevent competition
- Protect from animals after planting
- Plan action in summer – weed control etc.
- Plant in autumn / winter (dormant months)
- Fence where necessary
- Use native spp (see list)
  
- To plant :
  - ✓ use tree whips / seedlings
  - ✓ keep roots damp prior to planting
  - ✓ can plant a double row : 5 plants/m
  - ✓ add FYM, or 10.10.20 if needed later
  - ✓ when planting, make sure soil covers the roots
  - ✓ firm in roots to ensure contact between roots & soil
  - ✓ can prune Crataegus after planting to increase branching
  - X plastic mulch - not suitable
  - X stone mulch – not suitable
  - ✓ bark mulch – if suitable

### Aftercare

- Keep weed free / mulch especially in first season
- Replace any dead plants
- Water if planted late in spring & in dry weather
- Water if planting is followed by a hot summer
- Prune and trim as necessary