

Ideal Plantation

By Ron Kelley, VT Department of Forests and Parks

- **No cut trees or debris left on the site.**
- **Adequate spacing.**
- **Good weed control in the rows with a mowed cover crop that supports beneficials between the rows.**
- **Scouted for plants that are alternate hosts for diseases of concern. These plants are killed or removed.**
- **Fertilization based on soil and foliar analysis.**
- **Trees sheared at optimum time to maximize growth and reduce pest incidence.**
- **Monitored frequently for pest problems and control measures taken only when necessary to produce a marketable product (IPM).**
- **Blocks of even-aged single species matched to their site. Pest resistant species utilized.**
 - **Example: Fraser fir on well-drained spots and balsam or Canaan fir in the wetter spots**
- **Trees on a slight slope with good air drainage.**
- **No wild trees of the same species nearby.**