



FRANKINCENSE BEST-HARVESTING PRACTICES

B. carteri (Beeyo)



AGE OF FIRST HARVEST

First tapping at 15-40 years old
Only tap trees greater than 10cm DBH

HARVESTING SEASON

April-October (Xagaa). Harvesting outside this season is highly damaging to the trees. Start after rains have ended and tap 3-4 months.



RESTING OF TREES

Tap trees for 2 years, then rest for 1 year. Not all trees produce good resin. If the milk DOES NOT immediately come out when cut, the tree should be rested.

CUTTING CYCLES

- 15-20 day intervals between cutting cycles
- First 3-5 cycles produce little resin. High resin production on cycles 6-8.
- 8-10 cutting cycles

NUMBER OF WOUNDS

Trees should receive 3, 6, or 9 cuts depending on size.



3

Young trees should not have more than 3 cuts.

10-12

The largest, oldest trees should not have more than 10-12 cuts.

SIZE OF WOUNDS

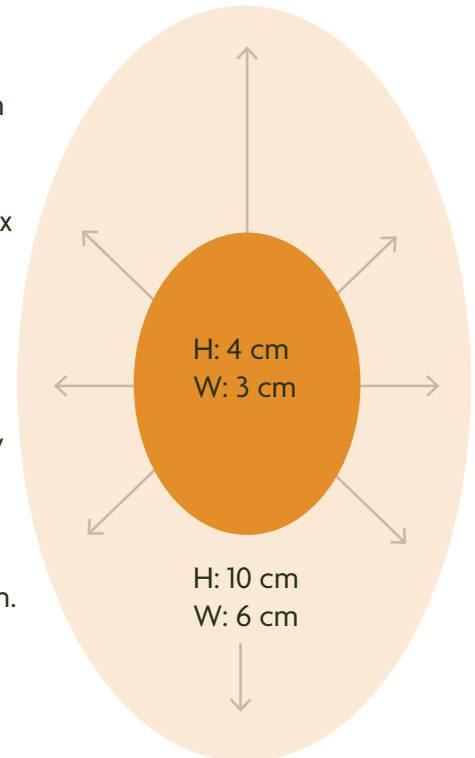
The first cut should not be bigger than **3cm x 4cm**. Each cutting cycle makes the wound slightly larger. The final wound should not be bigger than 6cm x 10cm. (See diagram)

GATHERING RESIN

Wounds should be made in a channel along opposite sides of the trunk only and should be at least 30cm apart.

At low elevations, wounds should be made on sides opposite winds and sun.

At high elevations, wounds should be made on sides facing winds.



PLACEMENT OF WOUNDS

- Resins should be removed at each 15-20 day cutting interval
- Resins should only be removed when they are no longer sticky
- Resin should be harvested at each interval.