

CAMELLIA PROPOGATION

- **Air Layering** – Typically used by homeowner/grower
- **Grafting** – Typically used by more experienced homeowner/grower
- **Cuttings** – Used primarily by commercial operations
- **Seedlings** – Used to develop new varieties – long term

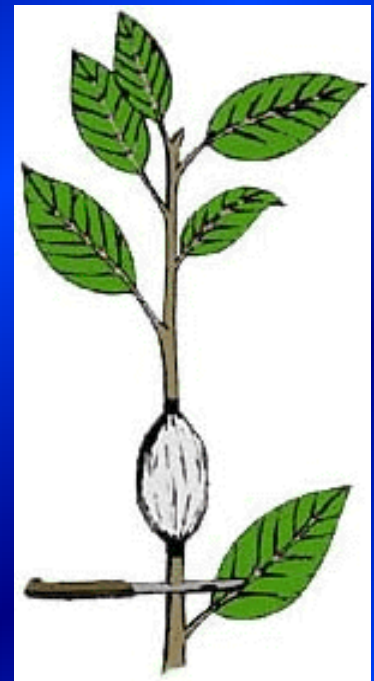
AIR LAYERING

- Air Layering is a simple and inexpensive propagation method.
- It produces a clone, or an exact duplicate, of the mother plant.
- Air Layered Camellias are typically propagated in the late winter and into the spring



AIR LAYERING

- They are removed in late September or October.
- Air layering is a method of plant propagation used to induce plant stems to root while they are still attached to the mother plant.



AIR LAYERING

- The stem is wounded by cutting with a knife and kept moist in some above ground media to stimulate root growth.
- The rooted stem is then detached to become a new plant growing on its own.

STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Prepare the stem, branch or limb for air layering

Make the girdle at least 12-18 inches
From the top of the branch



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Prepare the stem, branch or limb for air layering

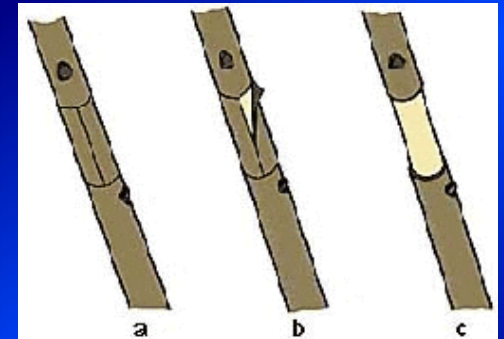
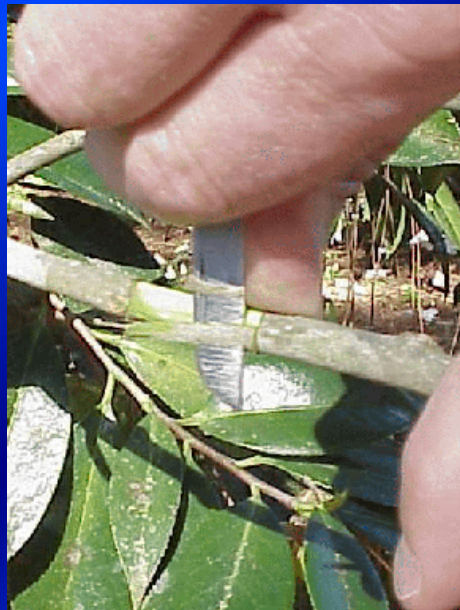
Completely girdle the branch by removing a strip of bark from all around the stem



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Prepare the stem, branch or limb for air layering

Scrape all conductive tissue adhering
to the wood with a knife



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Wrap the cut with moist sphagnum

Wring excess moisture from the sphagnum.

Use moist but not wet moss



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Wrap the cut with moist sphagnum

Place a ball - a hand full or so - of moist sphagnum moss on a sheet of aluminum foil



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Wrap the cut with moist sphagnum

Apply a shake or two of rooting hormone to
the cut or to the surface of the moss.



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Wrap the cut with moist sphagnum

Wrap the cut branch in the sphagnum, with the powdered rooting hormone in contact with the cut.



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Wrap in foil

Tightly wrap the aluminum foil around the moss, making sure it is sealed.



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Wrap in foil

Twist the two ends in opposite directions,
sealing the layer completely



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Tag it, then wait

Identify the cultivar with a tag - attach the tag *above* the layer so you remove the tag with the layered plant later.



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Now you wait a few months

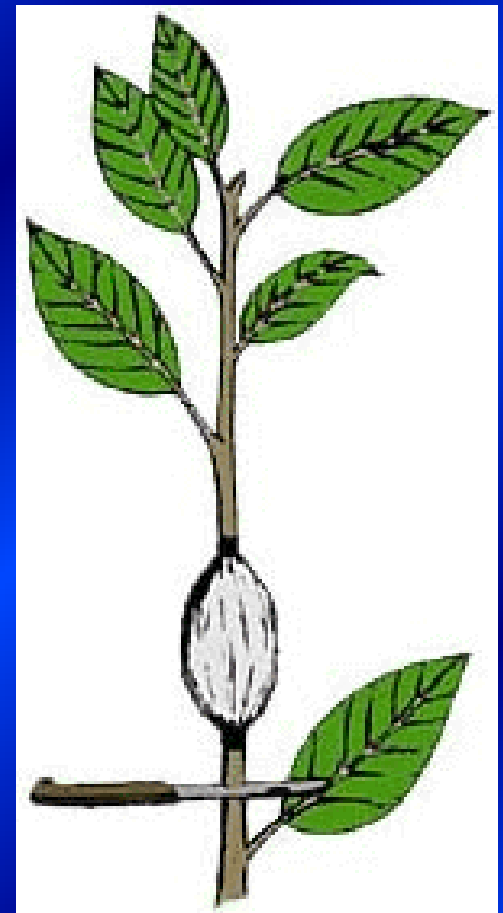
When you feel the firm root mass formed, remove the layered plant by cutting the stem just below the foil. You can carefully unwrap the foil to check root formation, and re-wrap if necessary.



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Now you wait a few months

Air layered Camellias are typically removed from the mother plant in mid-September through October – before first frost



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Plant it and enjoy it

When the newly rooted plant is removed, gently unwrap the foil, and plant in a container. All the buds should be removed, and perhaps some of the rangy foliage.



STEPS IN AIR LAYERING CAMELLIAS

Plant it and enjoy it

Plant the new Camellia in
a container - or directly in
the garden - And enjoy

