Root and Shoot Pruning to Increase Early Growth Rates of Hybrid Poplars in Heavy Clay

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Stock type and quality can have an important impact on early growth rates of plantations. Growth stagnation problems are often observed on heavy clay soils of Northwestern Quebec. Coupled with a short growing season, stem dieback problems and the interdiction of using herbicides, this can be a recipe for disaster for tree farmers.

**Goal:** Evaluate early growth and root/shoot development of 4 planting materials:

- > 100 cm
- Ground Level ± 0 cm
- ~ 30 cm

**Conclusion**
Planting stress can be reduced by pruning the shoot of large stock types, without compromising early growth rates.