### Table 2-7-3: Evaluation of Growth in the Early Nursery Period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Growth rank</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Schematic</th>
<th>Photo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Rank 1**  | - Growth increase in a year: 15cm or more  
- Blighted apical or lateral bud on the top?: No  
- Blighted lateral buds on the upper part?: No  
- Leaf color: ordinary green to dark green | - Growth is healthy.  
- Normal maintenance should be conducted. | ![Schematic](image) | ![Photo](image) |
| **Rank 2**  | - Growth increase in a year: Less than 15cm  
- Blighted apical or lateral bud on the top?: No  
- Blighted lateral buds on the upper part?: No  
- Leaf color: Light green | - Some factors may be hindering growth.  
- Countermeasures may be necessary, if the leaf color or amount of leaves do not improve for several years. | ![Schematic](image) | ![Photo](image) |
| **Rank 3**  | - Growth increase in a year: 3 - 5cm  
- Blighted apical or lateral bud on the top?: Yes  
- Blighted lateral buds on the upper part?: Yes  
- New leaves?: Yes  
- Branch on the upper part of the tree has become a main trunk?: Yes  
- Leaf color: Light green or light brown | - There has been recovery from transplanting damage  
- Growth has stagnated.  
- Countermeasures may be necessary, if the leaf color or amount of leaves do not improve. | ![Schematic](image) | ![Photo](image) |
| **Rank 4**  | - Growth increase in a year: 0cm  
- Blighted apical or lateral bud on the top?: Yes  
- Blighted lateral buds on the upper part?: No  
- New leaves?: No  
- Branch on the upper part of the tree has become a main trunk?: No.  
- Leaf color: Light green or light brown | - Blight is regarded as inevitable. In principle, the tree should be replaced. | ![Schematic](image) | ![Photo](image) |
| **Rank 5**  | - Blighting  
- New/old leaves?: No (Deemed a blighted tree if a few old leaves remain.) | - If the tree is deemed to be blighted, it should be replaced. | ![Schematic](image) | ![Photo](image) |