

Shelterbelt Tips

Properly planned Shelterbelts can reduce wind, control blowing snow, and protect livestock, buildings and gardens. As well as beautify the farmyard. Below are some tips for planning your shelterbelt project.

Mapping Out the Property

Map out the farm using a simple scale to follow, such as 1"=100ft.

- Mark existing trees, buildings, power lines, gardens etc.
- Draw in the prevailing wind
- Make note of any areas the snow accumulates

TIP!

Keep all trees at least 100ft from main buildings and driveways to eliminate problems with snow build up.

TIP!

Avoid any openings or access roads in shelterbelts that allow prevailing winds to blow into yard.

Planning Rows

Decide on the number of rows required to protect your property

- Up to 5 rows of trees is recommended for the North and West side
- Two or three rows along the East and South side

Outside Row

Should be a dense shrub spaced 1-3ft apart e.g. Caragana, Cotoneaster, Lilac

Second Row

Should be a fast growing tree, spaced 5-8ft apart e.g. Willow, Maple, Poplar

Third Row

Should be long-lived, spaced 8ft apart e.g. Green Ash, Maple, Oak

Fourth and Fifth Rows

Should be tall dense and long-lived, spaced 10-12ft apart e.g. Spruce or Pine

TIP!

Plant only as many trees as you can care for at a time. More trees are killed by weeds and grass than by any other causes.

Spacing Guideline for Rows

