

# Government of the Province of Saskatchewan

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### FORESTRY CIRCULAR No. 1.

# FARM FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

## TREES AND SHRUBS FOR THE PRAIRIE FARM.

The professional forester regards plantations with a view to obtaining direct returns such as fuel, fencing material, etc., but the average settler is more concerned at first in establishing plantations for shelter purposes. This leaflet will deal more particularly with the planting and establishment of shelter belts and wind breaks, while emphasis will be given to the additional attractiveness the farmstead gains by a systematic laying out of trees and shrubs in its immediate vicinity. As is generally known the "forestry branch" at Indian Head has for years been supplying, free of charge, a large number of seedlings and cuttings to settlers, the only stipulation being that certain regulations to insure the subsequent success of planting be adhered to.

## SHELTER BELTS AND WIND BREAKS.

The term "shelter belt" denotes a protecting strip of trees made up of several rows. In planning the arrangement of the main shelter belt, always bear in mind that it is to be a *permanent* feature. The main belt practically determines the limit of space available in future for additions to buildings and so on. The belt of trees planted today will be in the same place thirty or forty years later. It may be well to suggest here that forethought be called to aid; settlers have at times planted the trees at the correct distance but in the wrong locations. The trees should be planted where they will be a protection—not to the log or lumber shack of today—but to the commodious farm house which it will be possible to erect after some prosperous years have intervened. It is therefore a good policy *not* to use the one ideal building spot for the original, and often humble dwelling. Once established, the trees cannot be removed without great labour. If for any reason it be found necessary to do this in after years, it simply means the destruction of what otherwise may be the most valuable portion of the home site. Remember, too, that any belt of trees will collect large drifts of snow in the winter time. It is not desirable to have such drifts immediately around the buildings, and for this reason the trees must be kept well back.