

Wind Breaks.

Dr. Eby, of Sebringville, Ont., read an exhaustive paper on the above subject before a meeting of the Fruit Growers' Association, recently held in Berlin. He has made a deep and systematic study of the subject in all its phases, especially its relation to our climate, and his views should receive the careful attention of our farmers. It will be observed that the following, which we extract from his paper, is the perfection of his scheme, which may be simplified or modified to suit individual circumstances. He proposes that a belt of young trees, two rods wide, be planted on the north and west sides of every ten-acre field, constituting wind breaks, and affording shade and shelter for stock, as well as producing valuable timber in the future. This would, however, be a too gigantic undertaking for our farmers at present, and the question for them to discuss now is the planting of say a single row on the north side of the fields, leaving further developments of the plan for consideration in future years. The space occupied by such a belt would, he says, only occupy ten per cent. of the land, or excluding the space usually occupied by fences, seven and a half per cent. Having detailed the opinions of several eminent authorities on the subject, he then proceeds as follows:—

The middle row should if possible be evergreens. For this purpose our native white pine (*Pinus strobus*) may be selected. The Norway spruce (*Abies excelsa*) may be used, and it could be more easily obtained, or if for other reasons it may be preferred. Any other evergreen will do, but the above are to be preferred as the most rapid growers and the most valuable when grown. The trees should be planted four feet apart in rows four feet from each other. The second rows, those on each side of the middle row, should be planted with some quick growing, soft wood. For that purpose soft maple or poplar may be selected, but elm or white ash would be more profitable. The European larch (*Larix Europa*) is very often used as a nurse for other more slowly growing trees. In case the ash is selected, the trees should be planted two feet apart in the rows. When the trees will have grown large enough when split through to make barrel hoops, every second tree should be removed so as to leave the remaining trees four feet apart. In doing this, the trees standing opposite those of the middle row should be cut away, while those standing between should be left so as to preserve the diagonal plan.

The third rows on each side should be planted with some valuable wood, as maple, oak, ash, walnut, butternut, &c. These rows properly thinned out, can be left standing until the trees have reached maturity. The fourth rows on each side should be planted with some quick growing trees. The larch or our native tamarac would do very well for this purpose. Any of the trees mentioned for the second rows will also do for the fourth rows. The object will be to get some tree or trees that will grow up to be valuable before they materially crowd on the neighboring rows. The last row on each side should be planted with trees that naturally have a tendency to grow upwards. The larch or elm will answer this purpose very well and should be selected for the southern and east-

ern sides, while some of the hardier evergreens should be selected for the windward sides. The Scotch pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) is especially well adapted for that purpose, being very hardy and fond of the light and air.

Other woods than those I have indicated above may be planted should they for any reason be preferred. The chestnut would be a valuable addition to the list for those districts in which it will grow. The catalpa and the mulberry should not be overlooked. Both are most valuable trees, but their success in our climate is a question that only future experience can answer. A few cherries and birch should be found in every grove. For wet grounds select elm, black-ash, arbor vitae (common cedar), asp, willow, &c. The white pine and the tamarac will also flourish on wet grounds, but care must be taken not to plant larch on grounds on which water is stagnant.

After the trees have grown to such a size and height that they begin to crowd each other, every second tree in the second and fourth rows, on each side, should be removed, and when they again begin to crowd each other, every second tree in the remaining rows should be cut out. This will reduce the number of trees to one half and will leave the trees eight feet apart in the rows. When the trees grow still larger so as again to become crowded, then the second and fourth rows on each side of the middle row must be entirely removed. This will leave the trees eight feet apart each way, and will give them ample space to grow to a fair size, but if it is desired to have very large trees, they must be given still more room. Care should always be taken to preserve the original diagonal plan, as that will offer the most effectual check to the winds.

By stretching wires along one of the rows of trees after they have grown so large that cattle can no longer injure them, a good fence will be obtained, while the cattle find ample shelter on either side.

The object in planting so closely, as I have advised, is to get the trees to grow upwards and not waste their strength in throwing out side branches. By planting them closely they will all grow upwards so as to keep in the light. Some writers advise planting even more closely than I have directed. Some direct planting a tree every two or three feet. This, I think, except in special cases, as the ash, elm, hickory, &c., which can be used while still small, would not be found advisable. The thinnings will hardly pay for the extra labor and expense.

One of the most unsightly things on some farms is the growth of bushes in fence corners and other places. Such rubbish is not-beds for the production of vermin. The best time to cut shrubbery is when the season's sap is exhausted in the production of growth, so that the sap is not sufficient in circulation for the support of new shoots. When the brush is dry it is a good plan to burn it on the spot where it grew, together with all the other rubbish which can be procured. This will check fresh growths, and put the ground in a good state for the growth of any crop that can be sown.

Feed fallen fruit to the hogs.
Don't allow fallen fruit to lie under the trees: it breeds destructive insects.

Stock.

Points of a Good Horse.

MUZZLE.—Nostrils should be large and wide, indicating great breathing power, and hence ability to stand much exercise. This indicates good breeding and is also a point of beauty.

JAWS.—The space between the branches should be wide, so as to allow play for larynx and trachea; otherwise breathing will be interfered with.

FOREHEAD.—Should be wide, indicating a large brain, which gives courage, tractability and a good temper.

HEAD.—Should not be set on straight, but the animal must be able to draw it in well towards the breast. Straight heads indicate a dull temperament, and not being able to yield to the bit, the horse becomes hard mouthed. Size of head should be small or medium.

EYES.—Large, bright, full and mild, indicating freedom from disease and a good temperament.

EARS.—Medium sized, not locked; but this is characteristic of some thoroughbreds. Must be able to prick ears well forward.

NECK.—Full, muscular and rather short. If long, the leverage strain on the muscles is too great. Should be gracefully arched, gradually tapering towards the head, and wide at base; but it should not be too narrow towards the head, as this is a fruitful cause of "roaring."

SHOULDER.—Oblique for fast horses, giving large base for attachment and play of muscles; upright for heavy horses, giving more leverage and an equal pressure on all parts of the collar, being nearly at right angles to the line of draught.

HUMERUS.—Long and well placed under body.

ELBOW JOINT.—Should not be turned in, but have plenty room between joint and body. If turned in, it will cause turning out of toe; hence liability to speedy cut and interfering. The opposite condition (pigeon-toed) is not so objectionable.

FORE ARM.—Must have length and well clad with muscles, especially in front, indicating muscular development of the whole body.

KNEE.—Large, broad in front and projecting on sides, so as to be able to bear much concussion; well marked ridge behind knee. Should not be calf-kneed; but this is not so objectionable in heavy horses. Opposite conformation is faulty in heavy horses, but not so much in light horses.

METACARPAL (Cannon Bone).—Should be flat, indicating strength of bone, and tendons and ligaments should be well developed and marked.

FETLOCK.—Good size, square and clean.
PASTERNS.—Oblique (45° to 60°), and medium length. If too long and oblique is subject to strains. If too upright there is liability to navicular disease.

HOOF.—Tough, oily, bright, and fine texture. If dry look out for cracks. Quarters should not be low, indicating thin sole and disposition to bruises. Frog full, and elastic and large; cleft well developed.

CHEST.—Volume indicates capacity for lungs and large organs of digestion. The more room the more endurance and stamina. Fast horses