

With ordinary field crops the farmer may count on a benefit from windbreak protection which will make the loss of the area occupied by the trees negligible. Under Middle Western conditions a windbreak whose width does not exceed two or three times its height will more than pay for itself, regardless of the timber which it may produce. Farther east the same kind of influence and benefit will exist, though in a less marked degree, and a greater direct return may be expected from growing the timber for its own value, so that the need of even a slight amount of protection should make windbreak planting attractive.

In any region the windbreak should be so laid out as to offer the greatest resistance to damaging winds and to protect the greatest area. This simply means having the belt or row at right angles to the prevailing winds. In addition to affording protection to crops and buildings, the windbreak usually has considerable value as a source of wood supply for use on the farm or for sale. In the following

estimates of the timber value of various kinds of windbreaks the acreage on which the figures are based includes not only the ground actually occupied by the trees but also that

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