

South Dakota State University

Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange

SDSU Extension Fact Sheets

SDSU Extension

1979

Fixing Shrub Rows

Cooperative Extension South Dakota State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_fact

Recommended Citation

South Dakota State University, Cooperative Extension, "Fixing Shrub Rows" (1979). *SDSU Extension Fact Sheets*. 800.

https://openprairie.sdstate.edu/extension_fact/800

This Fact Sheet is brought to you for free and open access by the SDSU Extension at Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. It has been accepted for inclusion in SDSU Extension Fact Sheets by an authorized administrator of Open PRAIRIE: Open Public Research Access Institutional Repository and Information Exchange. For more information, please contact michael.biondo@sdstate.edu.

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



For current policies and practices, contact SDSU Extension

Website: extension.sdstate.edu

Phone: 605-688-4792

Email: sdsu.extension@sdstate.edu

SDSU Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer in accordance with the nondiscrimination policies of South Dakota State University, the South Dakota Board of Regents and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Problem:
The S/W with
poor or no shrub rows

Fixing **shrub rows**



SDSU LIBRARY
JUN 24 1980
STATE DOCUMENT

Cooperative Extension Service
South Dakota State University
U.S. Department of Agriculture

630.732
So 87.29
FS 750

If one or more of the following situations exist in your shelterbelt/windbreak, your planting is in trouble:

- grass growing in the planting
- a poor or nonexistent shrub row
- trees in poor vigor
- livestock in the planting
- holes or gaps in the rows.

FS 750

Problem:

The S/W with poor or no shrub rows

Fixing shrub rows



Larry Helwig
Extension forester

The only weak spot in many South Dakota shelterbelts/windbreaks (S/W) is a thin or totally missing shrub row(s). It's not a problem you can ignore just because the trees look good.

A weak shrub row causes snowdrifts to the lee of the S/W. Those drifts should be inside the planting, to be used as moisture for the trees in the next growing season. Little wintertime snow storage kills a planting eventually.

Every tree planting should have at least two shrub rows—one on the windward side and one on the leeward.

Inspect the shrub row

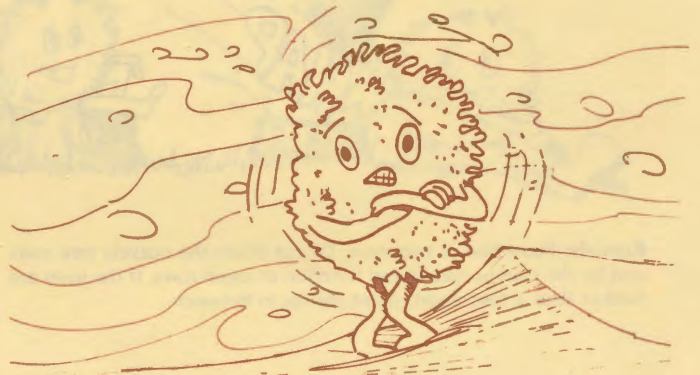
1. Small shrubs (sandcherry and skunkbush sumac) should be about 3 feet apart. Larger shrubs (lilac, plum, or juniper) should be about 4 feet apart.
2. Shrubs should have branches and foliage at ground level as well as at the top.
3. At least 90% of each plant should be living.
4. There should be very little vegetation beneath the plants.

What to do if . . .

... all shrubs are present, but sparsely foliated and some dead branches show.

Remedy

Shear off the shrubs to a 6- to 12-inch height. Hollow or small stemmed plants like honeysuckle can be rapidly sheared with a power sickle mower. Thick stemmed shrub species like caragana (Siberian peashrub) will require a powered circular saw.



Situation: Some shrub species weaken or become "leggy" faster than others. They become sparsely foliated and allow wind and snow to filter through.



Remedy: Cut the shrubs off to a height of 6 to 12 inches. They will resprout and come back thicker than before.



Situation: No shrub rows exist.



Remedy: Plant one or two rows. Or cut down the outside tree rows and let the stumps sprout and function as shrub rows. If the trees are farther than 8 feet apart, plant shrubs in between.

... some shrubs are gone; the live ones show some dead branches. They are open at the bottom with vegetation on the ground surface.

Remedy

Shear off the shrubs in poor vigor to a 6- to 12-inch height. Hand plant new shrubs in the vacant areas, spacing them about 2 feet apart.

Next fall, apply Simazine or Casoron in a 3- to 4-foot-wide band for the entire length of the renovated row. (Use half rates of chemicals when lilac is being treated.)

... long stretches of the shrub row are missing.

Remedy

If space allows, plant at least one new shrub row (two is better) at least 20 feet from the nearest tree row. Work up the area one year before planting; use snow fence or some other method to trap snow on the tilled area (this gives your new shrubs some moisture to start with).

... shrub row either was not planted originally or died out many years ago.

Remedy

There are two things you can do. Either plant one or two rows of shrubs, or, if the planting is composed of 7 to 10 **complete** rows of tall trees (Siberian elm) or medium trees (Russian olive), cut back the two windward rows. The stumps will resprout and function as a shrub row.

... shrub row is overtopped and suppressed by an adjacent tree row.

Remedy

If space allows, plant one or two rows of shrubs outside the influence of the tree row.

Or cut down the offending trees. Treat stumps with a mixture of 1 part 2,4-D and 3 parts fuel oil.

The healthiest trees will not give you a good S/W without a thick shrub row to stop the wind from ground level up to the lowest branches. Attention to those shrub rows will restore the S/W to its greatest potential.

Replacement plants

Trees and shrubs for moist to wet soils:

Shrubs

1. Dogwood
2. Elder
3. European Cranberry

Trees

1. Willows
2. Poplars
3. Basswood

Trees and shrubs for shady locations:

Shrubs

1. Chokecherry
2. Currant
3. Dogwood
4. Nannyberry
5. Honeysuckle
6. Ninebark
7. Serviceberry

Trees

1. Basswood
2. Larch

Trees and shrubs for dry or sandy soils:

Shrubs

1. Sandcherry
2. Lilac
3. Plum
4. Buffaloberry
5. Caragana
6. Serviceberry

Trees

1. Green ash
 2. Honeylocust
 3. Siberian elm
 4. Russian olive
 5. Hawthorn
 6. Amur maple
 7. Bur oak
 8. Hackberry
-

Fact sheets discussing shelterbelt/windbreak problems and renovation procedures are

- FS 746, Stop livestock grazing in shelterbelts
- FS 749, Plugging up the holes (trees)
- FS 750, Fixing shrub rows
- FS 751, Getting rid of the grass

No brand name endorsement is implied.



U.S. Department of Agriculture
South Dakota State University
Brookings, South Dakota 57001

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use \$300

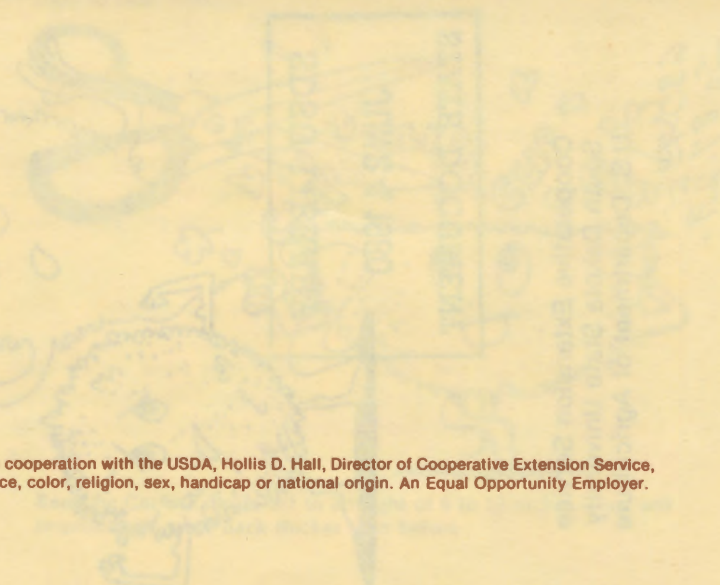
Leaflet No. 107
Revised 1964

The only way to get the best results from your garden is to use the right fertilizer. This leaflet tells you how to choose the right fertilizer for your soil and crops.

There are many different kinds of fertilizers. Some are made from natural materials and some are made from chemicals. The best fertilizer for your garden depends on the type of soil you have and the crops you are growing.

Every farmer should have at least two tests made of his soil. One test will tell him how much nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium he has in his soil.

When you have your soil tested, you will know what kind of fertilizer you need. If you have a lot of nitrogen, you should use a fertilizer with a low nitrogen content. If you have a lot of phosphorus, you should use a fertilizer with a low phosphorus content. If you have a lot of potassium, you should use a fertilizer with a low potassium content.



Cooperative Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
South Dakota State University
Brookings, South Dakota 57007

Postage and Fees Paid
U.S. Department of Agriculture
AGR 101



OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for Private Use \$300

Problem:
The S/W with
poor or no shrub rows

Fixing shrub rows

SDSU LIBRARY
JUN 24 1980
STATE DOCUMENT



Cooperative Extension Service
South Dakota State University
U.S. Department of Agriculture

630.732
50 87.29
FS 750