



Issued in: March 2003

Serial No: 05/03

WIND AND SHELTER BELTS IN TEA**1. Objectives**

(This cancels the Circular No.0-2, Serial No. 6/90, issued in October 1990)

In wind swept areas, it is advisable to establish shelter belts well before the planting of young tea. The full blast of the wind during the months of heavy blowing could result in:

- loss of crop in mature tea
- damage to leaf
- poor establishment of new clearings (arising from loosening of young plants and consequent bark damage at the soil level)

2. Region-specific species

2.1 In the up-country, a mixed stand of *Grevillea robusta* and *Hakea saligna* or *Acacia* spp. is recommended. They should be planted at right angles towards the direction of wind.

2.2 In the mid-country, a mixed stand of *Grevillea* and *Acacia* spp. is recommended.

2.3 *Grevillea robusta* could be spaced 3.6 m (12 ft) apart in the row. On either side of *Grevillea*, *Hakea saligna* or *Acacia* spp. could be planted at a spacing of 1.2 – 1.8 m (4-6 ft). Alternatively, rows of *Hakea* or *Acacia* alone could be grown as wind belts at a spacing of 1.2 - 1.8 m (4-6 ft.).

2.4 In the low-country, a mixed stand of *Fragrea fragrans* and *Gliricidia septum* is recommended for wind belts. *Fragrea fragrans* could be spaced 3.6 – 4.5 m (12-15 ft) along the row while *Gliricidia septum* could be planted on either side of *F. fragrans* at a spacing of 1.2 – 1.5 m (4-6 ft)

3. Spacing

The spacing between rows of wind belts could be 45 – 60 m (150-200 ft) depending on the intensity of blowing of the wind. The ideal spacing should be ten times the height of the wind belt. On hillcrest wind belts consist of double rows planted on a triangular arrangement is recommended at spacing given above (para 2.3 and 2.4) for specific spp.

4. Tea as wind belt

In case wind belts are not established, tea itself could be established as wind belt by allowing it to grow freely. However, the distance should be closer than 45 m (150 ft)

SHELTER BELT TREE SPECIES AND RECOMMENDED SPACING

Up-country

Species	Spacing
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	3.6 m (12 ft) apart in the row
<i>Hakea saligna</i> or <i>Acacia</i> spp.	1.2 – 1.8 m (4-6 ft) apart in the row
Distance between shelter rows	45 – 60 m (150-200 ft)

Mid-country

<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	3.6 m (12 ft) apart in the row
<i>Acacia</i> spp.	1.2 – 1.8 m (4-6 ft) apart in the row
Distance between shelter rows	45 – 60 m (150-200 ft)

Low-country

<i>Fragrea fragrans</i>	3.6 m (12 ft) apart in the row
<i>Gliricidia sepium</i>	1.2 – 1.8 m (4-6 ft) apart in the row
Distance between shelter rows	45 – 60 m (150-200 ft)

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