

Hedge Plants:

Hedge plants purchased should be 45-60cm whips The mixture should be as follows:

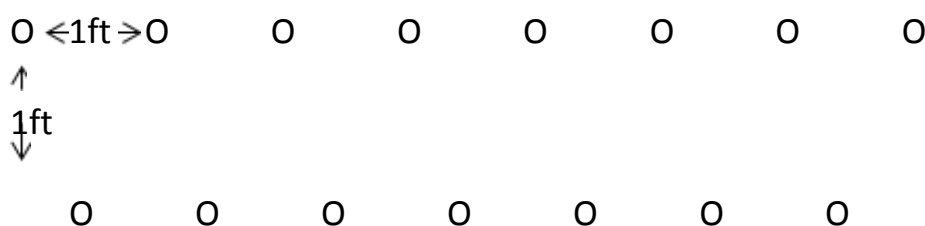
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	40%
Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	20%
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	10%
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	10%
Field Maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	10%
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	5%
Gelder Rose	<i>Viburnum opulus</i>	3%
Spindle	<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	2%

Spacing:

Space the hedge plants at 0.3m (1 foot) intervals in two rows, 0.3m (1 foot) apart. Planting should be staggered so that a plant in the second row is mid-way between plants in the first row – see diagram below. This would give about 6 plants per running metre of (double) hedge-line. As an example, if the total length of the hedge line is 140m, the total number of plants required would be $(140 \times 6) = 840$.

Individual trees should be planted at approximately 6-metre intervals (but not exactly, to avoid regularity). Therefore, in the above example, 24 trees would be required – 8 of each of the 3 species chosen.

Spacing of hedge plants



If a denser hedgerow is preferred, triple staggered rows could be planted.

Planting season:

Hedging plants are usually supplied bare-rooted. This restricts the planting season to the winter months, when the roots are dormant. The best time to plant a new hedge is therefore from November to March.

Protection:

If the land is adjacent to existing agricultural land, it should be assumed that rabbits exist in the area. Therefore, all plants should be protected. If individual protection is decided on, use spiral guards for the hedge plants. For the example, requirements would be 840 spirals and 24 tree shelters.

Weeding:

May need to be carried out for the first 3 years, preferably by hand.

Beating up (replacement of failed plants):

Should be undertaken as required in order to maintain the continuity of the hedge line.

Pruning:

The hedge can either be “left to its own devices” or, (if extra-thick multiple growth is required) severe pruning or “stumping back” could be undertaken after the first year, and maybe also after the second.