

EVALUATION OF WOODY FIELD PLANTINGS

COOPERATOR: _____ PLANTING NUMBER: _____ FIELD OFFICE: _____

EVALUATION DATE: _____ EVALUATOR(S): _____

PURPOSE(S): Windbreak/Shelterbelt Erosion Control Wildlife Pollinators Species Aesthetics Privacy Education

ANNUAL PRECIPITATION: Below Average Average Above Average Nearest Inches: _____

Weather Notes _____

Species Information: Each column represents a species (write in species at top). Provide the average by species.

	Species		
	1.	2.	3.
Number Planted / Number Alive	/	/	/
Height (Feet)			
Crown Width (Feet)			
Diameter at Breast Height (DBH Inches)			
Plant-to-Plant Variability (10%, 20%, 30%.... 90%, 100%)			
Branching / Porosity (Sparse <40%, Moderate 50%, Dense >60%)			
Ability to Spread (Yes / No)			
Fruit Production (none, sparse, moderate, abundant)			
Wildlife Use (percent of plants/area with wildlife use sign)			
Wildlife Type (species or lifeform using the plantings)			
Light Conditions (sun, part sun/shade, shade)			
Plant Injury (winter, insect, wildlife pesticide, disease, fire, machine, drought)			
Average Injury (Percent of plant affected)			
Erosion Control (Rate 1 to 10; 1=obvious loss, 10=stable)			
Flood / Water Tolerance (NA, strong (10-20 days), moderate (5-10 days), mild (5 days).			
Weed Canopy Cover (0%, 1%, 5%, 10%, 20%, 30%....)			
Grass Canopy Cover (0%, 1%, 5%, 10%, 20%, 30%....)			
Plant Protection Condition (good, fair, poor)			
Annual Maintenance (none, mow, spray, pull weeds/grass, fertilize, irrigation, cultivate)			
Cooperators Rating:			

Comments	1.	2.	3.

INSTRUCTIONS: Using a representative area of the planting, use the following instructions to evaluate each species.

Height is the distance from the ground to the terminal branch. Average for each species.

Crown Width is the average horizontal width of the crown (foliage and branches growing outward from the trunk of the tree or center of shrub). Average for each species

Diameter at Breast Height: is the diameter (inches) of the tree trunk at 4.5 feet above the ground level.

Plant-to-Plant Variability: is a measure of how uniform in height, width, and condition the plants within a species are over time. Of the number planted, what percent are uniform? 10%, 20%, 30%, etc.

Branching / Porosity is a parameter for measuring plant canopy density (i.e. how will it will control wind erosion). Select an average section of the windbreak/planting, look perpendicular to the woody plants, using the sky as a white background, and estimate the amount of space filled by branches. (Sparse <40%, Moderate 40-60%, Dense >60%)

Ability to Spread measures reproductive ability of the species. Are new shoots or new plants establishing in the area. (Yes / No)

Fruit Production measures reproductive ability of the species. Are fruits currently present, or is their evidence of production within the evaluation year. (none, sparse = scattered individuals, moderate, abundant = most plants)

Wildlife Use: Determine the percent of plants/area used by wildlife. Look for wildlife present as well as signs of use (scat, beds, nests, rubs, burrows, browse, etc.).

Wildlife Type: Identify the species or lifeform (birds, small mammals, reptiles) using the plantings.

Light Conditions: Is the species in full sun, partial sun/shade, of full shade. Shade conditions may changes with time of day.

Plant Injury: Has the plant species been injured by winter (kill, frost cracks, sun scald, ice and snow breakage, spring freeze), insects (herbivory, bores, galls), wildlife (rubs, girdling, breakage), pesticide (twisting, bent shoots, discoloration, kill), disease (loss of needles/leaves, discoloration, cankers), fire (burn marks, brown needles), mechanical (mower), drought (rolled or yellow leaves, wilting, scorching, drop leaves early)

Average Injury: Of the individual plants affected, what average percent of the plant has impacts.

Erosion Control: Wind erosion signs may include scouring (dish or crater like removal of soil), blowouts causing soil loss, deposition of soil, and litter movement. Water erosion signs may include soil and litter movement, litter deposition as a result of flow patterns, rills and gullies, and pedestaling of plants. 1 = obvious soil loss, 3=well defined erosion, 5=Evidence seen, 7=few signs, 10=stable site.

Flood / Water Tolerance rates the species tolerance to intermittent flooding or saturated soils. (NA, strong (10-20 days), moderate (5-10 days), mild (5 days).

Weed and Grass Canopy Cover: is the percentage of ground covered by the vertical projection of a species / lifeform.

Plant Protection Condition: Are the plant protectors (mulch, fabric, mats, protector tubes) in good, fair, or poor condition?

Annual Maintenance: Has annual maintenance occurred?

Cooperator Rating: Does the cooperator feel the planting met the objectives?

Porosity of this windbreak estimated at 65%



Canopy Cover percentages

