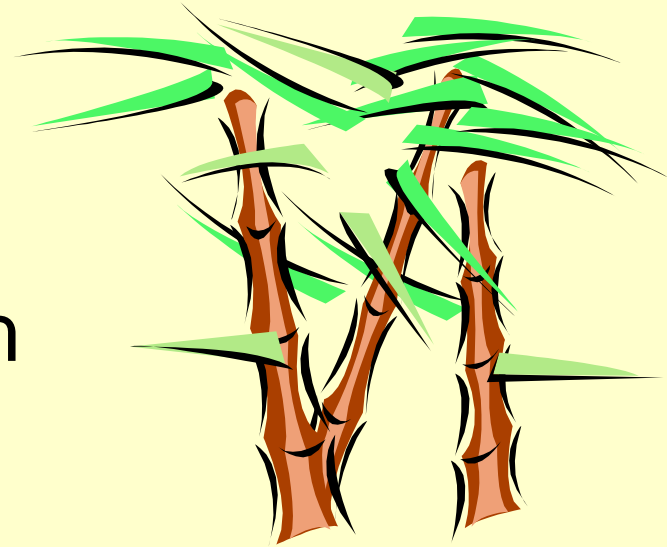# Bamboo as a Windbreak for Citrus

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A grove of running bamboo. Notice the spacing of the culms.

These are other examples of *Phyllostachy* (running bamboo) groves.

Another variety of *Phyllostachy*, one of the most popular running bamboos.

Bambusa vulgaris 'Wamin'
Dwarf Budda's Belly

Bambusa ventricosa
Syn. - Bam. tuldoides 'Ventricosa'
BUDDHAS BELLY BAMBOO

Bambusa ventricosa, a clumping bamboo that grows to 40' with small bellies when culms are young. Culms usually grow out of the bellies as they gain height, but the plants get small bends at the nodes.

One of the most common bamboos grown in Florida. Makes an excellent ornamental clump or a very good windbreak. *Bambusa oldhamii* grows to 60 feet tall with 4-inch diameter culms. It loses leaves in the winter, but flushes out in the spring to become a very full plant.

A fantastic example of *Bambusa multiplex* (Hedge Bamboo). This plant will make one of the <u>best windbreaks</u>. The genus has species that will be 40 feet tall and super dense, but also have a fairly small foot print.

Bambusa multiplex 'Alphonse Karr.' A clumping type that grows to 40 feet and has an average culm diameter of 1½."

Bambusa lako. Black Timber bamboo. It grows to 50-60 feet tall and produces culms that are 3-4" in diameter.

Dendrocalamus asper grows to 100 feet and has a culm diameter of 8."

Dendrocalamus brandisii grows to 100 feet with an 8-inch culm diameter.

Dendrocalamus giganteus. This bamboo is one of the largest of the largest in the world, reaching 100 feet tall with a diameter of 12." The leaves can be 20" long and 4" wide.
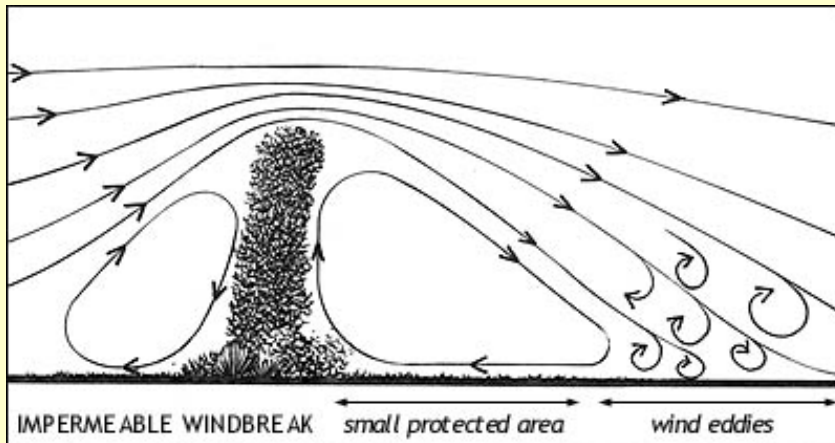
An example of how running bamboo grows. Notice how far the culms reach and spread on the property. When using these varieties, it is an excellent idea to have a maintenance plan in place.

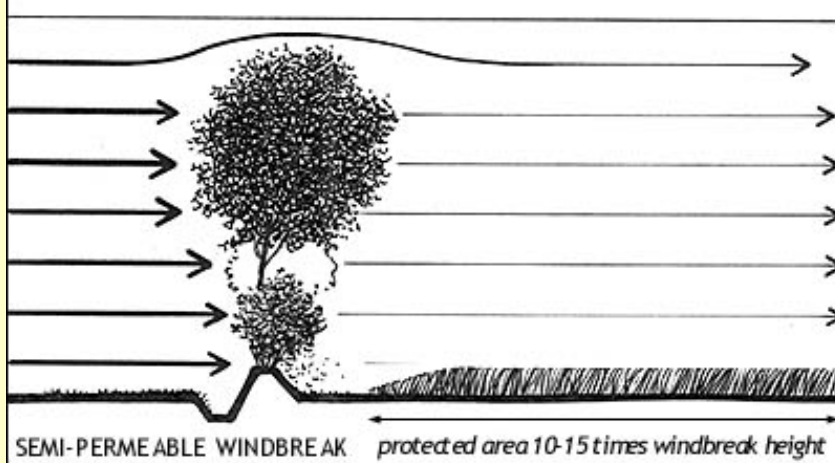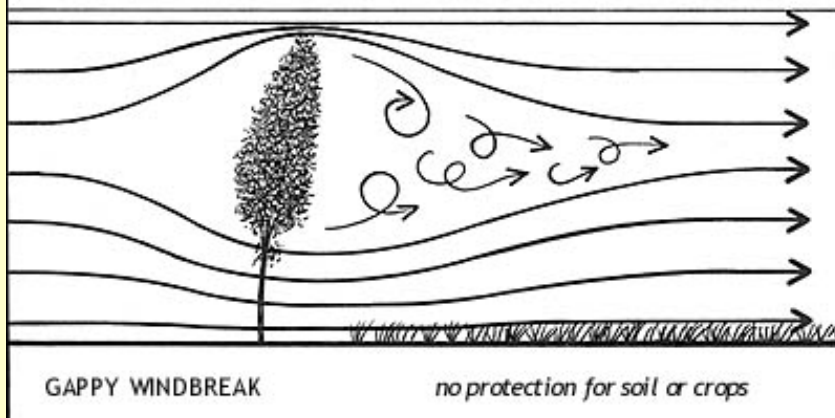An example of clumping bamboo culms. Spacing between culms is much closer.

Ex. 1

IMPERMEABLE WINDBREAK   *small protected area*   *wind eddies*

Ex. 2

SEMI-PERMEABLE WINDBREAK   *protected area 10-15 times windbreak height*

Ex. 3

GAPPY WINDBREAK   *no protection for soil or crops*

How Different Plants Help Break the Wind

Bamboo is probably a combination of example #1 and example #2.