

## WINDBREAKS RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT COST REDUCTION

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According to researcher K. Krahnstover from East Germany, windbreaks can save 7.2 to 15.3% of greenhouse heating costs. Slit windbreak fences reduced wind velocity by half and are suitable for immediate use. Fences are economical in space, but are limited in height and their upkeep is more costly than that of plant windbreaks. Contact your local Cooperative Extension Horticulture Agent for suggested plant species for your area.

### Reference

Anon. 1987. Windbreaks result in significant cost reduction. BPI News. Vol. XVIII no. 2:8.

Botacchi, A.C. 1977. Energy Conservation living windbreaks. Pa. Flower Growers Bul. 296(3):1,7.8.

## HOUSE PLANTS GAIN NEW RESPECT AS AIR PURIFIERS\*

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According to scientists at the National Space Technologies Lab in Bay St. Louis, Miss., several houseplants appear to have air-purifying qualities. These plants, including spider plant, golden pothos, peace lily and Chinese evergreen, can cleanse the air of carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide and formaldehyde. In a laboratory test, a spider plant placed in a sealed chamber filled with formaldehyde gas reduced the concentration by 85% within 24 hours. In an average-sized house, as few as 15 plants might significantly cleanse the air.

### References

\* BPI News XVIII(3):9, 3/87 (Reprinted from Penn. State Hort. Rev. 35(2), 4/86).