

Pakkebiere winners of 2008 Kansas Bankers Windbreak Award

By **BRANDY LEROUX**
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Harvey and Sandra Pakkebieer have received the 2008 Kansas Bankers Windbreak Award for the windbreak they planted at their farmstead outside of Lenora.

Mr. Pakkebieer said the windbreak was planted in the spring of 2003, after they finished building their house.

The windbreak will provide shade for the house in the summers, protect the home and yard from snow and ice in the winter, and also protect the home and yard from wind all year long.

There are two rows of Eastern Red Cedar trees, which grow faster, are more adaptive to the environment and make a better wind break. There is also a row

of Ponderosa Pine, chosen for its more aesthetic qualities, which will grow a little taller than the cedars. The wind break is about 800 feet long. All of the trees were bought from the Norton County Conservation District.

Mr. Pakkebieer used a homemade watering system to water the trees for the first five years, and weed barriers were used to keep the weeds down.

Unfortunately, deer are fond of Red Cedar trees, and have stripped the bark from several of the trees.

"We've had to replace some trees because of the deer," said Mr. Pakkebieer.

When the trees are fully mature, they will reach 20 to 25 feet, in about 20 years.



Harvey Pakkebieer planted his trees for the windbreak in 2003. They will be fully mature in about 15 years. The windbreak will shelter the house, also built in 2003, from wind and snow.

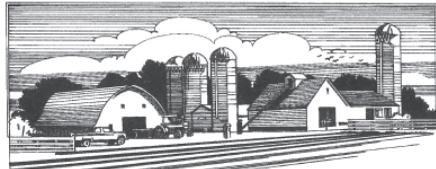
- Telegram photo by Brandy Leroux

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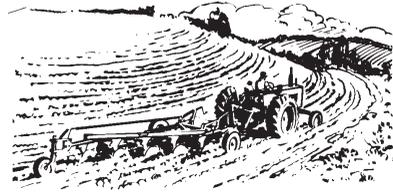


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