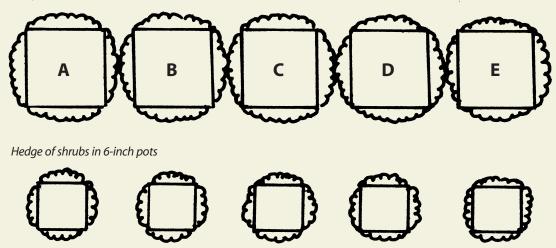
No one likes crowds...

Hedge of shrubs with 10-inch root balls



Top row: Plants with large root balls, crowded to make an instant hedge. Plants B, C, and D can grow at only 50 percent capacity because root-to-root competition leads to roots on two sides of each root ball growing slowly, if at all. Bottom row: Smaller plants set to cover the same line have proportionately more space between root balls. Roots between plants have a year or two to mature before "running into" each other. Then they may be mature enough to graft and share roots with the neighbor.