

east of eden

plants & designs

[www.eastofedenplants.co.uk](http://www.eastofedenplants.co.uk)

## Bamboo Hedges as exotic evergreen screens



*Phyllostachys bissetii*

## Why we use Bamboo Species for Screening in our Designs

In our design work we are frequently asked to provide privacy from being overlooked or, in other situations, protection from wind. Bamboo as a hedging screen has two great advantages.

Firstly, with its fabulous evergreen foliage, bamboo is one of the most beautiful plants to use for a hedge or screen, providing a light screening effect.

Secondly, we can supply bamboos from 2.5m to 6m high for an instant screen, which compared to the same sized evergreen trees are relatively inexpensive. Even at 1.5-1.75m will grow much quicker than any tree species to create your screening. Since it is one of the fastest growing plants in the world, bamboo is a rapid and inexpensive option for creating a privacy screen hedge.

### Planting and Growing advice.

1.5m bamboo can be spaced apart to fill in within a few years. Alternatively, for an instant hedge, bamboo can be planted that is already over 2.5m tall.

Bamboos do not like to dry out and the soil must be maintained moist, particularly in very exposed windy sites. An inexpensive irrigation system is worth considering.

They all benefit from regular feeding and mulching with leaf litter and composted materials. A good organic compost mulch will help retain a moist soil and provide slow recycling nutrients.

Poultry pellets are a good and cost effective source of organic based nutrients

## No need to worry about bamboos out of control

In spite its growth rate there is no longer need to worry about the bamboo invading into your own garden or your neighbours. We now have available to purchase an effective root barrier, as used by professional landscapers, to restrict the bamboo growth to where it is needed.



Controlling invasive plants, such as bamboo, shrubs like hypericum and most specimen trees in a garden, as most landscapers will know, is almost an impossibility. Root Barrier is a chemically inert, strong, smooth-lined, spun material which will contain rampant root growth without damaging the plants and without harming the surrounding materials.

Easy to use Root Barrier requires little preparation and once installed can be left maintenance free for many years

Our Root Barrier is a new and unique product that creates an impenetrable vertical barrier to contain a plant's root system. It is made of a technically-advanced flexible fabric that is tough enough to contain even the most aggressive root systems. Now you can ensure that you have only planned growth in your garden.

Root Barrier can also be used to protect your landscaped areas, buildings and utility channels from damage by root invasion. In fact, it has been used by professional tradesmen for this purpose for many years. It is also a useful protective measure for your pond, to prevent the pond liner from being damaged by root growth.

It also has special properties to prevent drive and road pollutants from damaging your plant roots.

Flexible and easy to install as a vertical barrier as a 3 meter x 0.7m or 10 meter x 0.7meter roll.

Recommended for bamboo, as well as invasive shrubs perennials and trees.

## Species that we recommend :

The best species to use are *Pseudosasa japonica*, *Phyllostachys bissetii* (See previous pages) *Phyllostachys aurea*, or the lower, more elegant looking *Fargesia* species. For a brighter hedge effect *Phyllostachys aureosulcata* 'Spectabilis' is a great bamboo with its stunning yellow canes. It is a good idea to use more than one species to avoid synchronized flowering, which can weaken the hedge. In our design projects we often create areas of interest along the hedge with clusters of specimen bamboos with striking canes, such as the black canes of *Phyllostachys nigra* or tall butter yellow canes with vertical green stripes of the *P. vivax* 'Aureocaulis'. Smaller delicate species, such as *Fargesia nitida*, can also be planted in front of the main hedge to create further interest.



*Phyllostachys aurea*



*Pseudosasa japonica*





### Phyllostachys spectabilis.

This species forms a good hedge screen, and the canes can be stripped back to create a dramatic display in front of the dense foliage of the *P. aurea*.

*For further guidance, please call us on 01752 829178 or complete a request form at [www.eastofedenplants.co.uk](http://www.eastofedenplants.co.uk)*