

Growing Regenerative Diversity on Small Farms

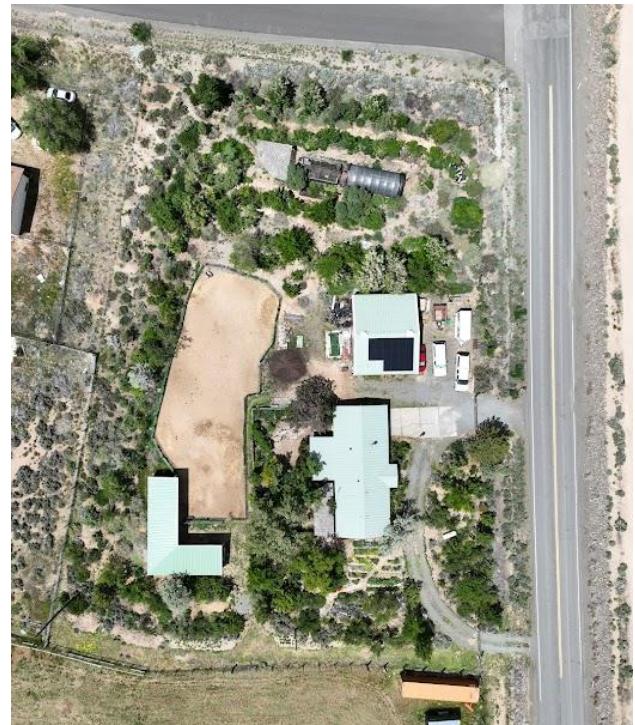
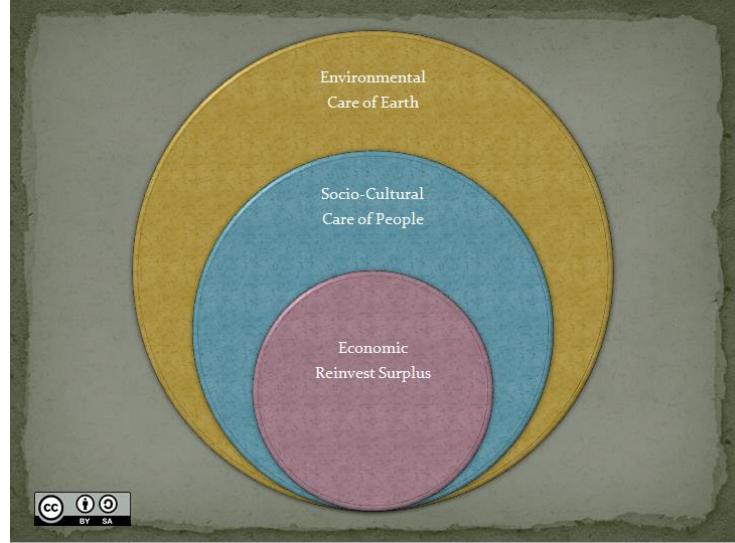


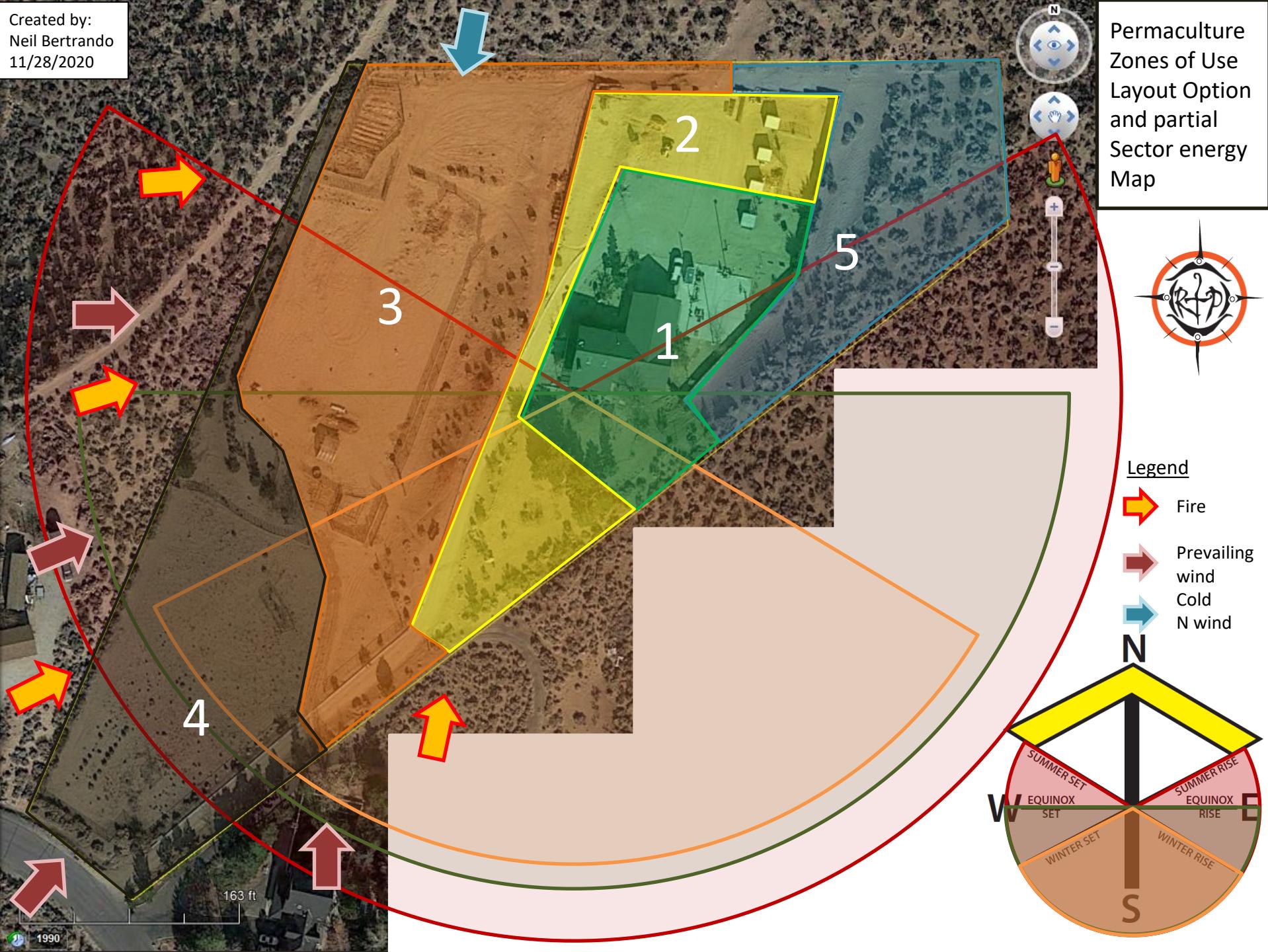
Neil Bertrando
RT Permaculture

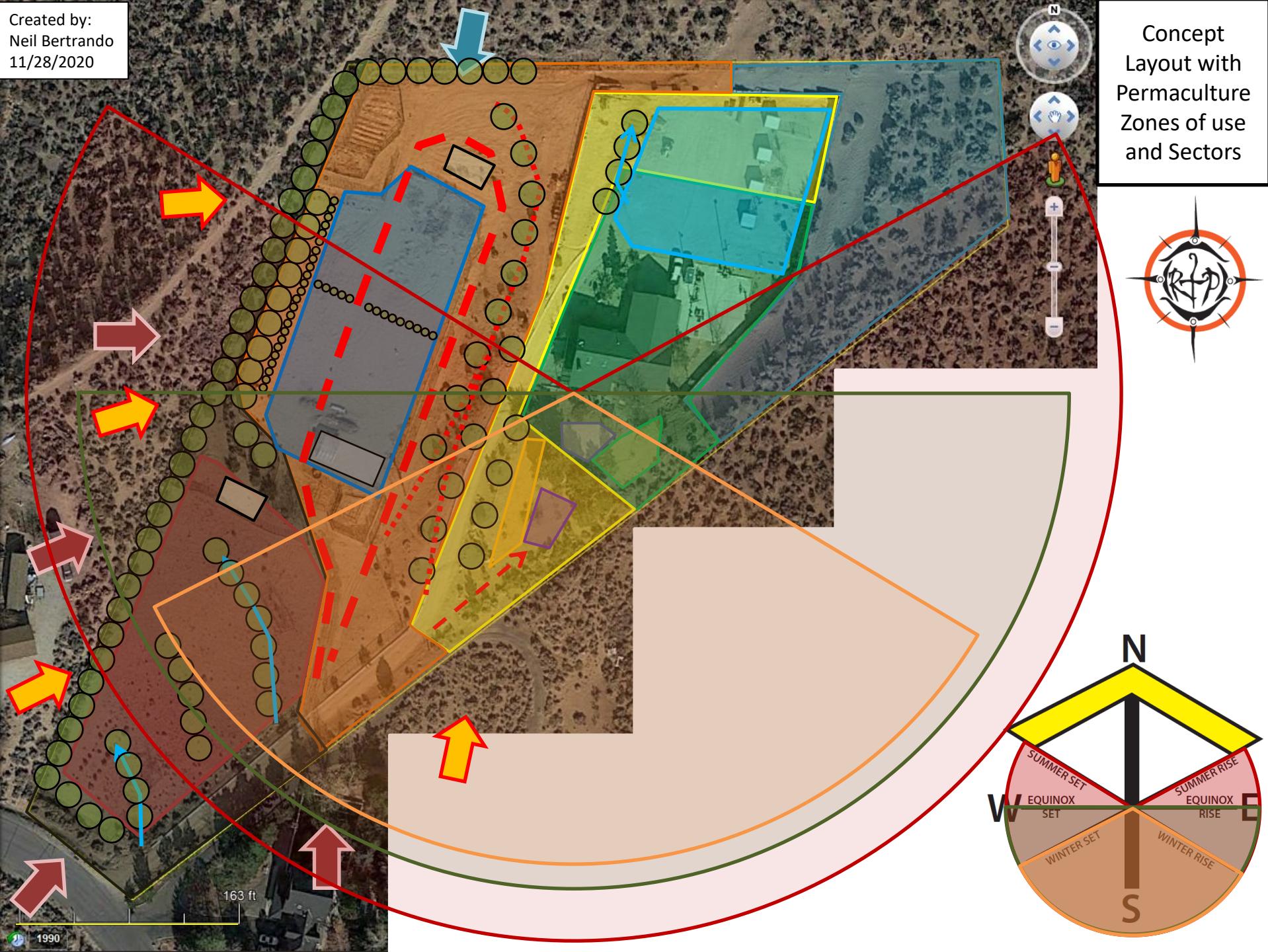


Applying a Permaculture Lens

- Ethics: Earth Care, People Care, Reinvest Surplus
- Design Principles
 - Stacking Functions, Relative Locations, Integrate rather than Segregate, Use Edges and Value the Marginal, Catch and Store Energy, **Use and Value Diversity**
- Site and Context specific
 - Zone and Sector Analysis
- Soil Health, Community Oriented, Appropriate Scale







Why Diversity?

- Increased resilience
- Improved soil health
- Increased ecosystem services
- Additional income
- Interest and Beauty
- The next generations



What Diversity?

- Annual plants
- Perennial and woody plants
 - Structural and Functional
- Soil microbiome and macrobiome
- Insect pollinator and parasitoid populations
- Livestock
- Wildlife
- Activities
- Revenue streams



Opportunities for Diversification

- Yield:
 - Short-, Medium-, and Long-term yields
 - Harvest timing spread throughout growing season
 - Products and markets
- Biodiversity
 - IPM and Disease management
 - Habitat, nutrient cycling, and ecosystem services
 - Photosynthesis
- Structural Diversity
 - 2-4 Layers based on mgmt system
 - Mitigate evaporation and runoff
 - Manage wind and sun, harvest water and snow



Examples of Systems that Increase Diversity

- Annual systems
 - Mixed species cover crops in rotation
 - Warm Season or Cool Season
 - >3 different species and functional groups
 - Grass, Legume, Forb/Broadleaf
 - Flower/pollinator rows or patches
 - Interplanting
 - Microgreens
- Perennial Systems
 - Pasture Cropping
 - Warm season pasture w/ cool season annual crop
 - Cool season pasture w/ warm season ann
 - Pollinator patches
 - Culinary and Medicinal Herbs
 - Windbreaks and Shelterbelts
 - Hedgerows
 - Entry Gardens
 - Perimeter plantings
 - Fruit Trees and Berries
- Livestock integration



Micro Greens



Pasture Cropping



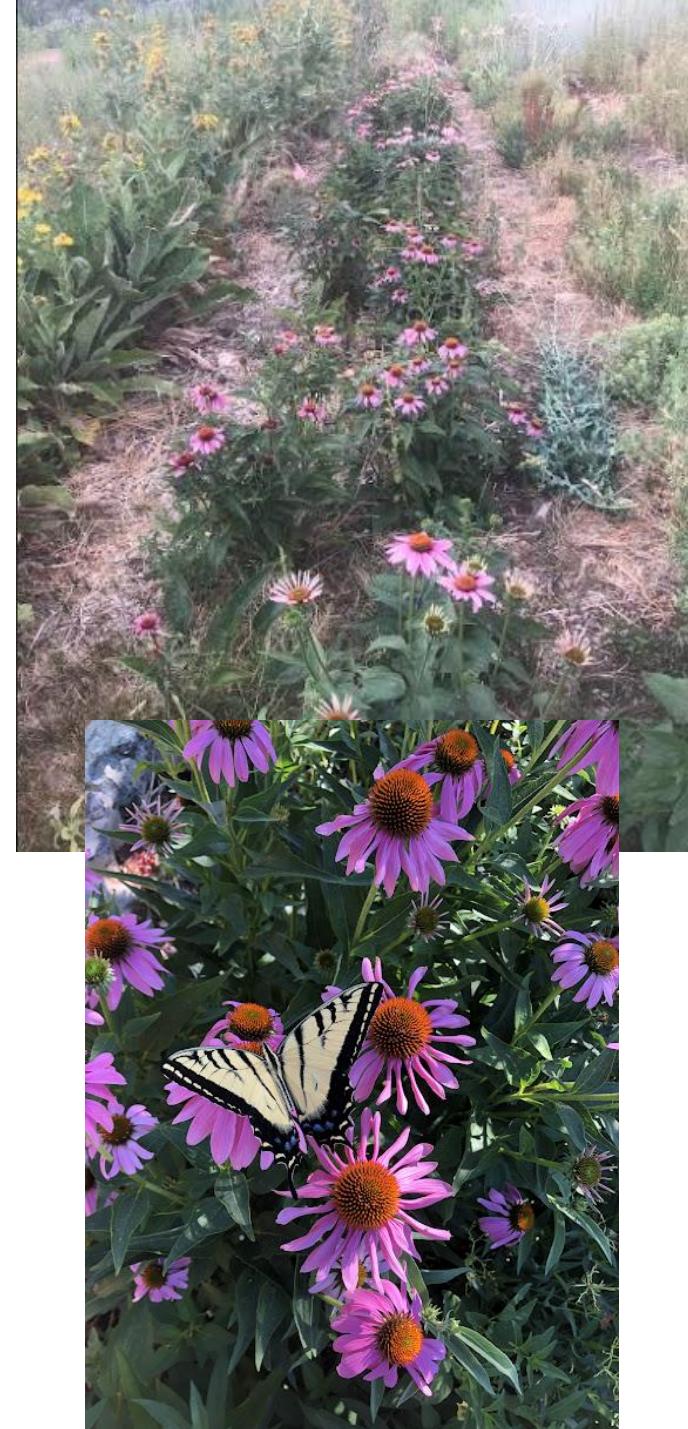
Source <https://regenerationinternational.org/2021/03/15/pasture-cropping-the-innovative-no-kill-no-till-system-developed-by-australian-farmers/>



Source <https://www.agproud.com/articles/33771-pasture-cropping-and-relay-cropping>

Pollinators & Parasitoids Protection & Production

- Design and management considerations
 - Patches and rows
 - Clusters of 3-5+ of individual sp.
 - Herbaceous and woody
 - Native and imported species
 - Irrigation requirements
 - Season long flowering
 - Overwintering habitat
- Functions
 - Build soil health
 - Ground cover, living roots
 - Wind protection
 - Perennial erosion buffer on field edges
 - Crop pollination and pest control



Bloom Chart

Pollinators & Parasitoids Protection & Production

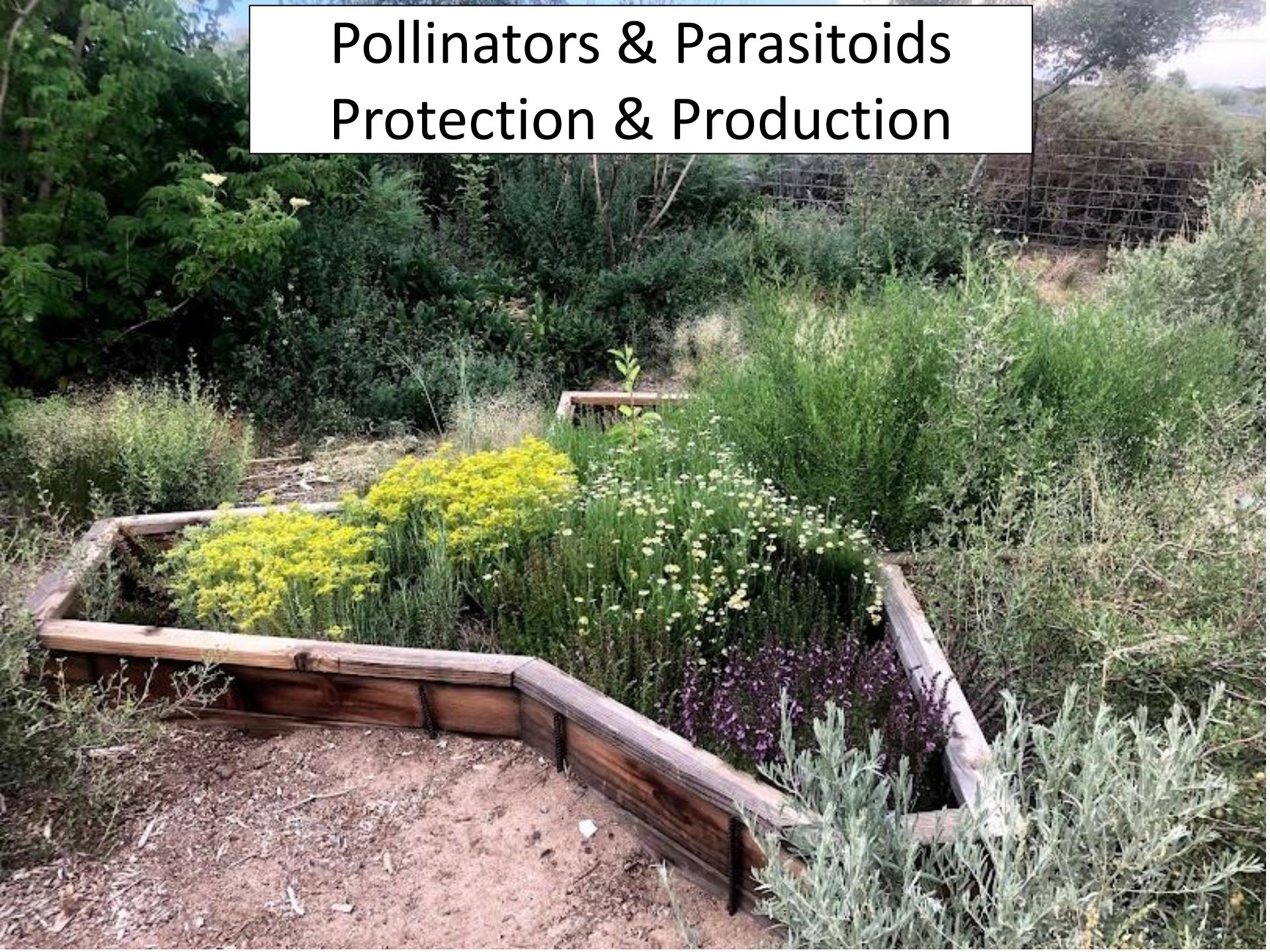
- Crop types
 - Culinary and medicinal herbs
 - Flowers
 - Berries
 - Nursery
- Plant examples
 - Catmint, Ecinacea, Bee Balm, Maximilian Sunflower, Sage, Lavender, Oregano, Thyme, Stonecrop, Chives, Winter Savory, Elecampane, Alfalfa, Jupiter's Beard, Marshmallow, Yarrow
 - Native wildflowers (Penstemon, Blanket flower, Milkweed, etc.)
 - Golden currant, serviceberry, blackberry, raspberry, aronia, fernbrush



Pollinators & Parasitoids Protection & Production



Pollinators & Parasitoids Protection & Production



Windbreaks and hedgerows

- Design and management considerations
 - Perpendicular to prevailing wind
 - Protected area 5-10x Height
 - Woody Shrubs and Trees
 - Single row or multi row
 - Evergreen and Deciduous
 - Understory planting or mulch
 - Irrigation requirements
 - Field and Farm edges
 - Growth Rate and longevity



Windbreaks and hedgerows

- Functions
 - Build soil health
 - Ground cover, living roots
 - Wind protection
 - Perennial erosion buffer on field edges
 - Crop pollination and pest control
 - Wildlife habitat and corridors
 - Livestock shelter and fodder



Windbreaks and hedgerows

- Crop types
 - Timber
 - Fruit and Berries
 - Flowers
 - Fodder and forage
 - Herbs
 - Firewood, fencepoles, basketry



Windbreaks and hedgerows

- Plant examples
 - Scots Pine, Austrian Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Blue Spruce
 - Rky Mtn Juniper, Narrowleaf Mtn Mahogany
 - Bur Oak, English Oak, Black Locust, Honey Locust, Lacebark Elm, Hybrid Poplar, Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach, Nectarine, Cherry, Quince, Chokecherry
 - Siberian Pea Shrub, Lilac, Golden/Clove Currant, Buffaloberry, Blue Elderberry, Autumn Olive, Indigobush, New Mexico Privet, Serviceberry, Oak-leaf sumac, 4 wing saltbush



Single Row Field Edge Windbreaks



Source:

<http://www.teara.govt.nz/en/photograph/15594/trimmed-macrocarpa-hedge>

Source: <http://forestandrange.org/modules/windbreak/index.htm>

Photo courtesy of Rich Straight, National Agroforestry Center



Source <http://creating-a-new-earth.blogspot.com/p/important-hardscaping-terms-definitions.html>

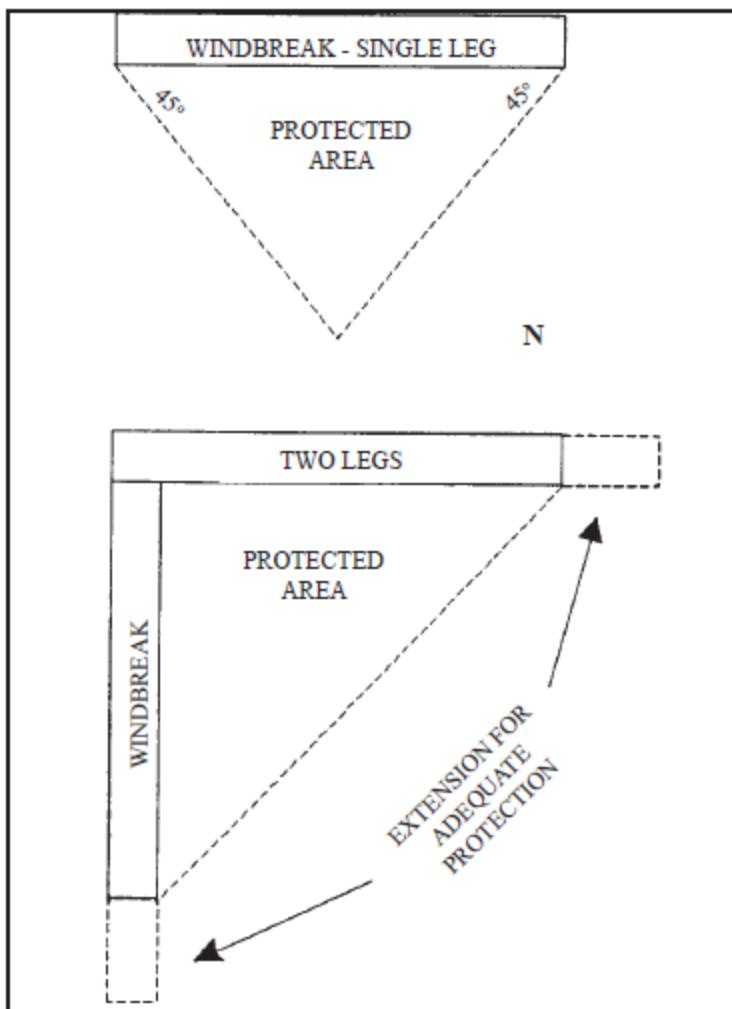


Figure 2. Windbreak design and corresponding zones of protection.

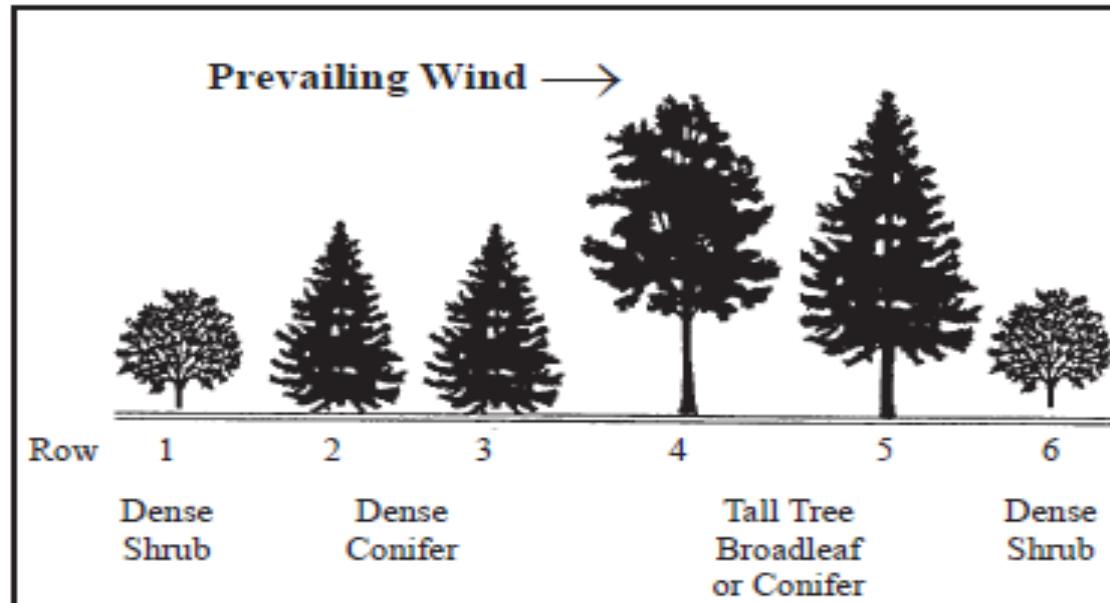


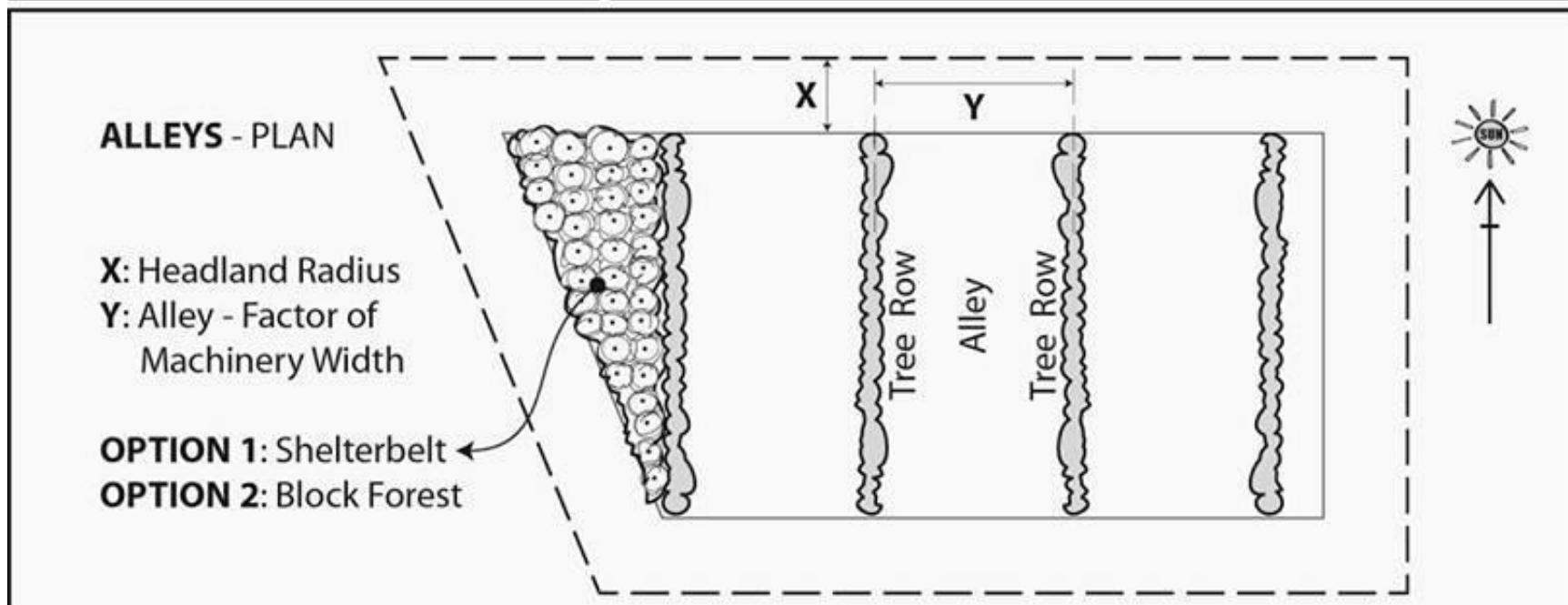
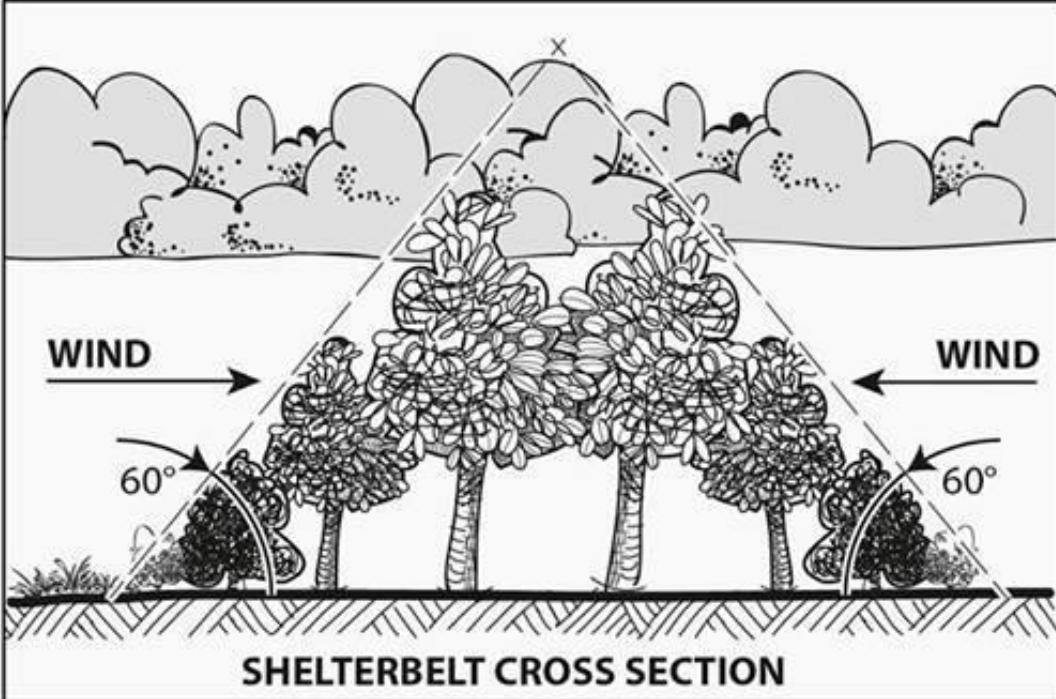
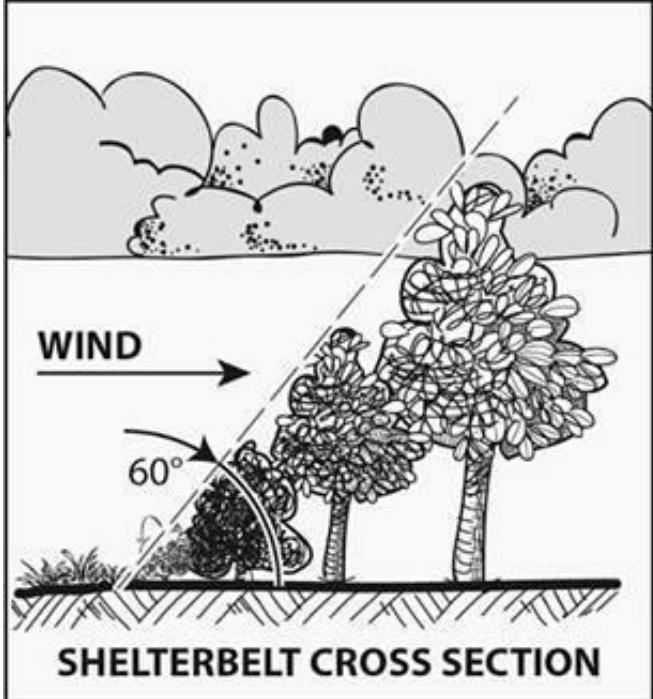
Figure 1. Typical windbreak profile.

Table I. General Spacing Guidelines for Windbreak

Windbreak Position	Windbreak Component	Spacing (ft.) Between Trees in the Row	Spacing (ft.)* Between Tree Rows
Windward Rows (Rows 1 or 2)	Dense Conifer	6-12	12-20
Leeward Rows (Rows 3+)	Dense Conifer	8-12	14-20
Leeward Rows (Rows 3+)	Medium Ht. Trees Broadleaf /Conifer	10-18	14-20
Leeward Rows (Rows 3+)	Tall Trees	12-20	20-25
Windward or Leeward Rows	Shrubs	4-6	8-10

*A general guide would be to use a between-row spacing 4 feet wider than the largest piece of equipment to be used to maintain the windbreak or provide access.







Source: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Regrarians/photos/>

Design By Darren Doherty Site in Southern Australia

Entry Gardens

- Aromatic,
textural,
colorful
- Layered and
dense
- Interactive,
educational,
exploratory
- U-pick



Entry Gardens

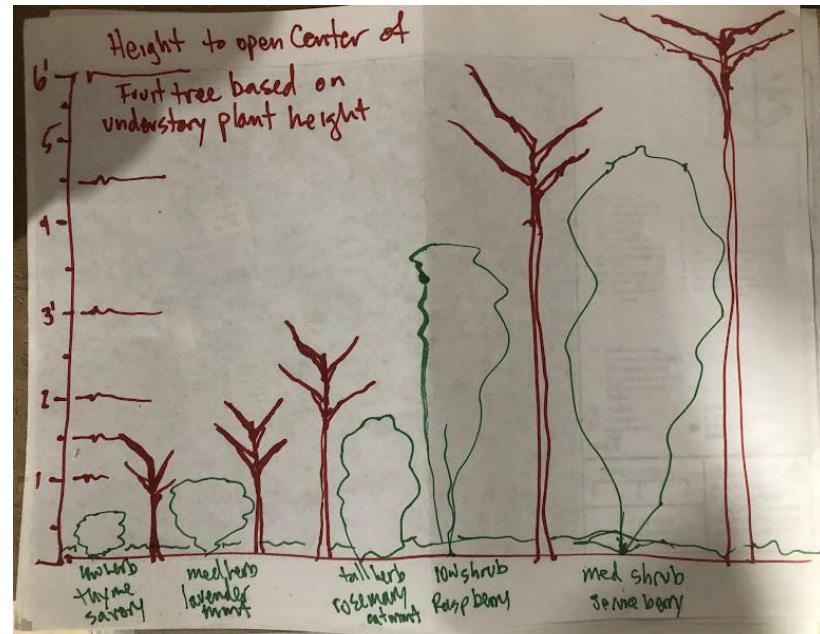


Entry Gardens



Tree Fruit

- Design and management considerations
 - Inconsistent bearing due to late frost – long Chill hours
 - Stack functions – windbreak, shelter/shade, multi-strata cropping, alleycrop, livestock
 - Pest control – coddling moth, birds
 - Variety and rootstock selection
 - Pruning and training
 - Bloom and Harvest Times



Tree Fruit

- Plant Examples
 - Pome Fruits – Apples, European Pear, Asian Pear, Quince
 - Bloom later, most reliable fruiting (1 out of 3 yrs)
 - Coddling moth particularly on Apple
 - Stone Fruits – Apricot, Peaches, Nectarines, European Plum, Japanese Plum, Hybrid Plum, Sweet Cherry, Pie Cherry
 - Pie Cherry, Plum -> Peach/Nectarine, Sweet Cherry -> Apricot
 - Others – Mulberry, Jujube
 - Nuts – Yellowhorn, Walnut, Hazelnut, Almond, Oaks



Tree Fruit: Rootstocks

Tree Species	Size Class / Rootstock	Space Between Trees	Space Between Rows	Approximate Height of Mature Tree
Apple	Dwarf = B.9, G.11, G.214, G.16, G.41, M.9 NAKB337	8'	16'	8-12'
Apple	Semi-Dwarf = G.202, G.210, G.222, G.890, G.935, G.969, M.26	10'	18'	10-14'
Apple	Half-Standard = M.7, G.30	14'	20'	12-16'
Apple	Semi-Standard = MM.106, MM.111	18'	25'	15-20'
Apple	Standard = B.118, P.18, Seedling	30'	40'	16-30'
Pear	Dwarf = Quince, Pyro 233	8'	15'	11-15'
Pear	Semi-Standard = OHxF 87	12'	18'	16-22'
Pear	Standard = OHxF 97, Seedling	18'	22'	18-25'
Tart Cherry	Dwarf = Gisela, Krymsk 5,6,7	12'	18'	14-18'
Tart Cherry	Standard = Mahaleb, Krymsk 99	18'	24'	18-25'
Sweet Cherry	Dwarf = Gisela, Krymsk 5,6,7	14'	20'	12-16'
Sweet Cherry	Standard = Mahaleb, Mazzard	20'	28'	18-25'
Peach, Apricot, and Plum	Seedling, Nemaguard, and Guardian	12'	18'	12-13'

Tree Fruit: Rootstocks

The diagram illustrates the growth progression of fruit trees based on their rootstocks. It features five stages of increasing size, each accompanied by a tree icon and a height range:

- Extreme dwarf:** 5 - 7 ft (1.5 - 2 m)
- Dwarf:** 7 - 9 ft (2 - 2.7 m)
- Semi-dwarf:** 8 - 13 ft (2.5 - 4 m)
- Semi-Vigorous:** 10 - 16 ft (3 - 5 m)
- Vigorous:** 13 - 20 ft (4 - 6 m)
- Extremely vigorous:** (No specific height range given)

The height scale is marked in feet (ft) and meters (m) on the left side of the diagram.

	5 - 7 ft 1.5 - 2 m	7 - 9 ft 2 - 2.7 m	8 - 13 ft 2.5 - 4 m	10 - 16 ft 3 - 5 m	13 - 20 ft 4 - 6 m	Extremely vigorous
Apple	M 27, J-TE-G	M 9, MAC 9, Jork9, P-2 J-TE-E	M26, MAC39, V 1, P-14	MM106, M116, M4	MM111, P18	M25, A2, <i>malus domestica</i> seedling (antonovka, dolgo)
Pear		Quince C, Quince Eline	Quince A, OHF 333, Fox 11	OHF 97	<i>Pyrus communis</i> seedling (Wild pear, Bartlett, Winter nelis), <i>Pyrus betulifolia</i> seedling	
Plum/Gage		Pixy, WA-1, Plumina	St. Julien A, Wavit, Krymsk 86, Jaspi	Myrobalan, Brompton		
Peach/Nectarine		VVA - 1	St. Julien A, Wavit, Krymsk 86	GF677, Myrobalan, Brompton	<i>Prunus persica</i> (Guardian, Nemaguard, Nemared, Lovell, Montclar, Rubira, BSB 1)	
Apricot		Torinel, VVA - 1	St. Julien A, Wavit, Apricor, Krymsk 86	Myrobalan, Brompton	Apricot seedling (<i>Prunus armeniaca</i>)	
Cherry		Gisela 5	Colt, Gisela 6, Krymsk 5	Mahaleb seedling	wild cherry seedling (<i>Prunus avium</i>), Mazzard (F12)	

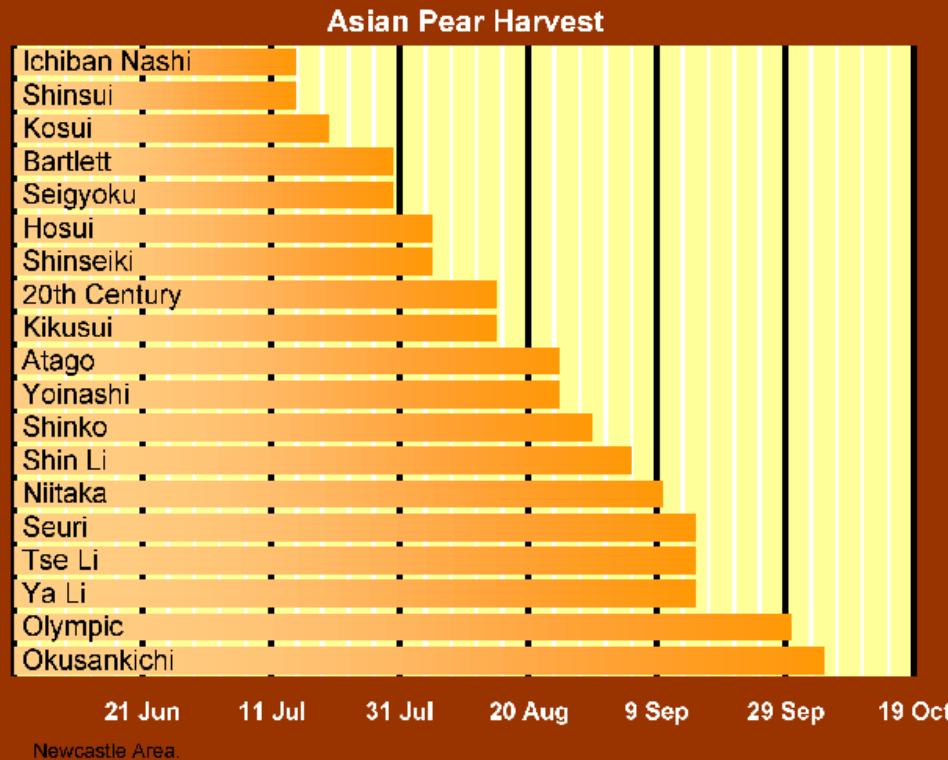
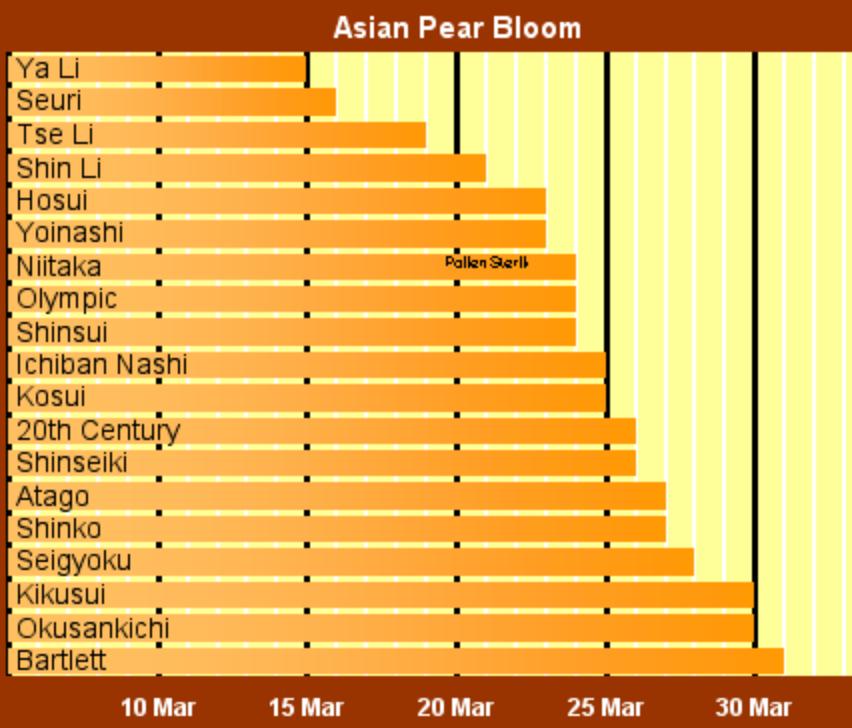
Source: <https://gardeningtheme.com/theme/how-to-choose-a-rootstock-for-a-fruit-tree>

Tree Fruit: Rootstocks

- Apple
 - Dwarf – B9, EMLA 26
 - Semi-Dwarf – M.7
 - Semi-Standard – M.111, B118
- Pear
 - Dwarf – Quince A, Provence Quince
 - Semi-Dwarf – OHxF 333
 - Semi-Standard – OHxF 87
 - Standard – OHxF 97, P. calleryana
- Quince
 - Quince A, Provence Quince
- Apricot
 - Semi-Dwarf – Citation
 - Standard – Seedling, Manchurian
- Cherry
 - Semi-Dwarf – Colt, Maxma14
 - Standard – Mahaleb, Mazzard
- Peach/Nectarine
 - Dwarf – Citation
 - Semi-Dwarf – Nemaguard, Seedling
- Plum
 - Dwarf – Krymsk 5
 - Semi-Dwarf – Citation, St. Julian A
 - Semi-Standard – Myrobalan

Tree Fruit: Varieties

Bloom and Harvest Times



Source: <https://fowlernurseries.com/commercial-asian-pears/>
Newcastle California

- <https://www.grandpasorchard.com/page/Maturity-Charts>
- [Picking and Storing Apples and Pears OSU](#)

Tree Fruit: Varieties

Harvest, processing and storage

Table 2.—Maturity dates for pears.

Variety	Dates	Cold storage before ripen
Clapp's Favorite	Early Aug.	None
Bartlett	Aug. 10–20	None
Seckel	Late Aug., Sept.	None
Bosc	Early to mid-Sept.	None
D'Anjou	Early to mid-Sept.	2 mo
Comice	Late Sept.	1 mo
Packham's Triumph	Late Sept., Oct.	1 mo
Forelle	Late Sept.	1 mo
Winter Nellis	Early Oct.	1 mo

Table 3.—Approximate storage life of apples and pears.

Variety	Days storage life at: 30–32°F	Days storage life at: 40–42°F
Pears		
Bartlett	30–45	15–20
Bosc	50–70	30–40
D'Anjou	120–140	70–80
Comice	79–90	45–55
Winter Nellis	160–180	90–100
Apples		
Gravenstein	60–80	40–50
Tydeman's Red	60–80	40–50
McIntosh	*	60–80
King	120–180	90–105
Golden Delicious	130–150	75–85
Delicious (red strains)	120–180	90–105
Rome Beauty (red strains)	120–180	90–105
Yellow Newtown	120–180	90–105
Melrose	120–180	90–105

* Subject to cold temperature injury. Hold at 38 to 42°F.

Tree Fruit: Varieties Examples

- Apple
 - Arkansas Black, Black Twig, Esopus Spitzemberg, Golden Delicious, Fuji, Honeycrisp, Mutsu, Smokehouse, Zestar!
- Asian Pear
 - Ichiban, Nashi, Nijiseiki, Raja, Shinseiki, Shinko
- European Pear
 - Bartlett, Clapps Red, Clara Frijs, D'Anjou, Harvest Queen, Moonglow, Rescue, Seckel
- Quince
 - Aromatnaya, Kaunching, Krymskaya/Crimea, Kuganskya, Orange, Pineapple, Smyrna



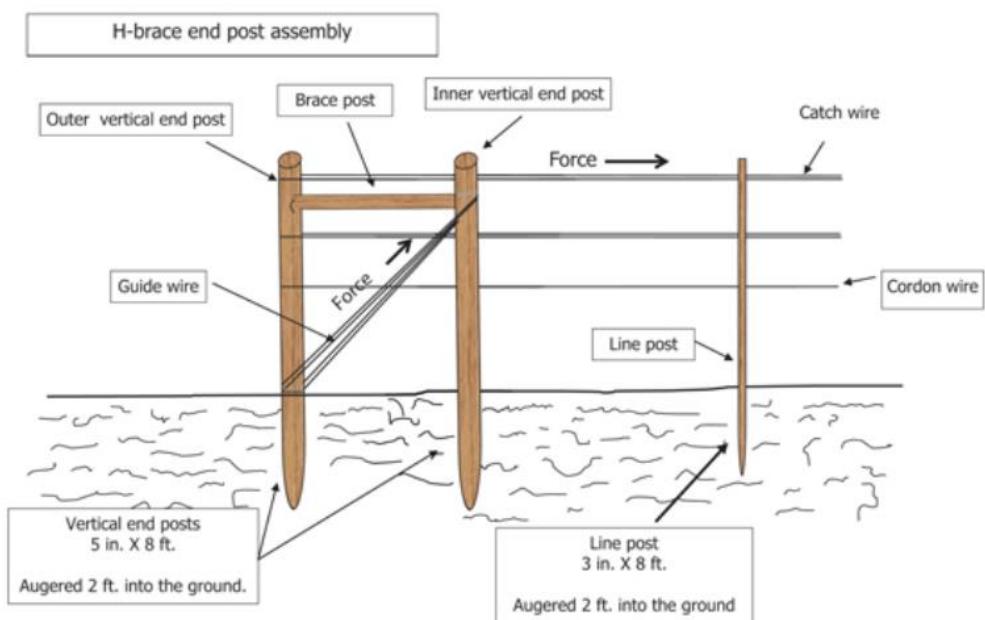
Tree Fruit: Varieties Examples

- Apricot
 - Chinese/Mormon, Harcot, Hargold, Tomcot
- Pie Cherry
 - Montmorency, Northstar
- Sweet Cherry
 - Bing, Black Tartarian, Rainier, Stella, Utah Giant, Van
- Nectarine
 - Arctic Glo, Harko, Mericrest
- Peach
 - Contender, Early Elberta, Polly White, Reliance, White Lady
- Asian/Japanese Plum
 - AU Rosa, Elephant Heart, Emerald Beaut, Methley, Santa Rosa, Satsuma, Shiro, Vanier
- European Plum
 - French Improved, Green Gauge, Italian, President
- Hybrid Plum
 - Lavina, La Crescent, Purple Heart, Toka/Bubblegum,



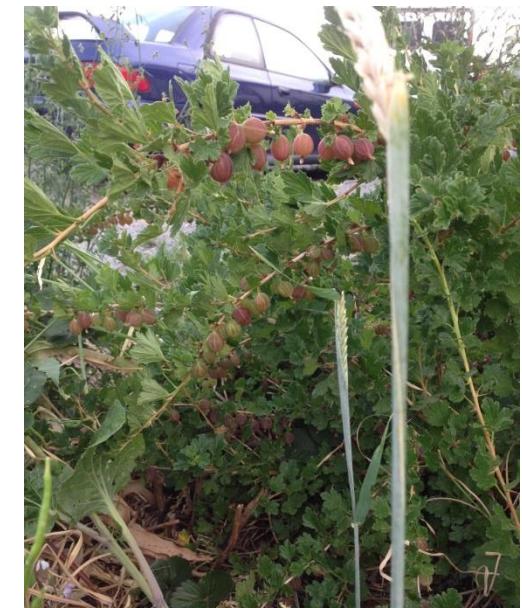
Berries

- Design and management considerations
 - Growth Habit and Trellis
 - Stack functions – Hedgerow, Fenceline, windbreak
 - Pest control – birds
 - Variety and rootstock selection
 - Pruning and training
 - Harvest Times and Method
 - Packaging and Processing



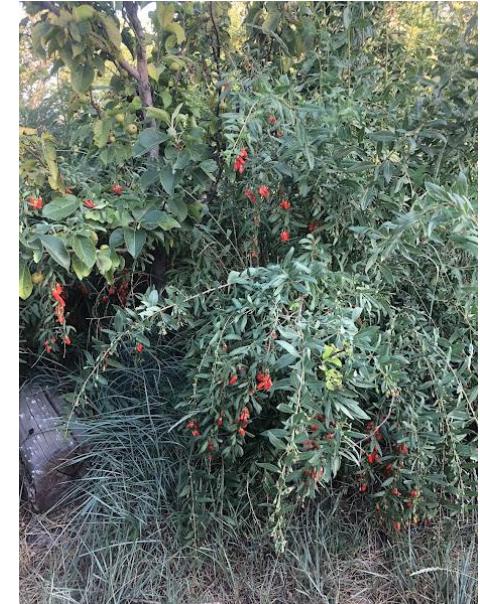
Types of Berries to Consider

- Canes
 - *Rubus* sp.: Raspberries and Blackberries
 - *Lycium* sp.: Goji Berries
- Bush
 - *Aronia* sp.: *Aronia melanocarpa*
 - *Amelanchier* sp.: Serviceberry
 - *Ribes* sp.: Gooseberries, Black and Golden/Clove Currants
 - *Sambucus* sp.: Blue and Black Elderberry
- Vine
 - *Vitis* sp.: Grapes



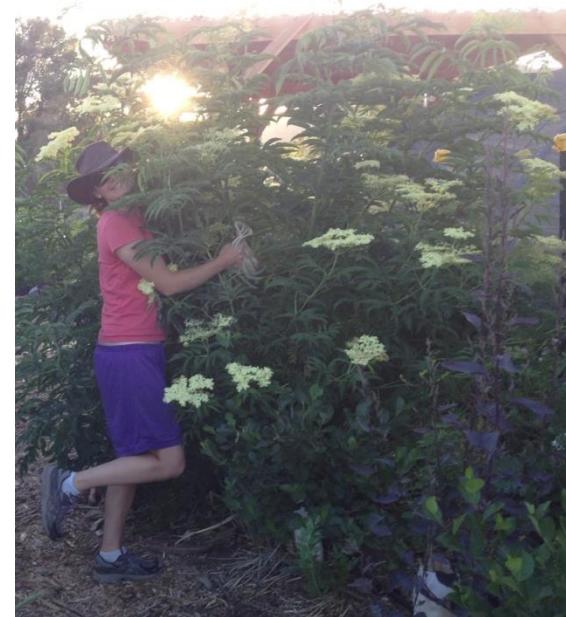
Berries: Varieties

- Canes
 - Red and Gold Raspberries
 - Fall – Anne, Caroline, Heritage, Fall Gold
 - Summer – Boyne, Canby, Nova
 - Purple Raspberries
 - Royalty
 - Black Raspberries
 - Black Hawk, Jewel, Mac Black, Niwot
 - Blackberries, Thornless
 - Triple Crown, Chester
 - Apache, Arapaho, Navaho
 - Goji Berries
 - Crimson Star



Berries: Varieties

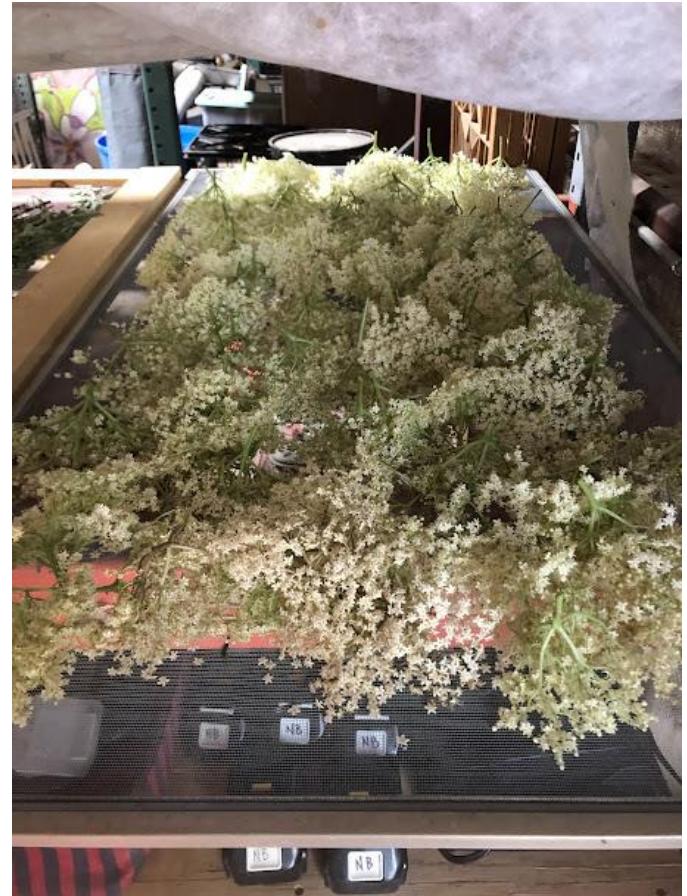
- Bush
 - Aronia
 - Serviceberry
 - Regent
 - Gooseberries
 - Invicta, Orus 8, Pixwell, Poorman, Red George
 - Black Currant
 - Consort, Titania
 - Golden/Clove Currants
 - Clove – Crandall, Missouri Giant
 - Black Elderberry
 - Black Lace, Goldbeere, Korsor, Samdal
 - Blue Elderberry
- Vine
 - Grapes, seedless
 - Canadice, Concord, Glenora, Himrod, Mars, Reliance, Somerset Red, Venus



Elderberry associates

- Associated Species: Blue elderberry tends to grow as individual plants among other woody plants [44,87]. Some common associates are serviceberry (*Amelanchier* spp.), chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*), rose (*Rosa* spp.), gooseberries (*Ribes* spp.), big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), bromegrass (*Bromus* spp.), and wheatgrass (*Agropyron* spp.)

<http://www.fs.fed.us/databases/feis/plants/shrub/samnigc/all.html>



Livestock Integration

- Consider which classes of livestock are a good fit for your farm and system
 - Bees, Worms, Poultry, Pigs, Sheep, Goats, Cattle
 - Infrastructure, management, labor, sales
- Identify low risk, safe to fail trials
- Can you partner with another farm / livestock operator?



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Regrarians/photos/>



Source: <http://brownsranch.us/>



Source: <http://www.olide-mallorca.com/cultivation-olive-grove-majorca.html>

J.C.DELGADO EXPÓSITO



Source: <http://www.hoyfregenal.es/fotografia/fotos-delgadoexposito/hoyfregenal/dehesa-cuesta-agosto.-721015.html>



Source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/baalands/2216308884/>



Source: http://www.alqueva-ibericos.com/dehesa_eng.html

Mobility and Flexibility

- Mobile Animal Structures
 - Dairy
 - Coop and chicken tractor on steroids
 - Pig sheds
 - Livestock Guardian Dogs
- Temporary paddocks
 - Allow increased # of paddocks and variable size based on changes in production
 - Improve utilization based on high density, short duration
 - Forage Stockpiling: temporal production, strip grazing, ‘haystacking’,
- Mobile slaughterhouses, etc.



Compost Fed Chickens

Grain Fed Chickens

Source: <http://www.geofflawton.com/fe/64322-chicken-tractor-on-steroids?r=y>

Mobile Dairy



Source: <http://citygardencountrygarden.blogspot.com/2012/10/a-day-at-taranaki-farm.html>



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/TaranakiFarm>

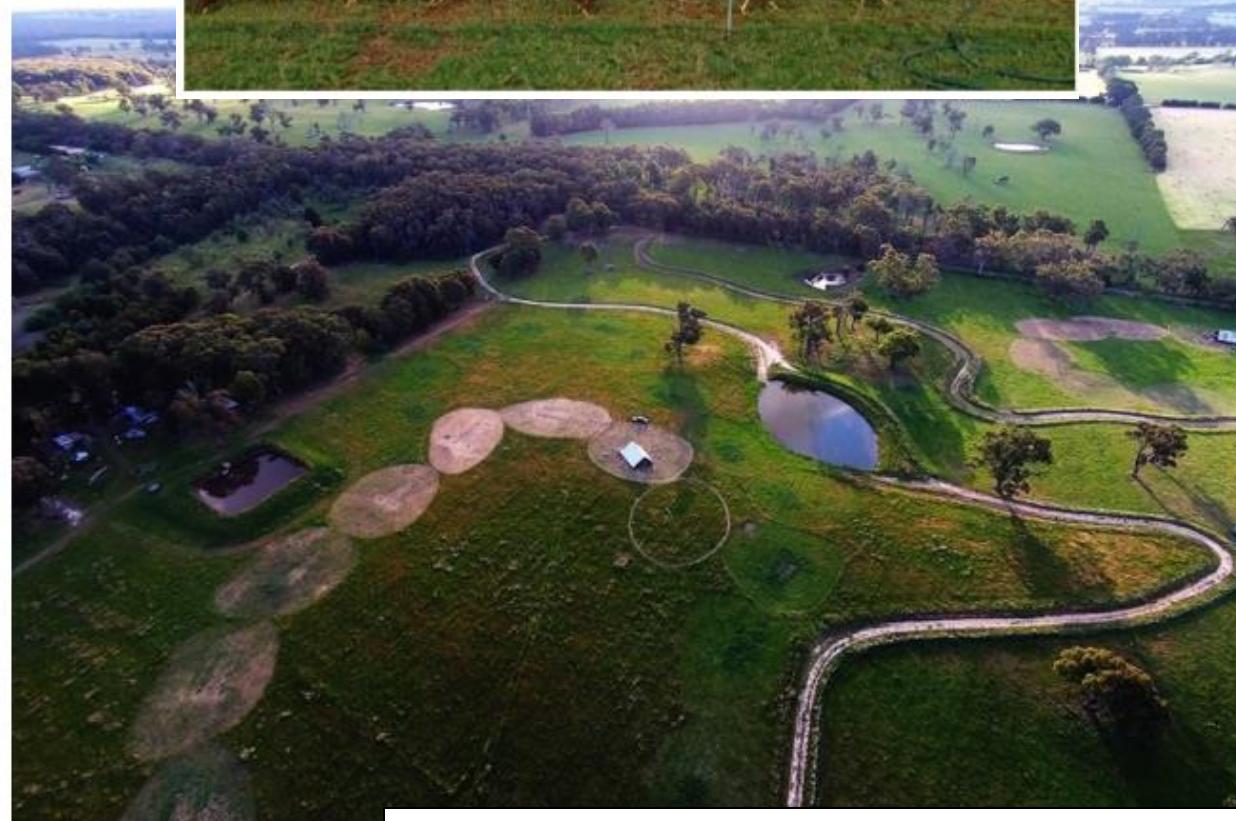


Source: <http://milkingonthemoove.blogspot.com/2012/10/the-mobile-milking-system.html>

Sequence and Timing

Taranaki Farm
Beyond Organic & Pasture Raised





Source: <http://www.milkwood.net/2014/12/03/joel-salatin-effect-australia/>



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/TaranakiFarm>



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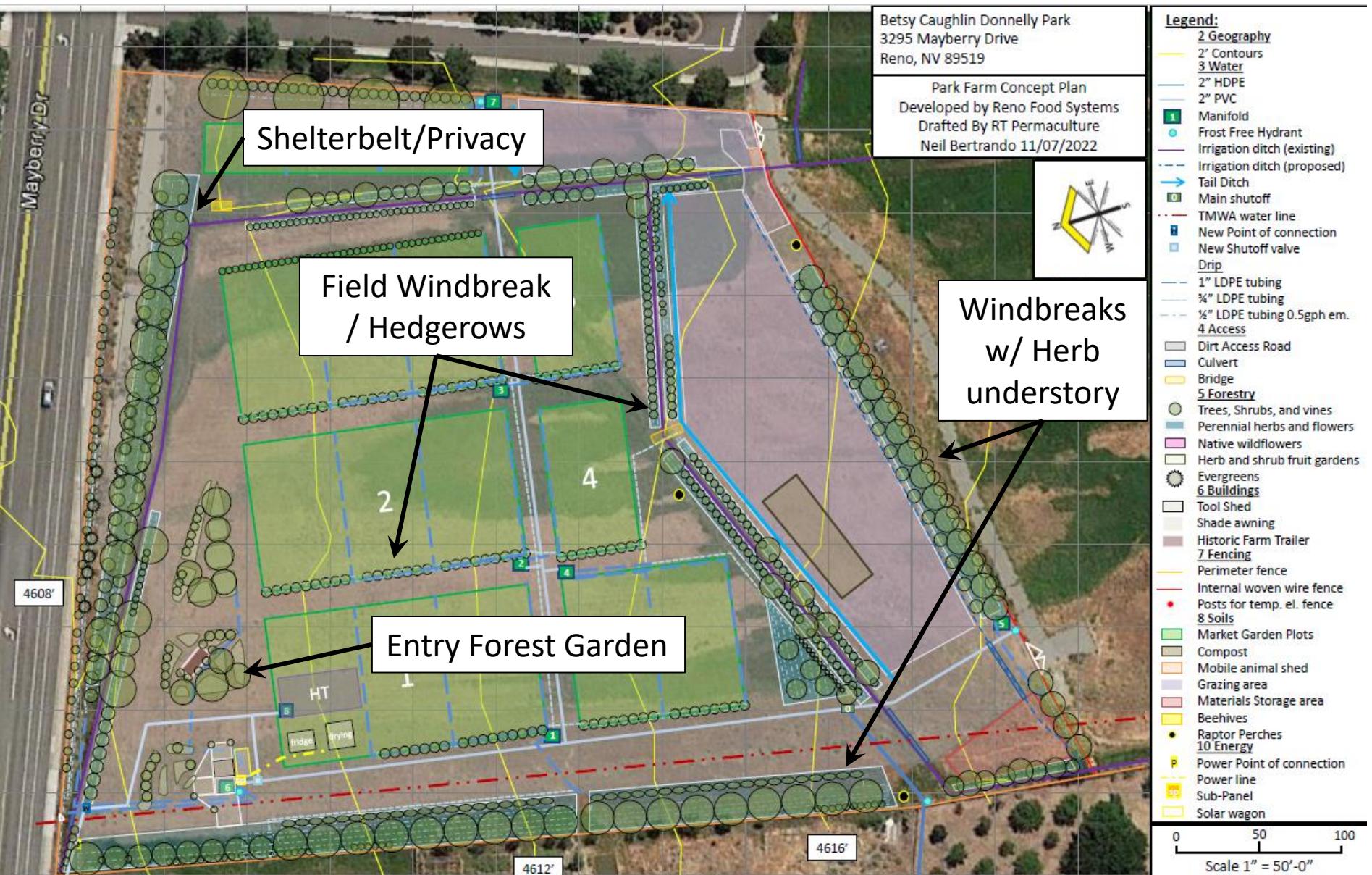
Source: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Regrarians/photos/>

Shade Mobile

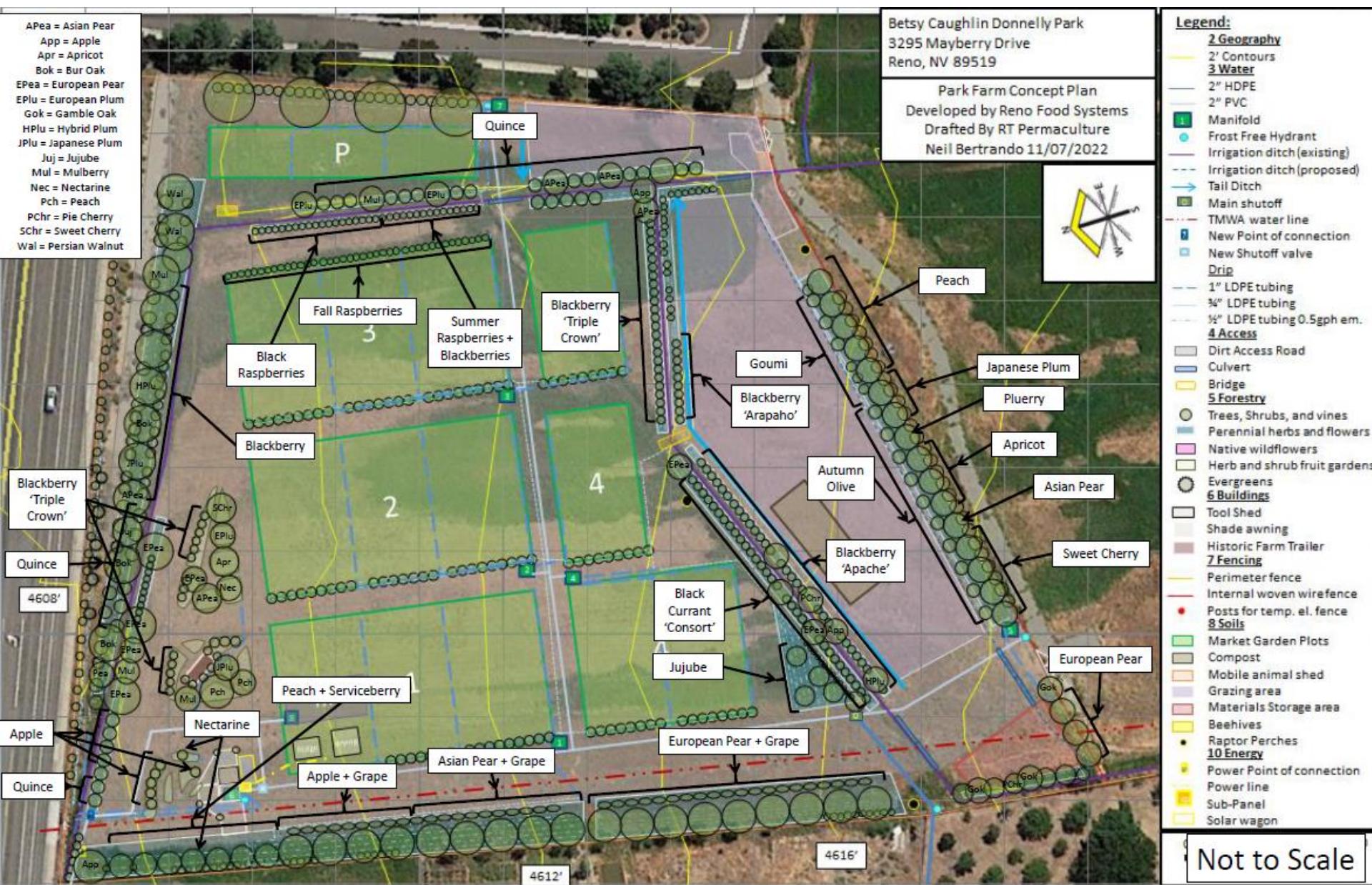


Source: <https://www.facebook.com/TaranakiFarm>

Integrated Design



Integrated Design



Integrated Design



Integrated Design



Alley Cropping



Mark Shepard's Restoration Agriculture Agroforestry System



Source: New Forest Farm
<http://www.newforestfarm.net/>



Source: New Forest Farm
<http://www.newforestfarm.net/>

A photograph of a large, leafy tree standing in a grassy field. The tree's canopy is dense and green. In the background, there are more trees and a clear blue sky.

Alley Cropping New Forest Farm USA

Trees with roots
trimmed regularly
to force
them to dive deep

Perennial
vegetables
ie. asparagus

Source: <http://thefruitnut.com/home-scale-alley-cropping-trial/>
New Forest Farm



Avenue Strip Planting
Shelterbelts

Natural Forest

Orchard Block

Riparian
Buffer
Forest

Alley Cropping
With Silvopasture

Wide Spaced
(Dehesa)
Agroforestry

Perimeter
Shelterbelts

Windbreak

Ridgeline Block
Timber Belt



ORELLA RANCH



Planning and Establishment

- Apply sector and zone planning:
 - consider the sunpaths and wind directions, property and use area boundaries, flows of people and vehicles through the site
 - Identify resource concerns, marginal/underutilized areas, challenges and opportunities
- Assess funding and revenue potential alongside costs of establishment and management (including harvest, marketing, sales, etc)
- Identify and select appropriate systems for diversification
- Start small and build on success

Planning and Establishment

- Plan implementation in phases over several seasons or years and integrate it into your farm planning
- Do an initial layout onsite to clarify understanding of the project
- Organize labor, equipment, and materials, order as needed
- Begin Site preparation appropriate to your plan and site conditions
 - Ensure water/irrigation access for establishment
 - Prepare soil (i.e. tarp, loosen, etc)
 - Build irrigation system
 - Seed cover crop for a season or two if possible and appropriate
 - Grow out or order plant materials
 - Terminate cover crops if necessary (grazing, mowing, tarping, etc)



Sources of Seeds and Plants

FEDCO SEEDS



Garden • Farm • Orchard



HIGH MOWING

organic Seeds



NATURE'S SEED

GREENCOVER



Peaceful Valley
EST. 1976
FARM & GARDEN SUPPLY
WWW.GROWORGANIC.COM



Raintree Nursery
fruit trees • nut trees • berries • vines • unusuals • citrus
subtropicals • rootstocks • mushrooms • ornamentals



NORIHWOODS NURSERY

Crowers of Unique Fruiting Plants Since 1979

ONEGREEN WORLD



CUMMINS NURSERY

"FRUIT TREES FOR EVERYONE."

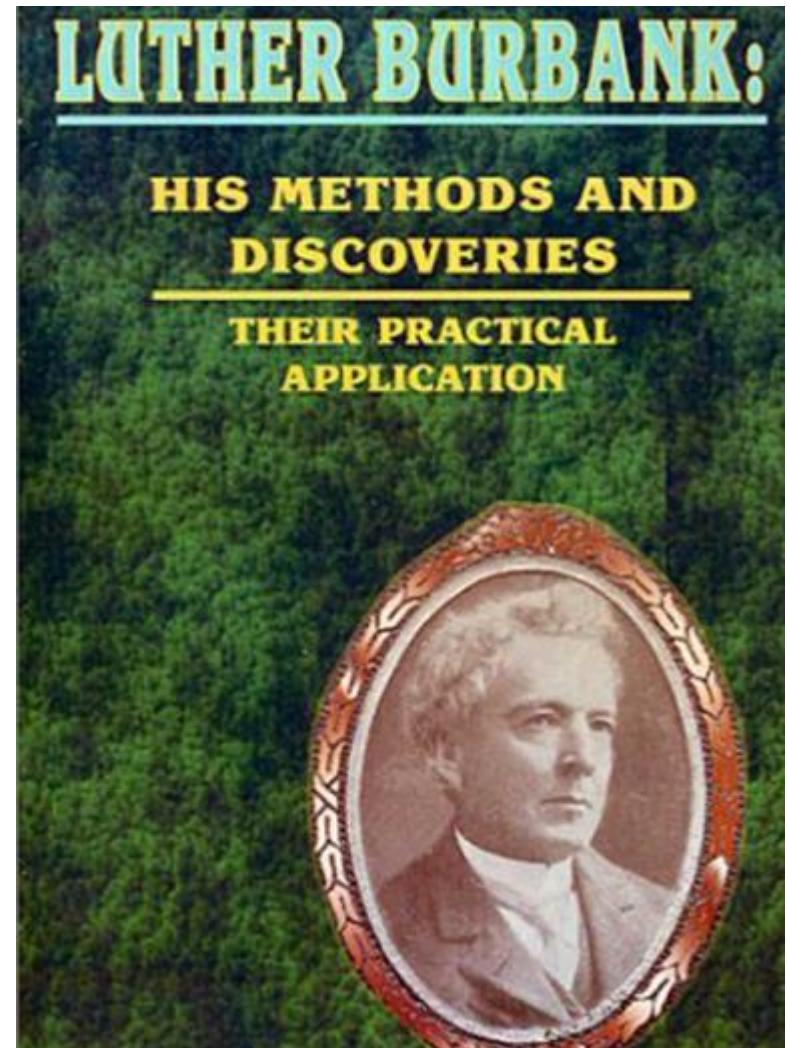
Schumacher
Tree & Shrub Seeds

Seeds and Mass Breeding



Source:

<http://sustainableseedco.com/education/luther-burbank.html>



Source:

<http://www.rodhandeland.com/Energy%20Food%20Water%20Technology/Food%20Solutions.htm>

Planting and Establishment

- Revisit system layout and adjust as needed
- Do initial planting of medium & long term plants
- Protect plants for establishment – Fence or tree wraps/cages as needed
- Build appropriate training and trellising systems
- Manage plants and adjust/maintain irrigation
- Integrate livestock as appropriate





Photo: Neil Bertrando



Photo: Neil Bertrando



Photo: Neil Bertrando





Management and Sales

- Begin marketing and Sales
- Begin harvest, processing, and sales/distribution
- Plan for growth of the system over time
- Accept and respond to feedback
 - Evaluate successes and challenges to identify opportunities for improvement and adjustment
 - Replace plants that die (or decide not to)
 - Observe changes in soils, plant health, insects and pests, wildlife, and other factors



Thank You