



# Random assembly

Explore the relationships between  
functions, elements and systems

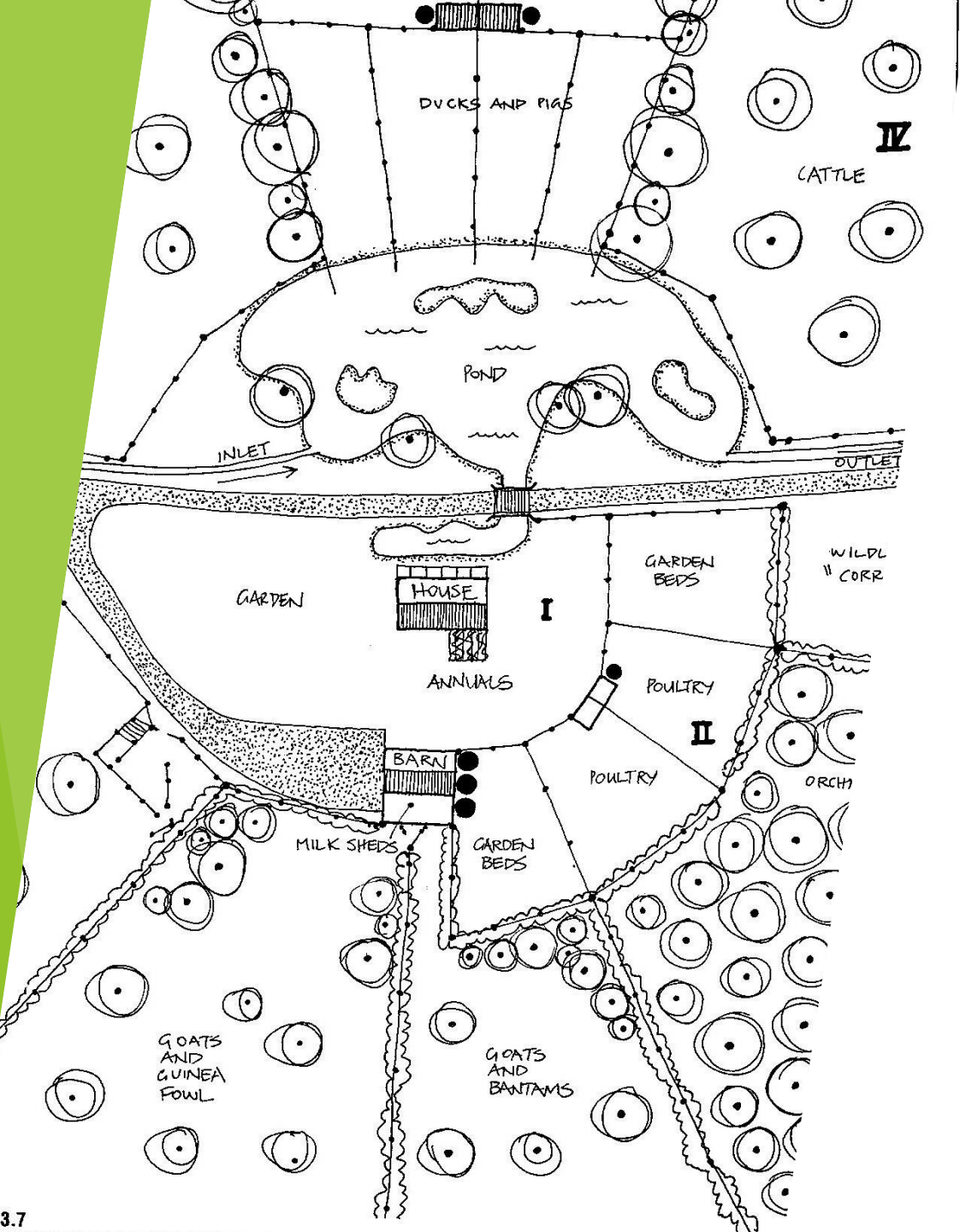


# Random assembly

Function	Element	System
Food production	Raised bed/ compost/ tool shed/ water butt	Forest garden, IPM
Cash crop	Willow/ Grains/ Cheese	Pasture/ field rotation
Wildlife habitat	Regeneration/ min till	Forest, hedge management
Water catchment	Pond, swale, water butt	Site wide strategy
Space for people	Shed/ tea room/ toilet	Management/ induction

**TABLE 3.3:**  
SOME FACTORS WHICH CHANGE IN ZONE PLANNING AS DISTANCE INCREASES.

<b>Factor or Strategy</b>	<b>ZONE I</b>	<b>ZONE II</b>	<b>ZONE III</b>	<b>ZONE IV</b>
<b>Main design for:</b>	House climate, domestic sufficiency.	Small domestic stock & orchard.	Main crop forage, stored.	Gathering, forage, forestry, pasture.
<b>Establishment of plants</b>	Complete sheet mulch.	Spot mulch and tree guards.	Soil conditioning and green mulch.	Soil conditioning only.
<b>Pruning and trees</b>	Intensive cup or espallier trellis.	Pyramid and built trellis.	Unpruned and natural trellis.	Seedlings, thinned to selected varieties.
<b>Selection of trees</b>	Selected dwarf or multi-graft.	Grafted varieties and plants managed.	Selected seedlings for later grafts. by browse.	Thinned to selected varieties, or
<b>Water provision</b>	Rainwater tanks, bores wind pumps. reticulation.	Earth tank and wells, bores,	Water storage fire control.	Dams, rivers, in soils, dams.
<b>Structures</b>	House/greenhouse, storage integration.	Greenhouse and barns, poultry sheds.	Feed store, field shelter.	Field shelter grown as hedgerow and woodlot
<b>Information</b>	Stored or generated by people.	In part affected by other species.	As for II.	Arising from natural processes.



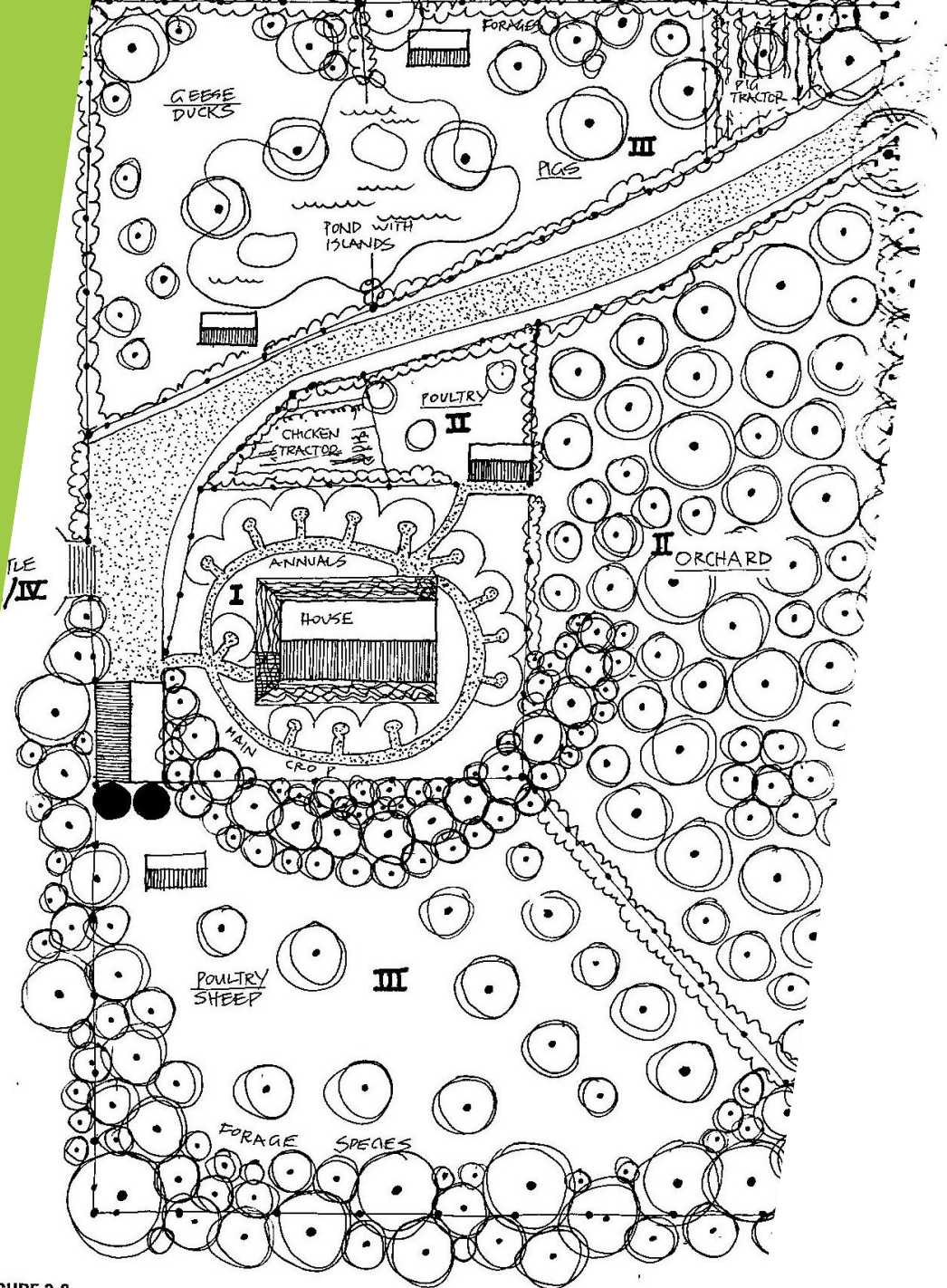
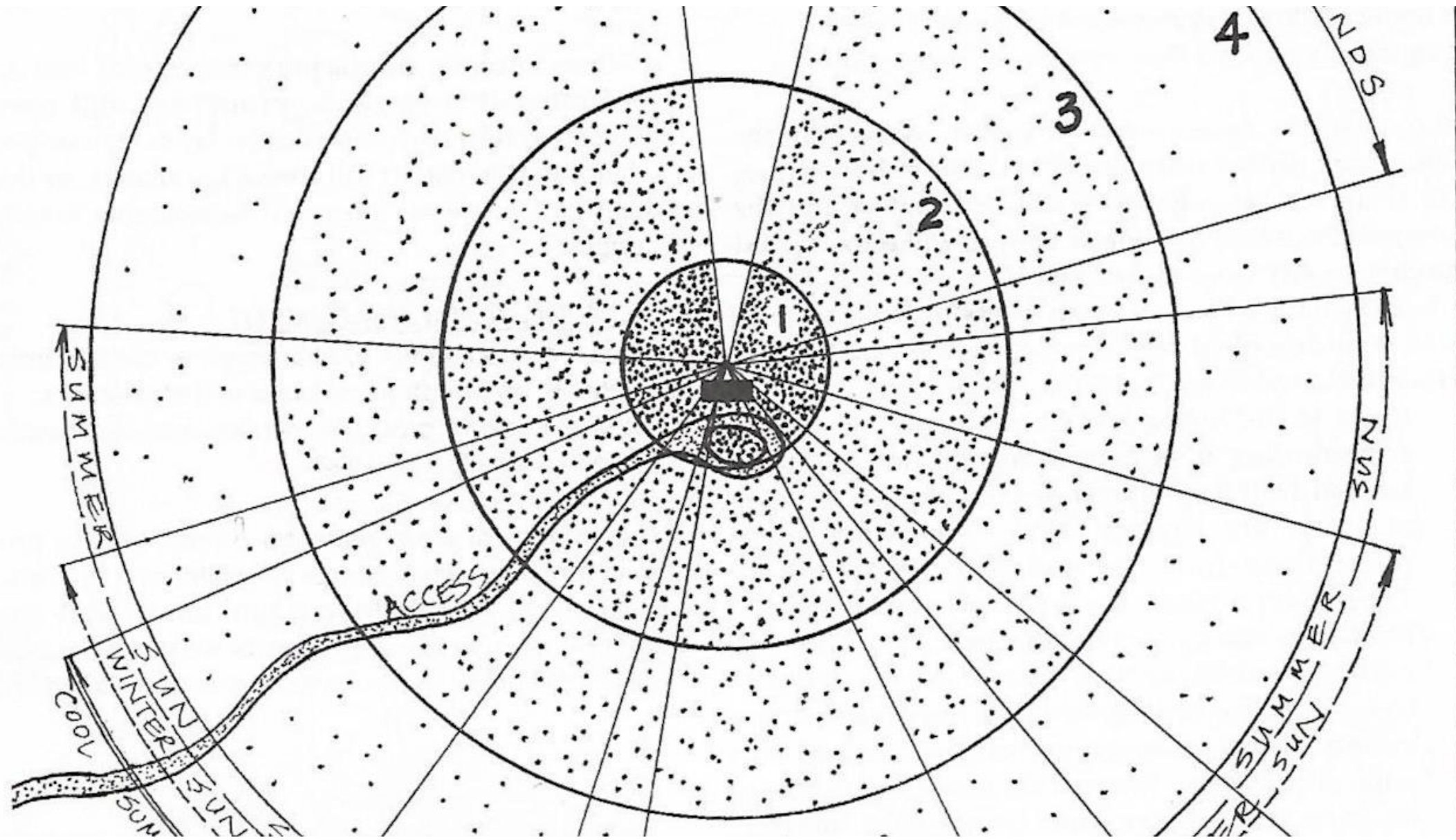
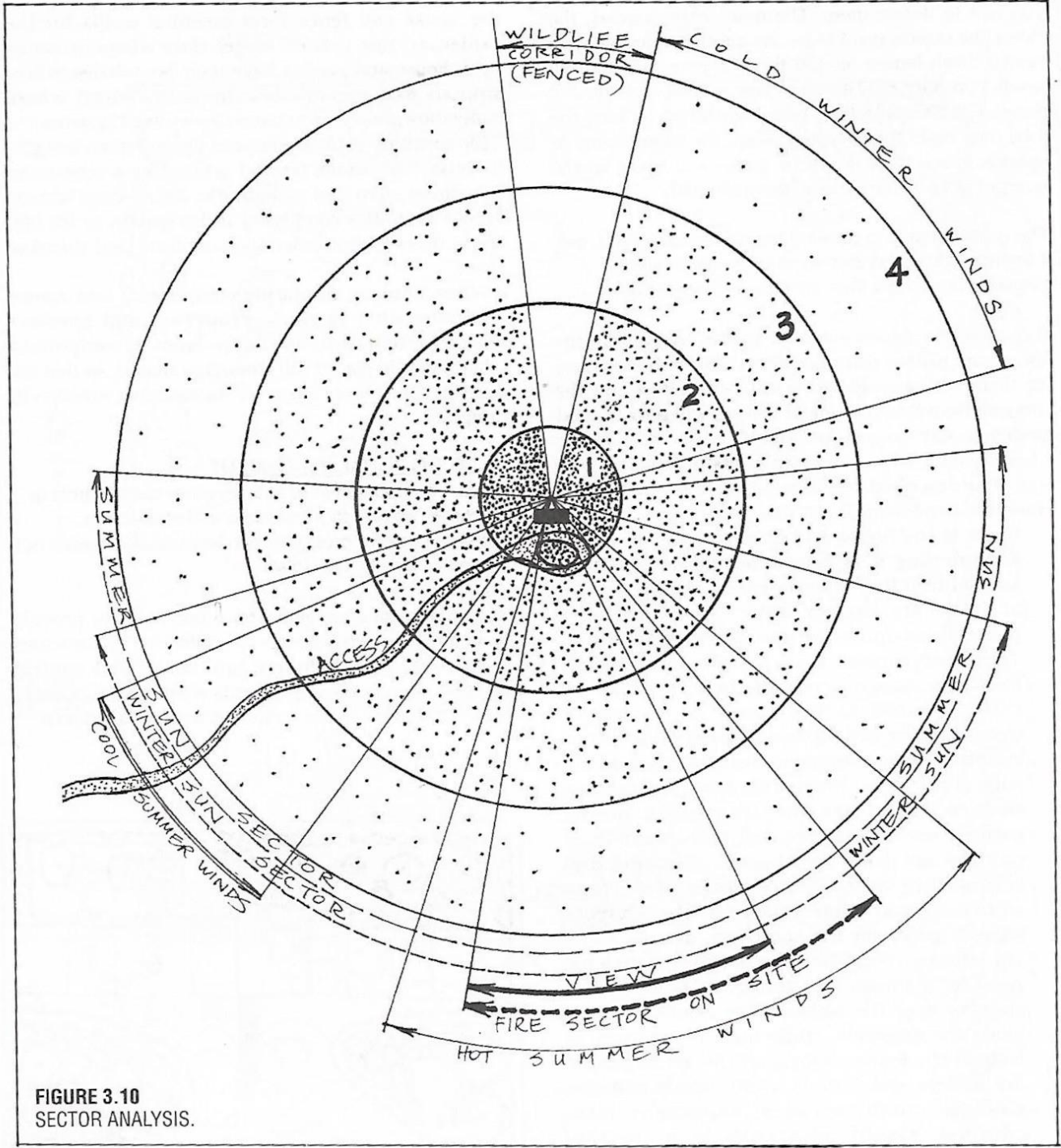


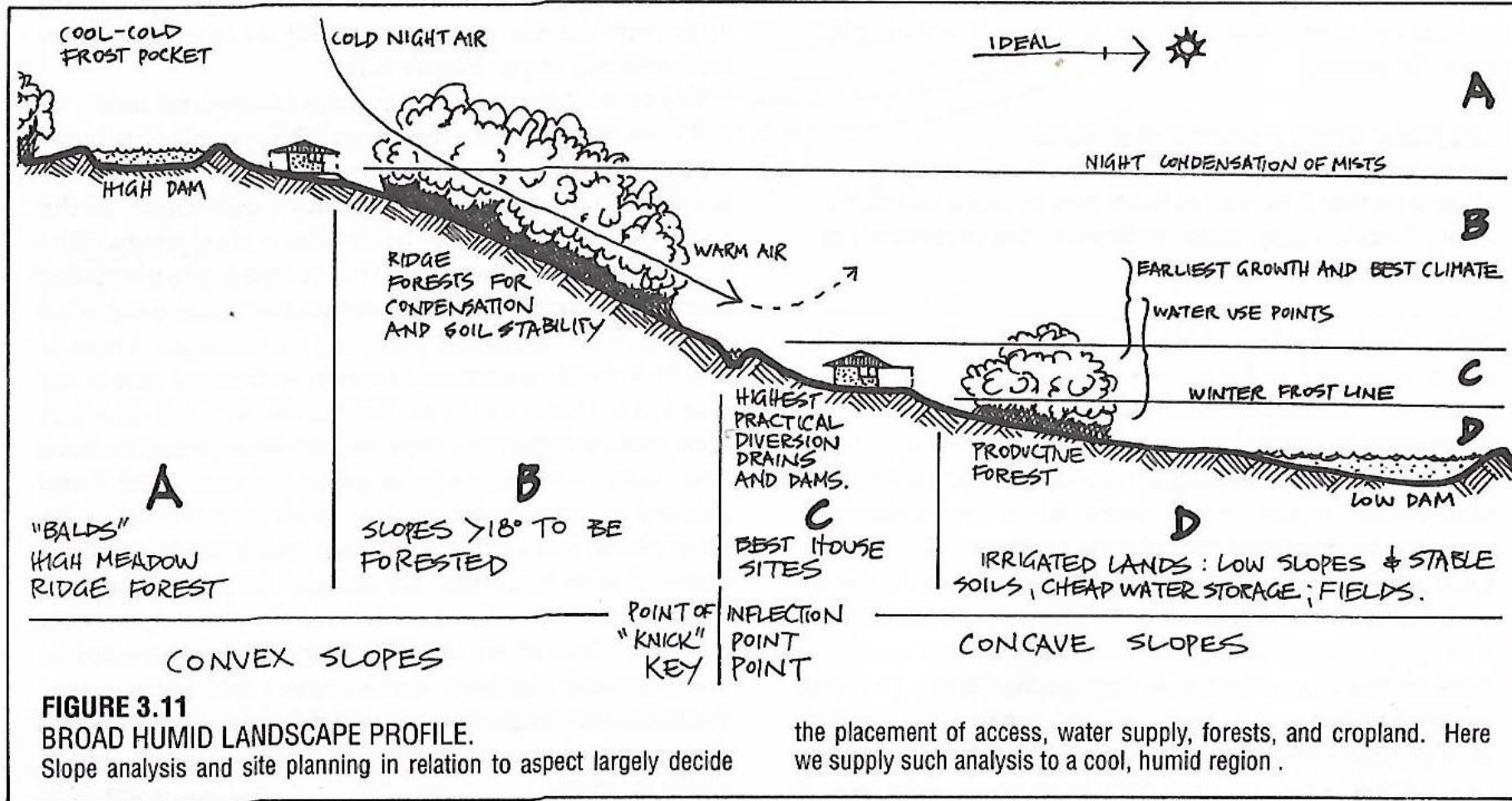
FIGURE 3.8



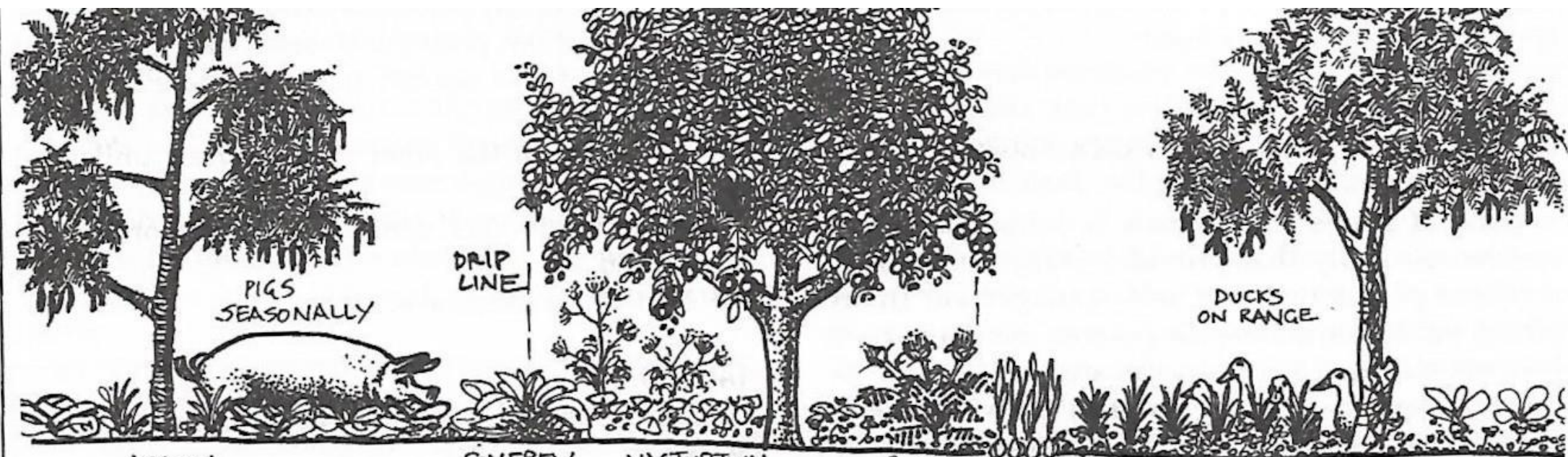


**FIGURE 3.10**  
SECTOR ANALYSIS.

# Elevation in design







ACACIA  
OR  
TAGASASTE

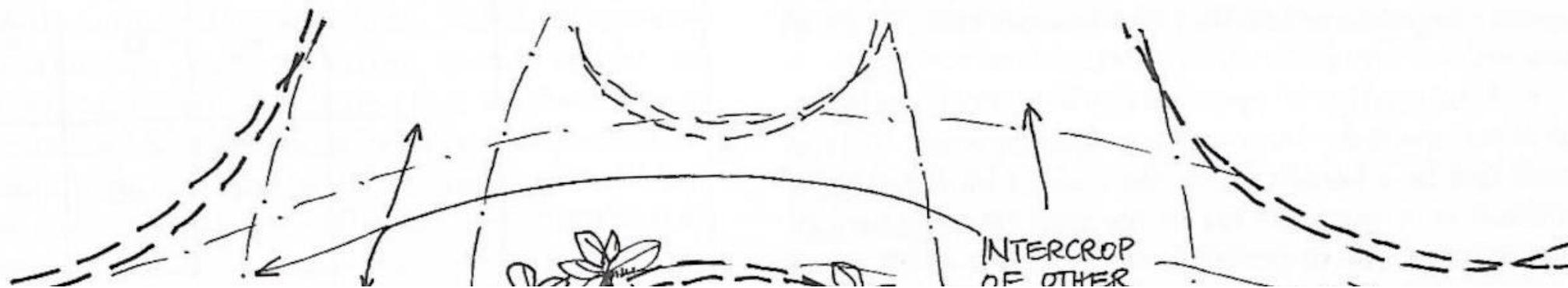
COMFREY

NASTURTIUM  
CLOVER  
DILL  
FENNEL

GLOBE  
ARTICHOKE  
CLOVER

SPRING  
BULBS

ACACIA  
TAGASASTE



# Plant guilds create habitat

- ▶ Multiple elements combine to create a stronger and more efficient system
- ▶ Increase the velocity of nutrient cycling as well efficiency
- ▶ Microclimate can be explored to best advantage
- ▶ Design to establish mutually beneficial relationships

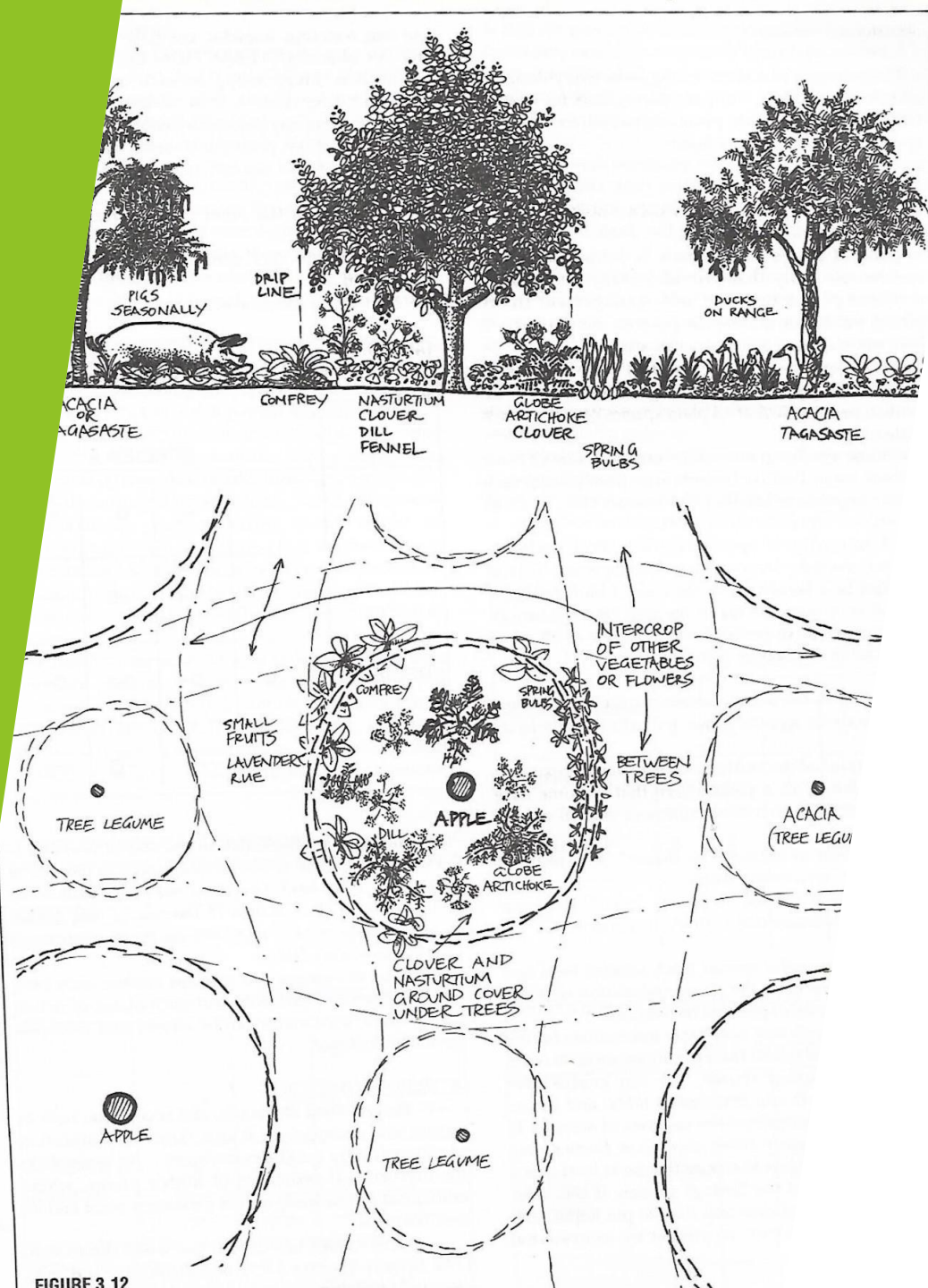
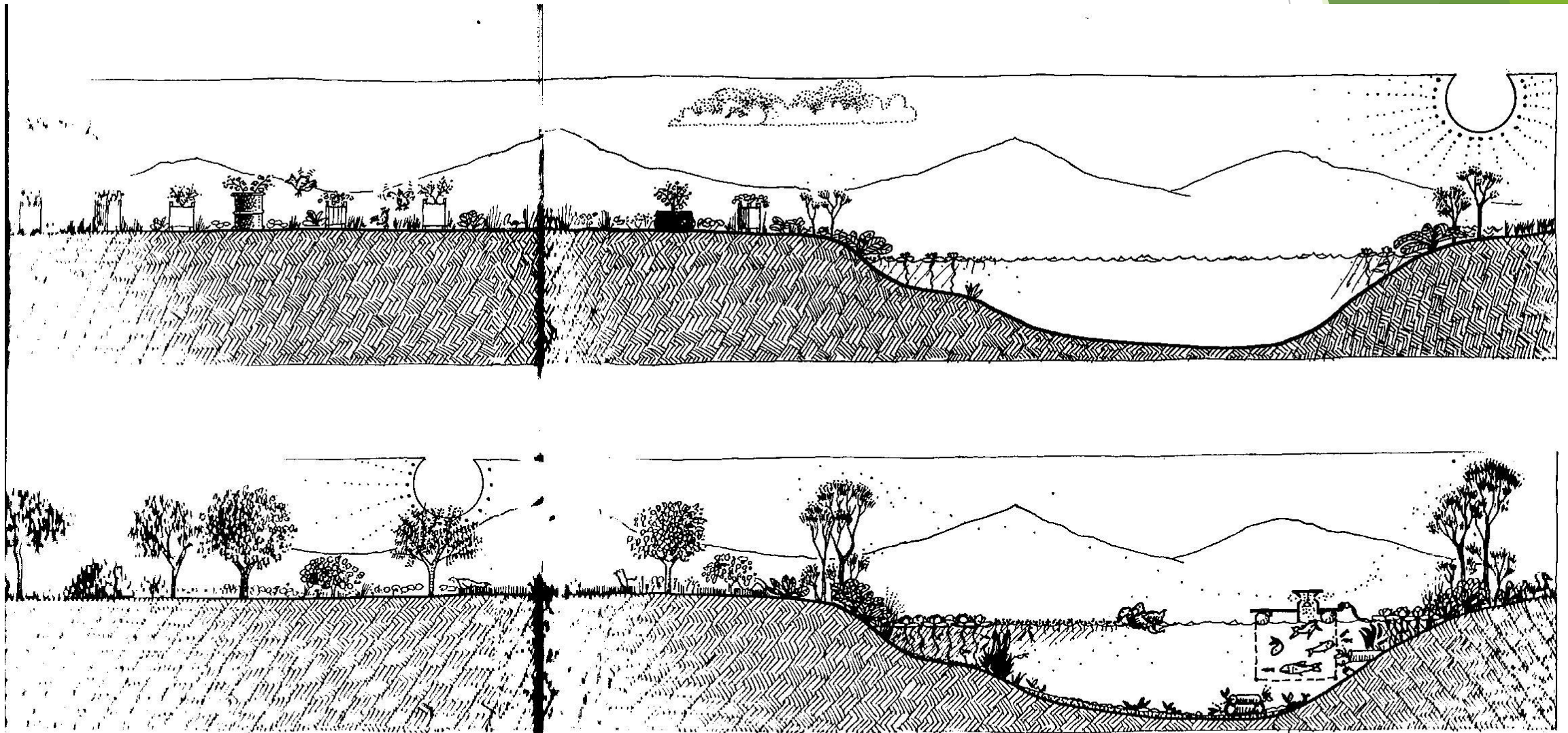
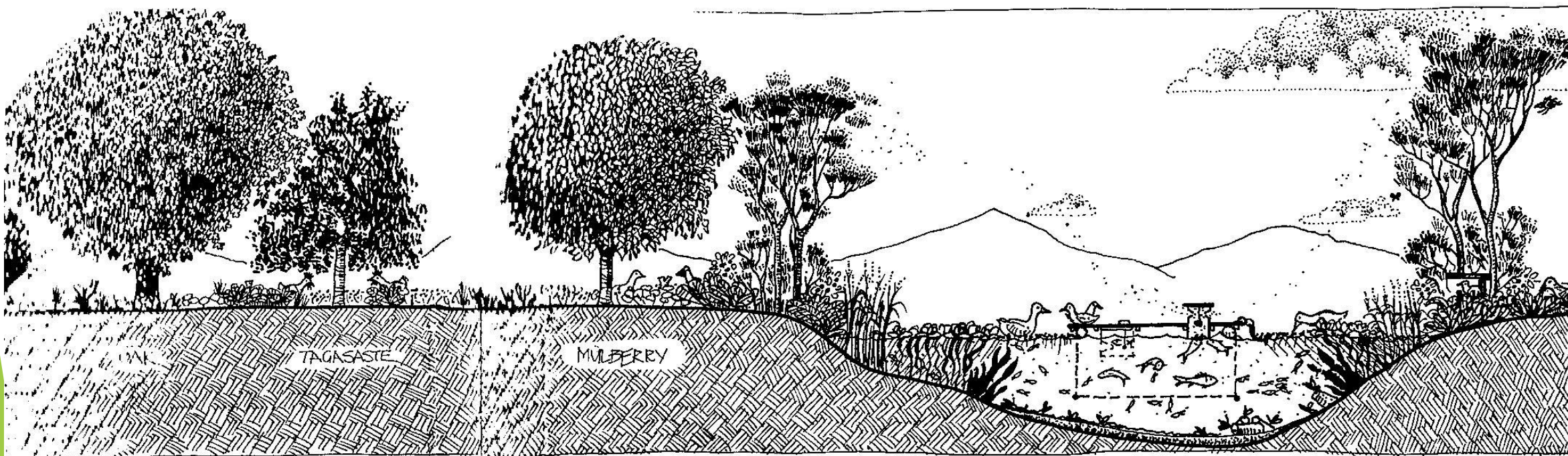
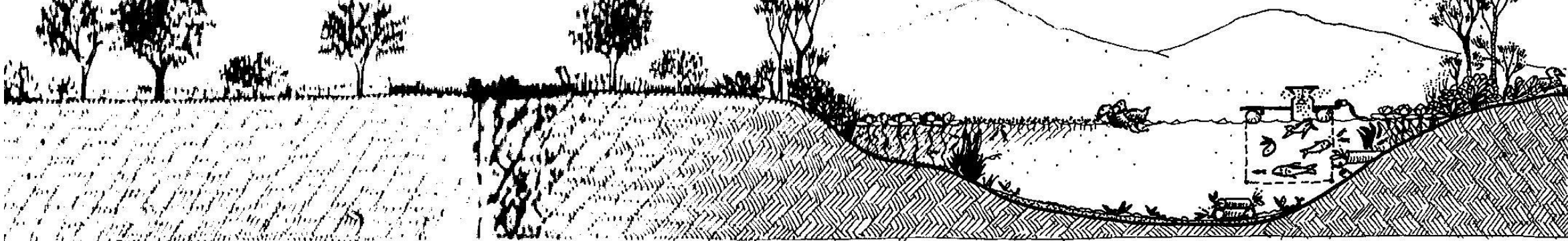


FIGURE 3.12

# Succession





In the initial stage, an area is fenced and a complex of species is established. The system is protected from grazers by fencing and tree guards. Ponds are established for raising small livestock (chickens) and some annual crops.

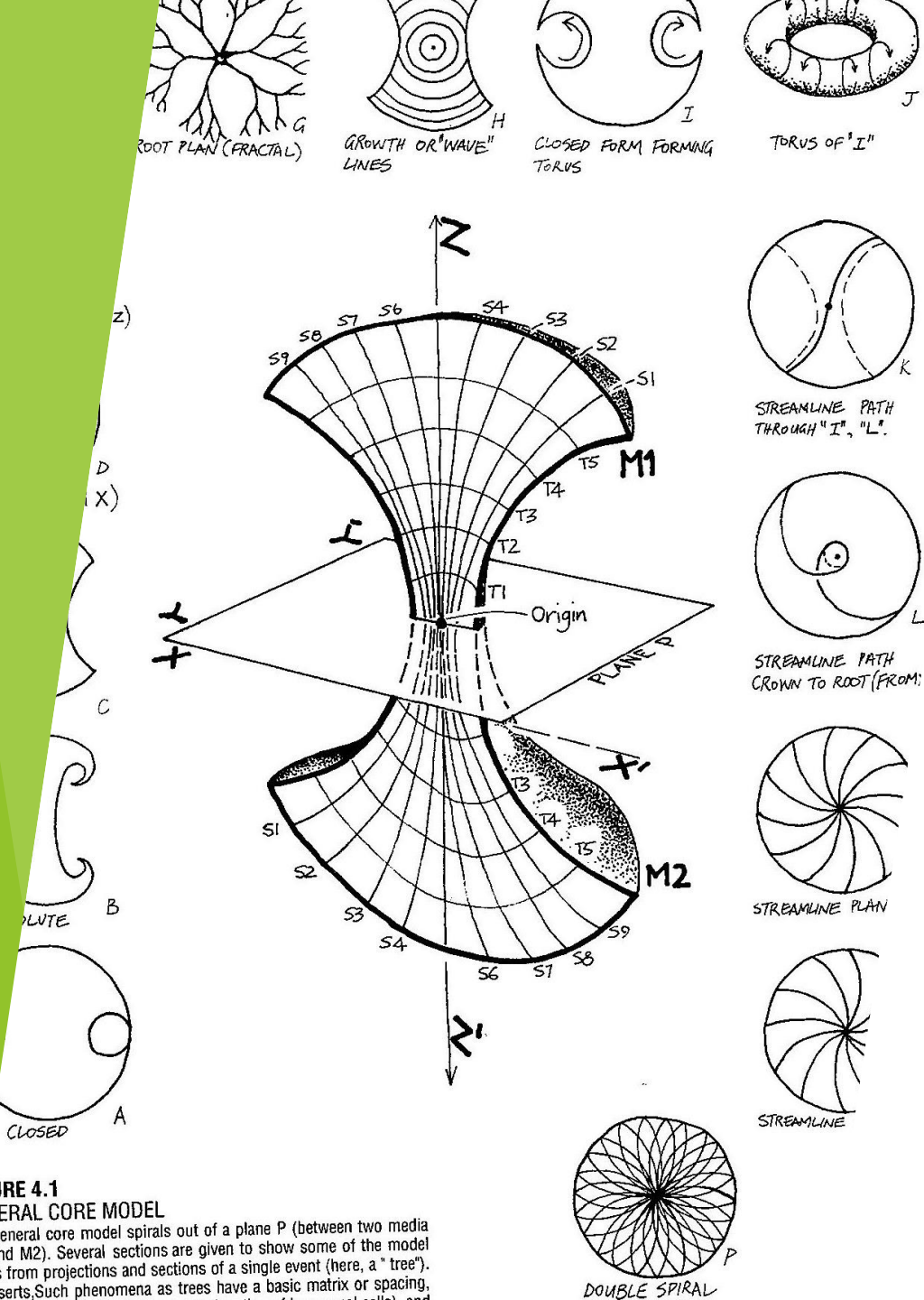
- B.** The system evolves to a semi-hardy stage. Geese, fish, and shellfish are introduced, and crops include some aquatic plant species.
- C.** An evolved system provides forage, firewood, aquatic and animal products.

Larger foragers (sheep, pigs) can be grown seasonally. The system provides its own mulch and fertilizers. The mature system requires management rather than energy input, and has a variety of marketable yields (including information).

## Chapter 4. Pattern Understanding

- ▶ Pattern archetypes
- ▶ Observation from natural systems
- ▶ Edge effect
- ▶ Tessellation
- ▶ Spirals

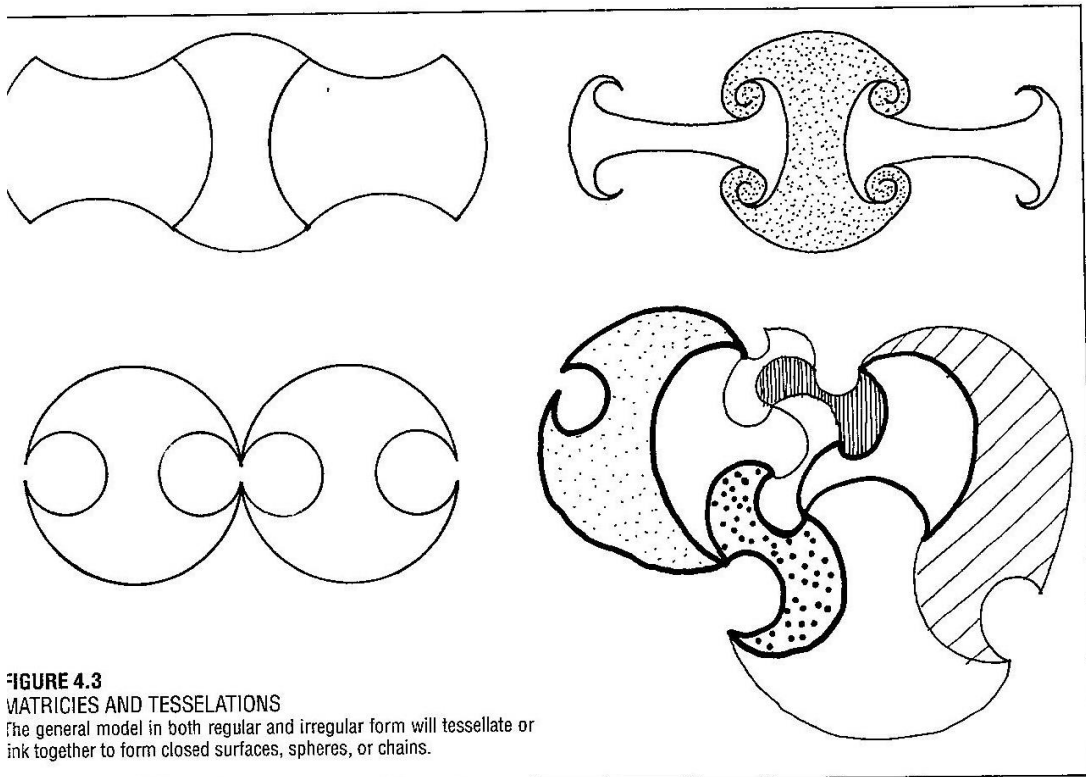




# Cardioid core model

**FIGURE 4.1**  
**GENERAL CORE MODEL**  
 The general core model spirals out of a plane P (between two media M1 and M2). Several sections are given to show some of the model from projections and sections of a single event (here, a "tree"). Such phenomena as trees have a basic matrix or spacing, etc.

# Tessellation



Birch, and Cobb, *The Liberation of Life*, Cambridge University Press, 1981.

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Capra, Fritz, *The Tao of Physics*, Fontana Press, 1976.

Cook, Sir Theodore Andrea, *The Curves of Life*, Constable, London, 1914 (reprint)

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Coold, J. et alia, *Harmonic Vibrations and Vibration Figures*, Newton & Co. London, 1909.

(see also: *Model Engineer* 3 May '51, 8 Sep '60; *Hobbies* Nov 1966; and *New Scientist* 22/29 Dec '83).

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Lovelock, J. E., *Gaia: A New Look at Life on Earth*, Oxford University Press, 1979.

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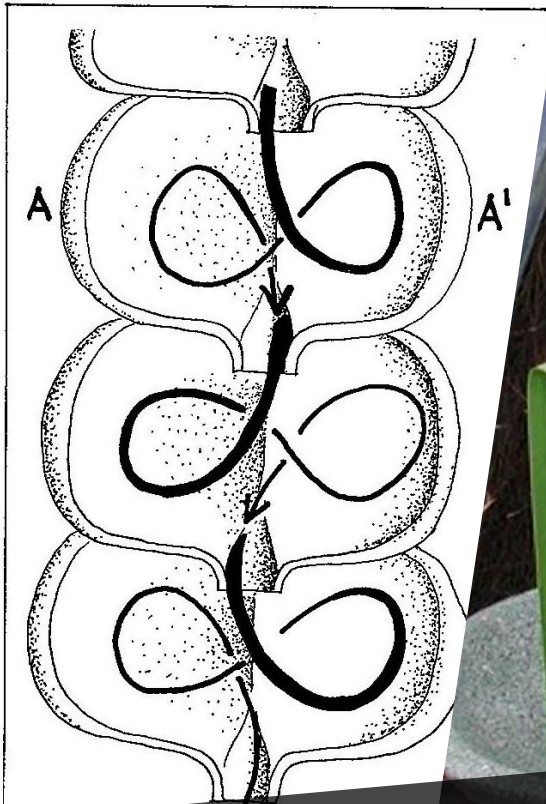
Mandelbrot, Benoit, *The Fractal Geometry of Nature*, W.H. Freeman Co. New York, 1982.  
(The basic book on fractals, computer graphics)

Murchie, Greg, *The Seven Mysteries of Life*, 1984, self-published: Marlborough, NH, USA.

Pearce, Peter, *Structure in Nature as a Strategy for Design*, M.I.T. Press, 1979.

Schwenke, Theodore, *Sensitive Chaos; the Creation of Flowing Forms in Air or Water*, Schocken Books, N.Y., 1976.

Thompson, D'arcy W., *On Growth and Form*, Cambridge University Press, 1952.  
(Multiple examples of forms in nature, spirals)



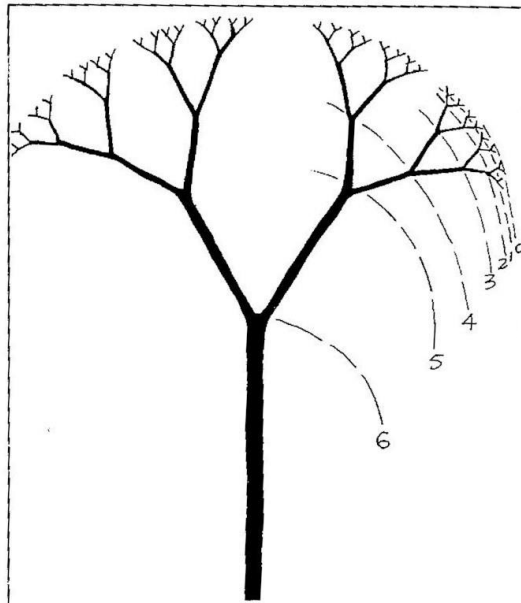
STEPPED SERIES  
FLOWFORM BASIN  
FIGURE EIGHT HOP  
TURBULENCE. THE  
OUTFALL FROM EACH  
BASIN PULSES FROM  
LEFT SIDE TO RIGHT  
SIDE AND BACK TO  
THE OPPOSITE PULSE  
NEXT BASIN. (SEE





**STREAM ORDERS AND DIMENSIONS**

order of branching (as in our river) that we gain insight into the order of orders, and the dimensions of orders. At each point of branching (or size of change) everything else changes, from flows, velocities, and gaseous exchange, to forms that associate with the specific size of



**FIGURE 4.25**  
DENDRITIC BRANCHING.  
A regular "tree" based on the proportion of real rivers. The ogive curved lines, can be viewed as pulses of growth, waves approaching the viscous "shoreline" of the leaves or (in the case of rivers) the seepage of upland rills. Here, seven orders of branches exist; orders become difficult to develop towards the diffusion where viscous flow slows the movement of fluids.

**TABLE 4.1:**  
STREAM ORDERS AND SOME RATIOS.

A Folk Name	B Stream Order	C Number of Channels in the Order	D Ratio of bifurcation/	E A. Length Channels branching	F Ratio of Length (km)
Sheet Flow	0	-	-	-	-
Rill	1	308		0.28	
Runnel	2	87	x 3.5	0.56	x 2.0
Creek	3	26	x 3.3	1.12	x 2.0
Stream	4	8	x 3.3	2.56	x 2.3
River	5	3	x 2.7	5.76	x 2.2
Estuary	6	1	x 3.0	-	-

**Average** (≈3.0) (≈2.2)

(Modified after Tweedie, *Water and the World*, Thomas Nelson, Australia, 1975.)

# Dendritic branching

- ▶ Tributaries of a river system
- ▶ Branches of a tree
- ▶ Bronchioles in lung tissue
- ▶ Pattern of dispersal or collection

# Scatter pattern

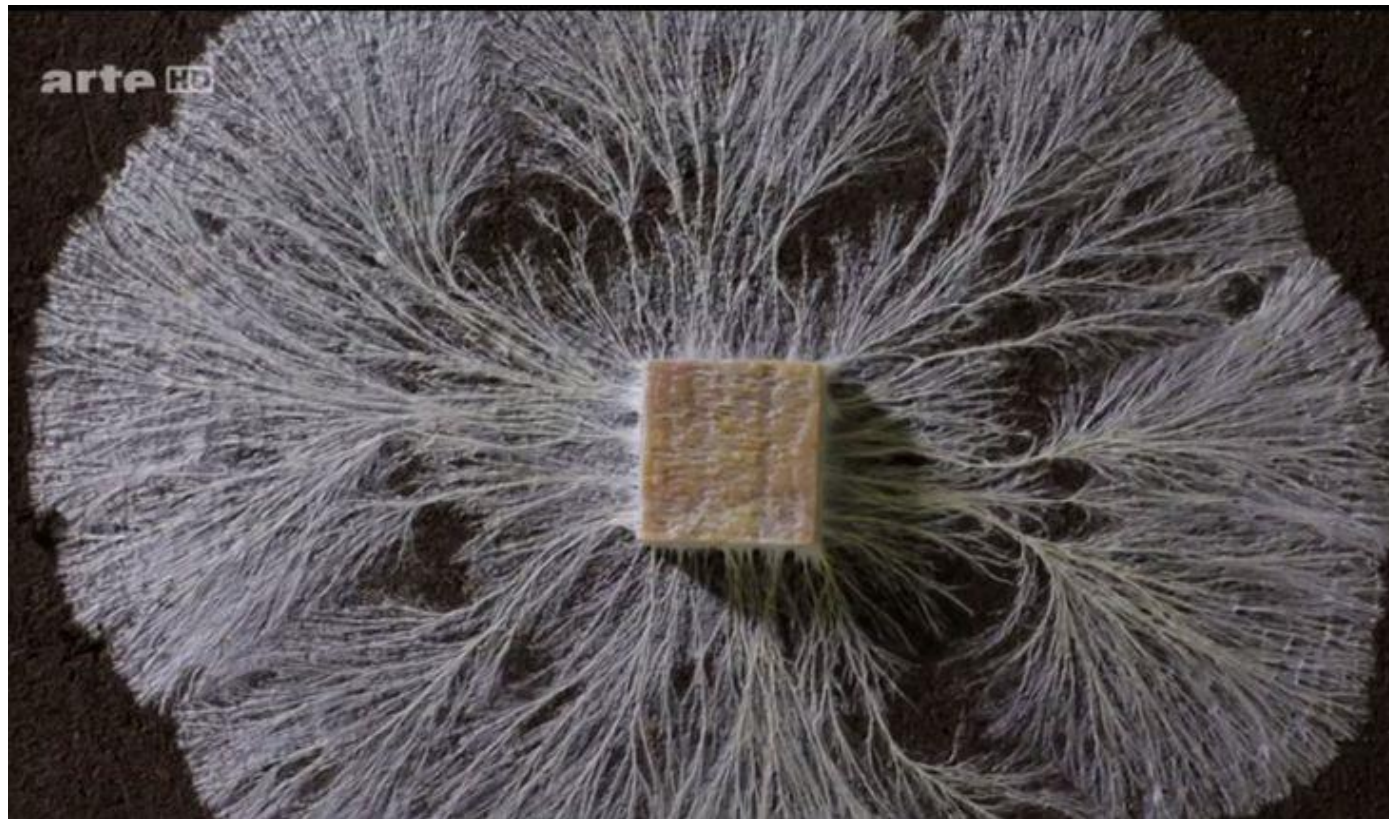
- ▶ Random
- ▶ Explores new opportunity
- ▶ Saturate with seed
- ▶ allow natural selection to prevail





Web

# Mycelium



A close-up photograph of a brown, fibrous material, likely paper or cardboard, showing a dense network of fine, dark, branching lines representing mycelium. The mycelium forms a complex, interconnected web across the surface of the material. The background of the slide is white with green geometric shapes on the right side.

# Mycelium on paper





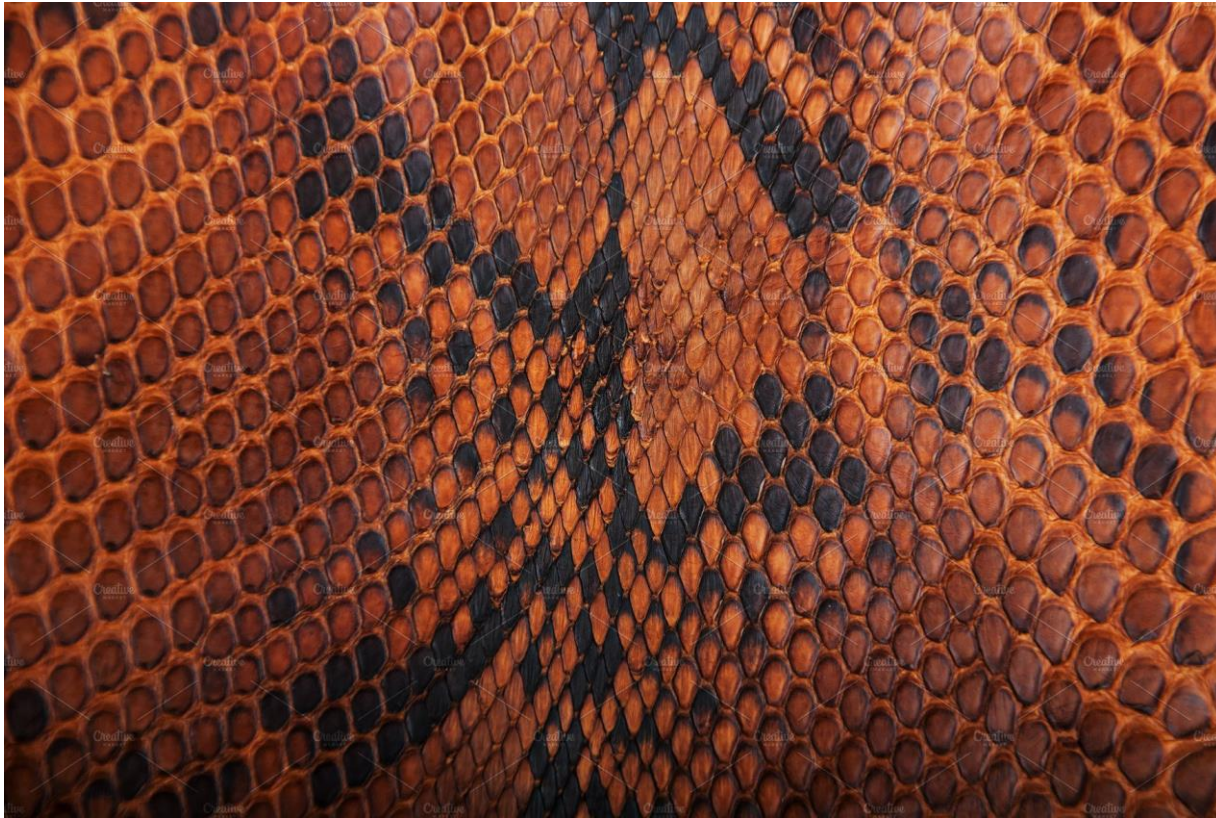








# Snakeskin





# Chameleon

# Fungi



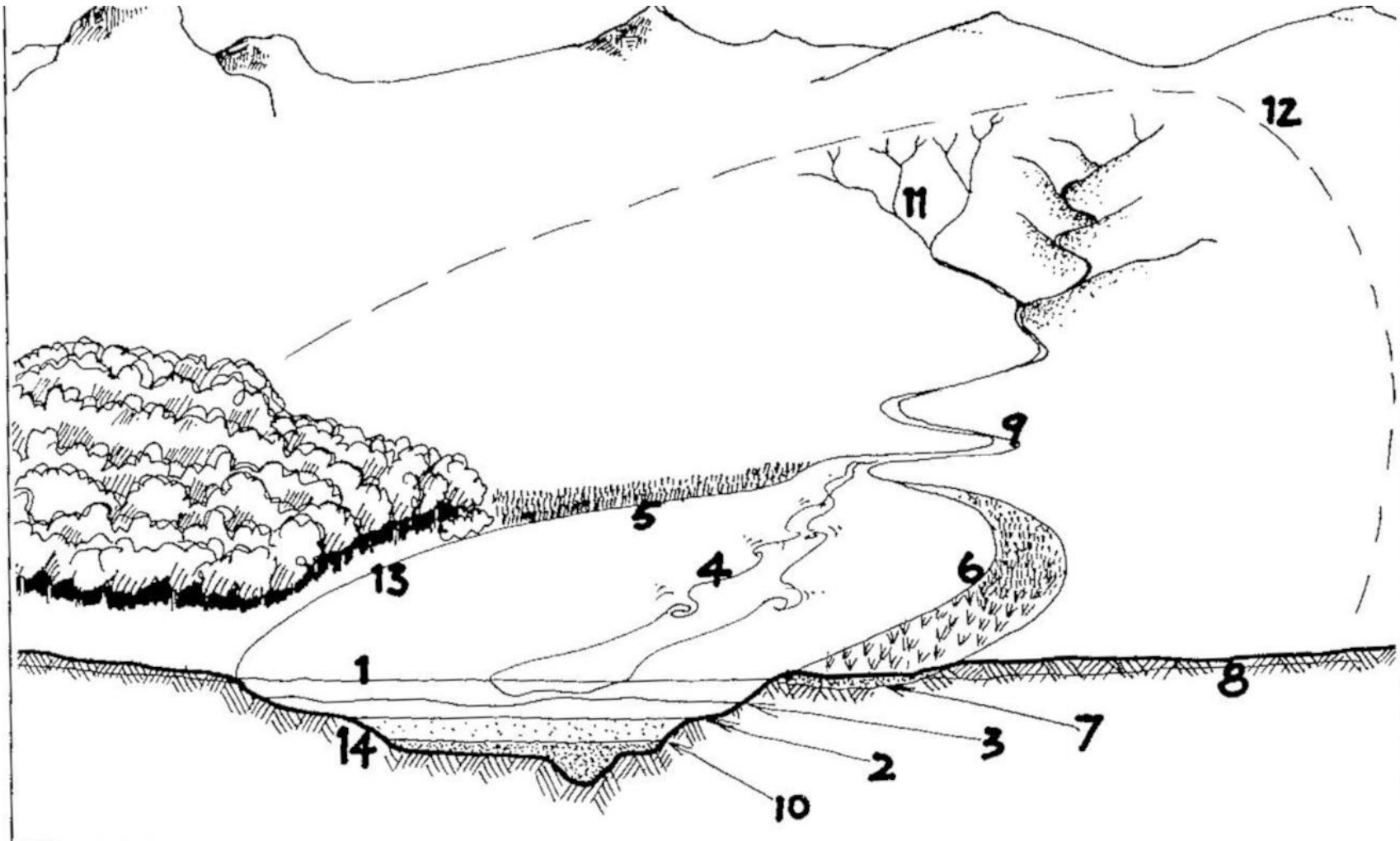


# Chalk

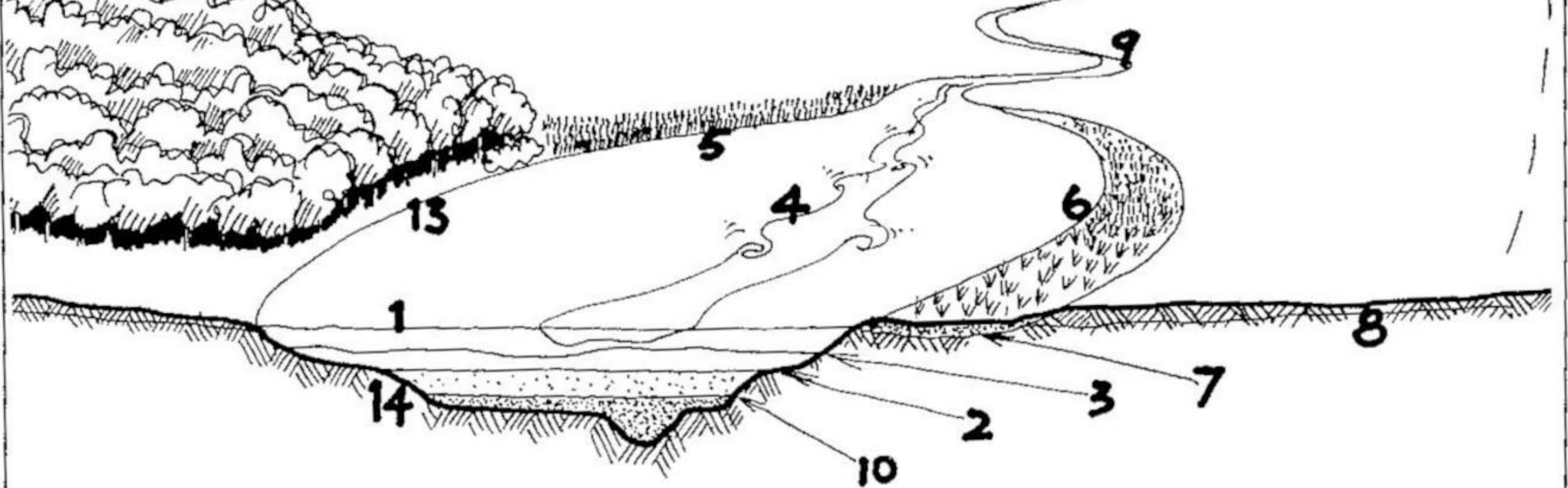


# Bracken

# Edge effect







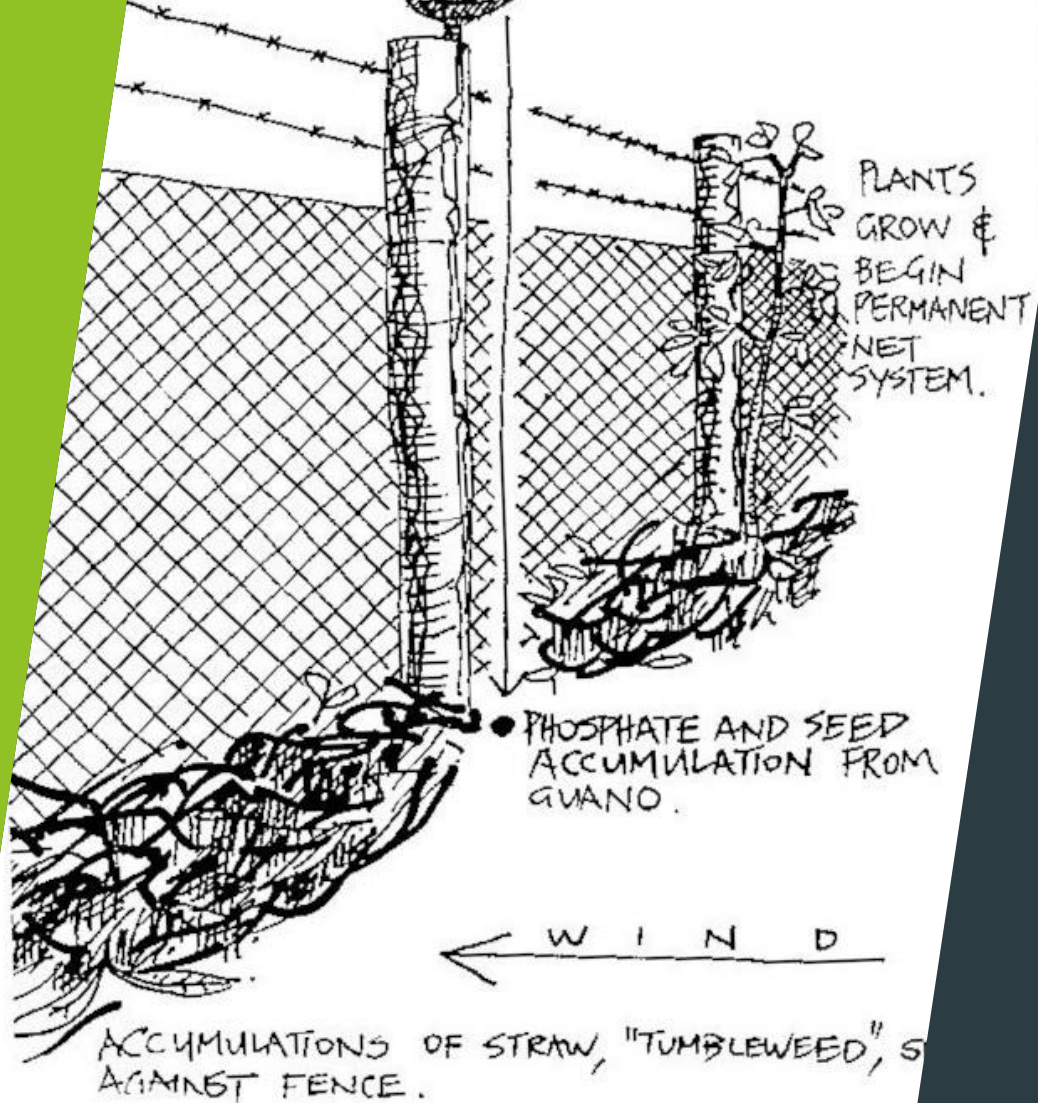
**FIGURE 4. 6**  
EDGES AND SURFACES.

We can distinguish between many conditions or forms of media (air, water, earth, mud), physical conditions (flow, heat, salinity), and we can manipulate adjacent systems (forest, water, crop, grassland, gravels) to produce landscapes rich in borders, hence species and niches.

1 air/water	2 fresh/brackish	3 warm/cool
4 flowing/still	5 grass/water	6 marsh/water
7 anaerobic/subsoil	8 soil/subsoil	9 stream/bank
10 brackish/salty	11 stream order/sub order	
12 catchment/catchment	13 forest/water	14 water/mud

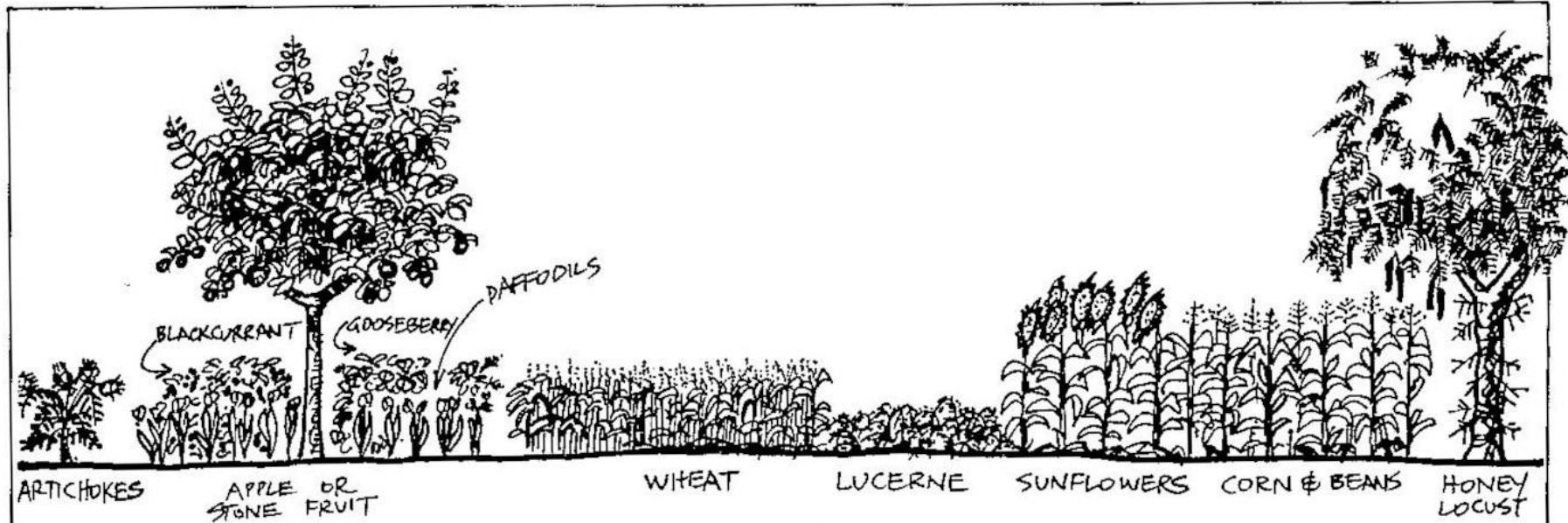
# Edge effect

- ▶ Compatible and in compatible borders
- ▶ No difference in yield or stability
- ▶ One benefits at expense of other
- ▶ Both benefit
- ▶ One benefits, one unaffected
- ▶ One decreases the other unaffected



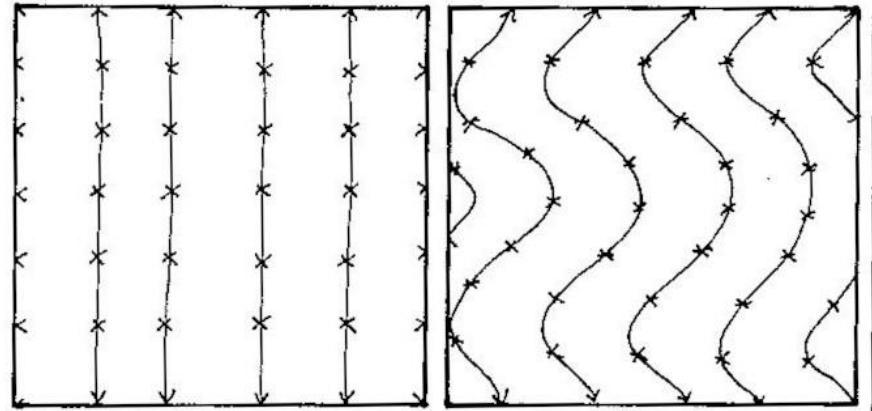
**FIGURE 4.9**

At powerlines and fences, perched thrushes and woodpeckers defecate, so that each post gains seed and manure, and generate a plant from nearby forests. Perches plus disturbance produce this result. Fences also act as mulch accumulators against wind.



**FIGURE 4.10**  
**EDGE CROPPING**

Fields of equal area, plants at the same inter-row and in-line spacing, but in (A) we can fit 36 plants, in (B) 45 plants. "Straightness" can reduce yields. Modern machines are available that follow such paths in crop, or the pattern can be on a larger scale.



A. 36 plants

B. 45 plants