



2.0 Management of a coffee farm

2.1 Training/bending a coffee tree

2.2 Weed control/management

2.3 Managing soil fertility 1

2.4 Managing soil fertility 2

2.5 Pruning and desuckering

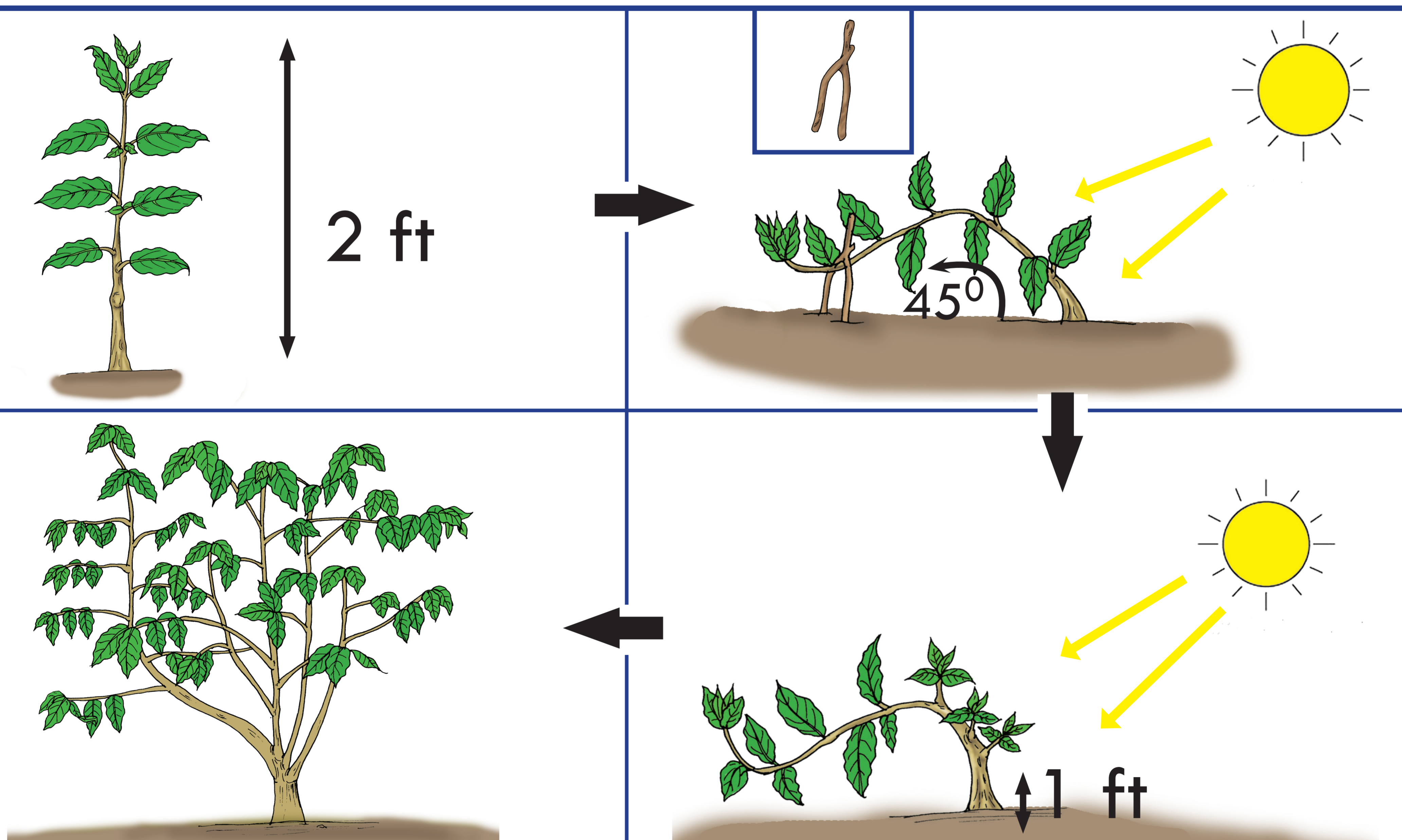
2.6 Stumping

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2.8 Soil and water conservation



2.1 Training/bending a coffee tree



Training/bending coffee tree

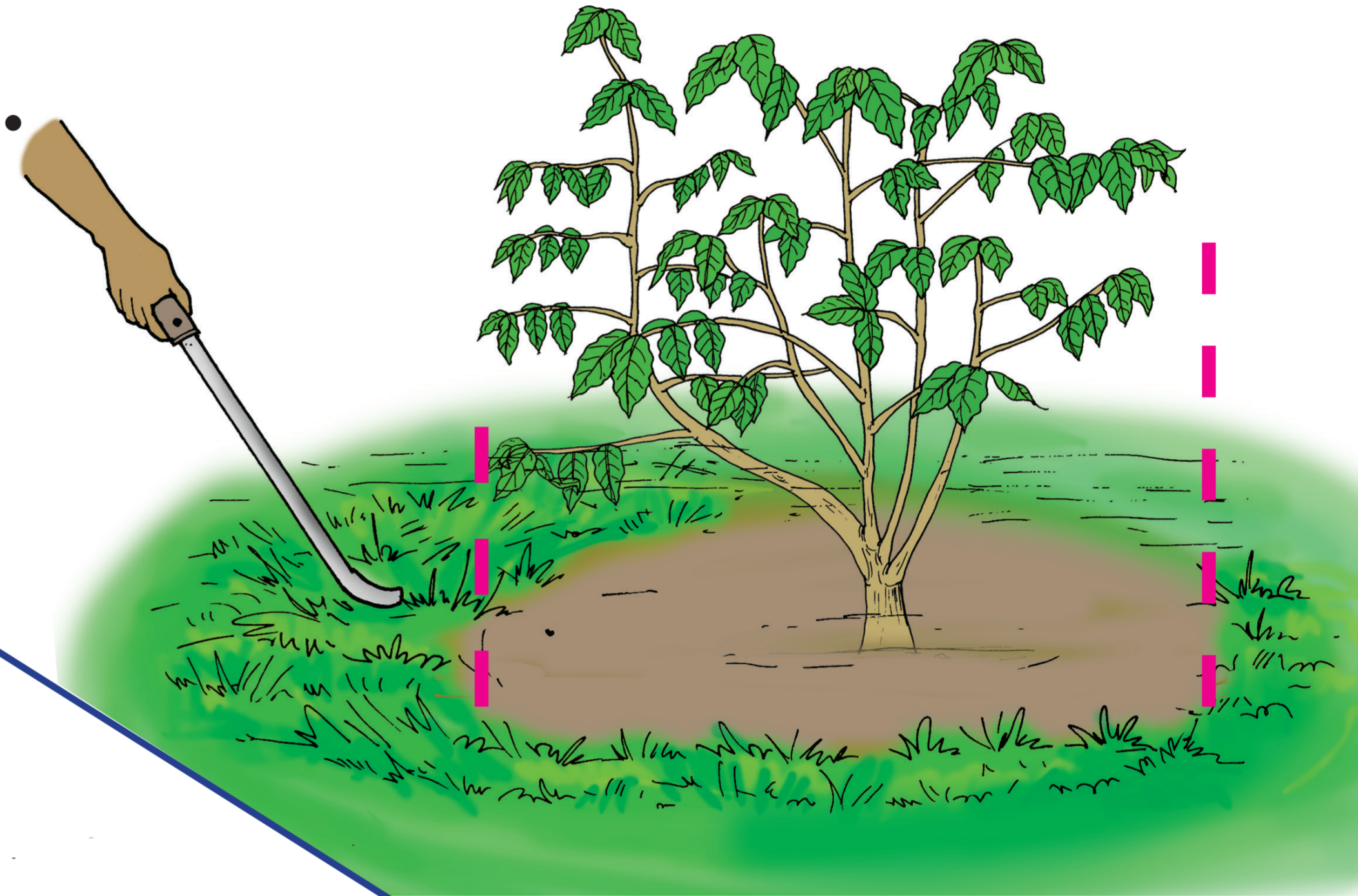
1. Bend the 6 month old coffee plants up to 45 degrees and along rows to stimulate growth of suckers.
2. Allow only 2-4 healthy looking suckers which originate at about 0.5-1 foot from the base of the trained plant to grow.

2.2 Weed control/management

1.



2.



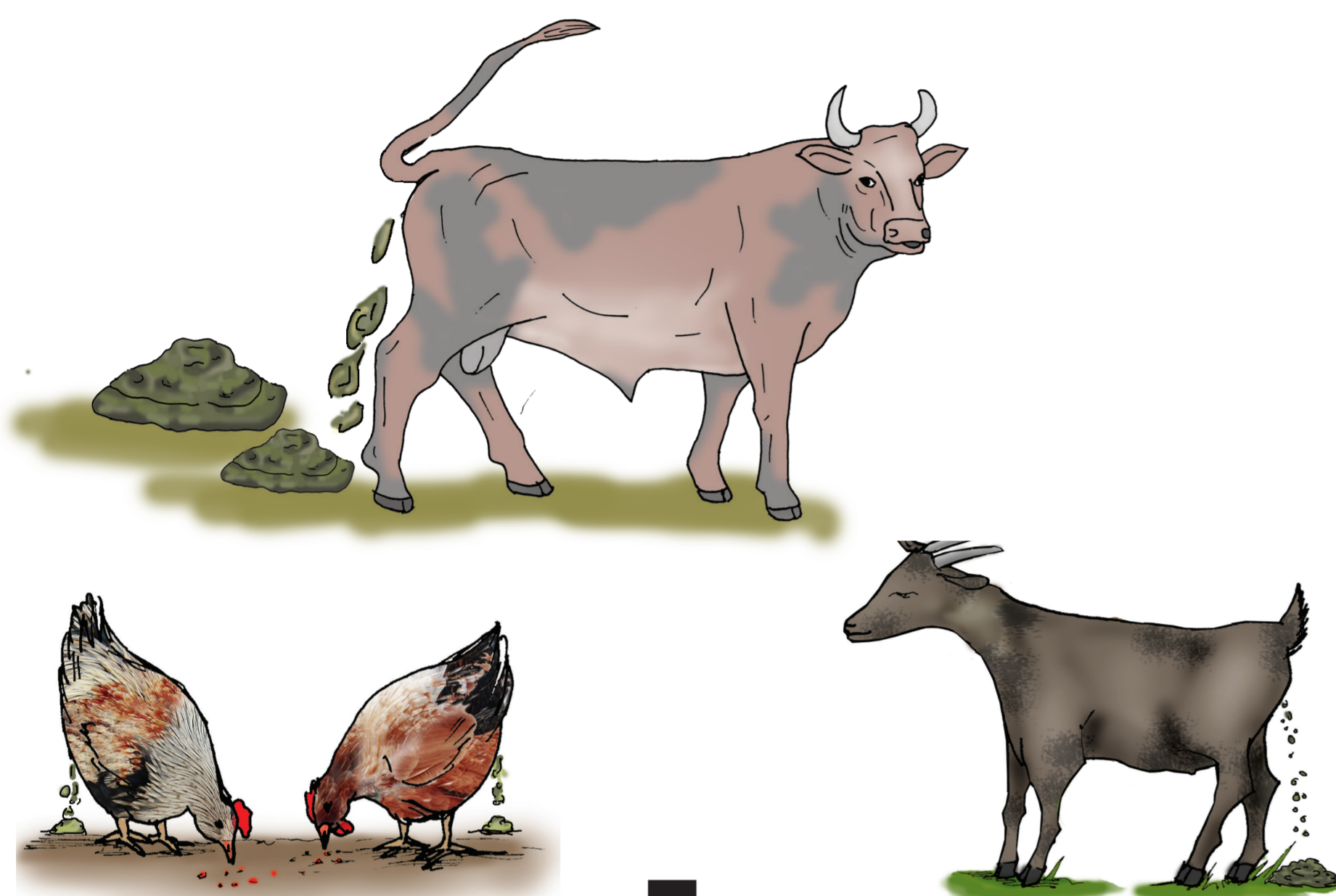
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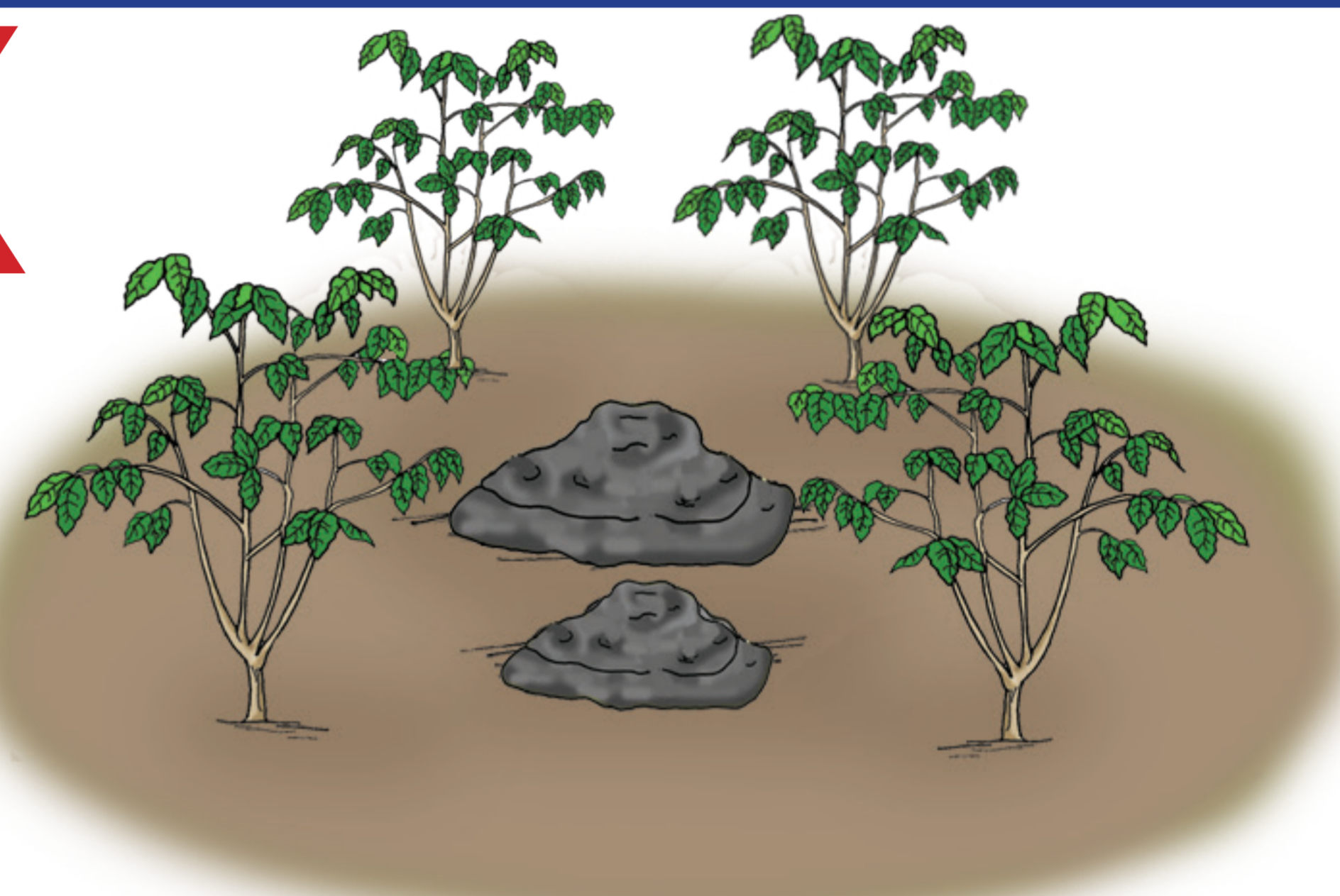
Managing weeds in a coffee farm

1. Remove weeds in gardens of young coffee of up to a year old by digging and slashing or mulching.
2. Remove weeds in old coffee gardens by mulching, or alternating digging and slashing with herbicide spraying outside the canopy.
3. Ring weed below the canopy to avoid damage to the plant (during slashing or spraying).
4. Spray herbicides outside the canopy using manufacturers' rates or get help from the extension staff or a knowledgeable farmer.
5. Avoid spraying on the coffee leaves as this can kill the plant.

2.3 Managing soil fertility 1

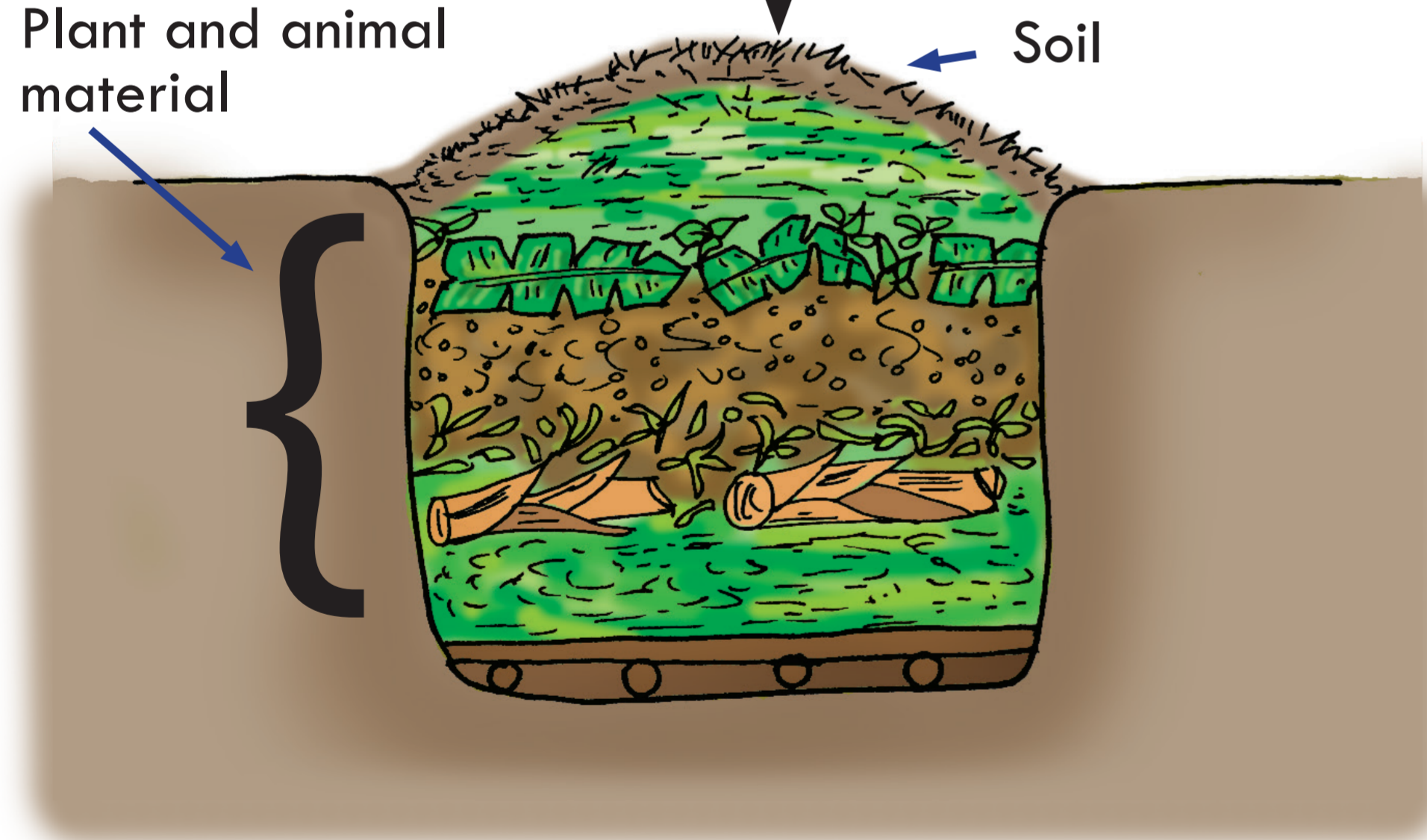


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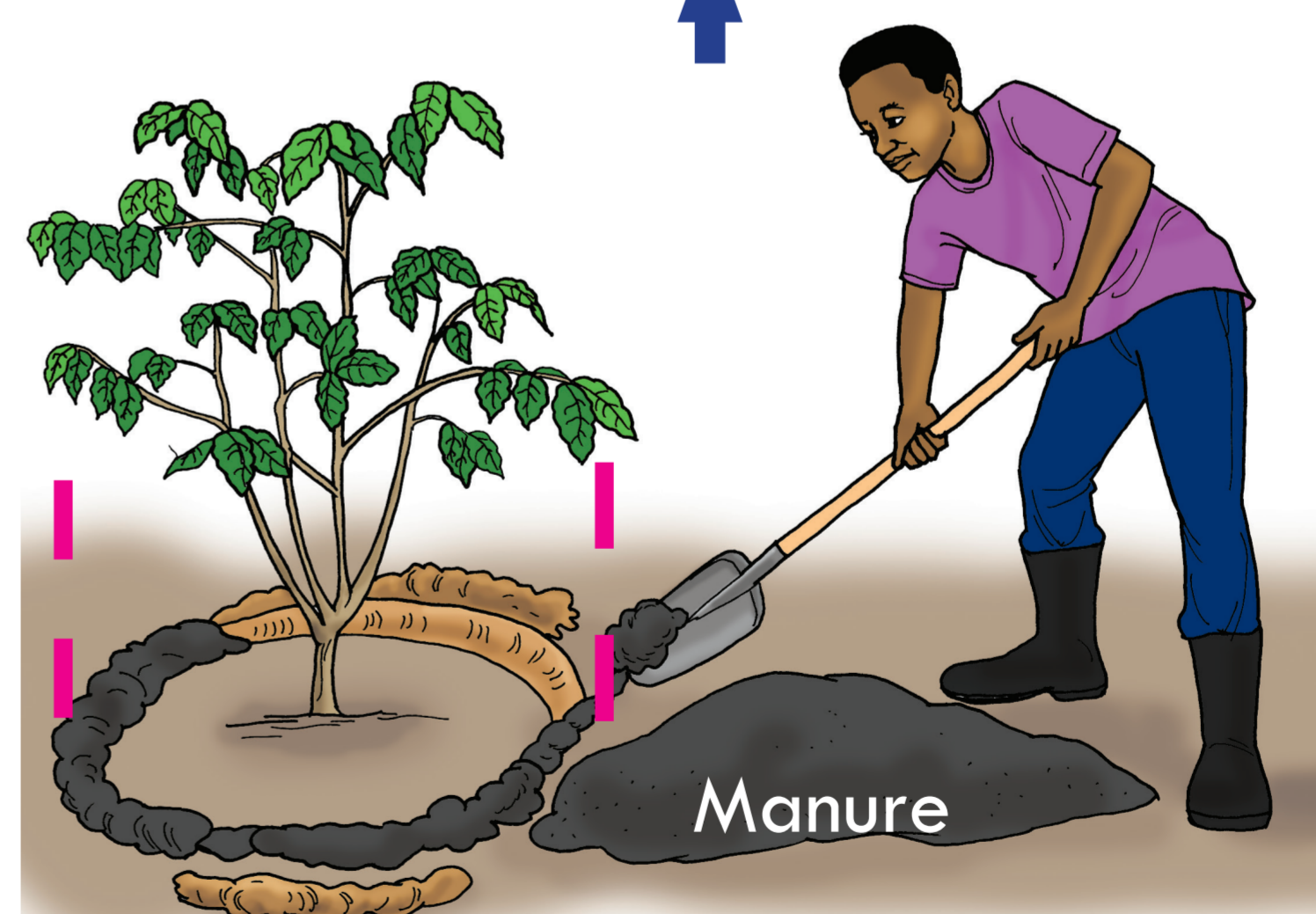


Plant and animal
material

Soil



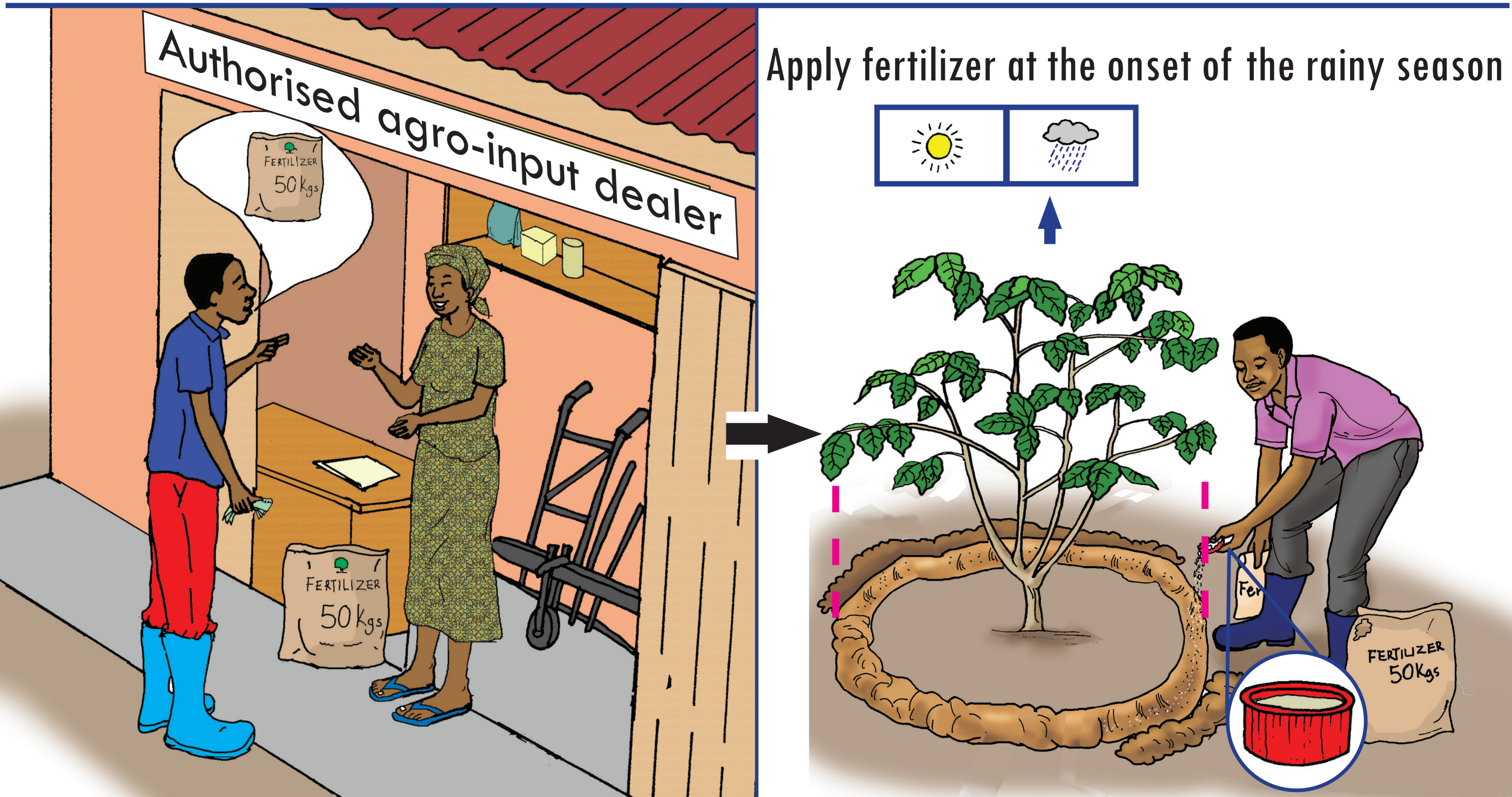
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Managing soil fertility in a coffee farm

1. Coffee requires fertile soils with high levels of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.
2. Mulch and apply about 3-5kg of organic manure around each coffee plant to improve plant growth and yield, once a year at the beginning of the rains.
3. Prepare compost in a pit 6 months prior to planting.

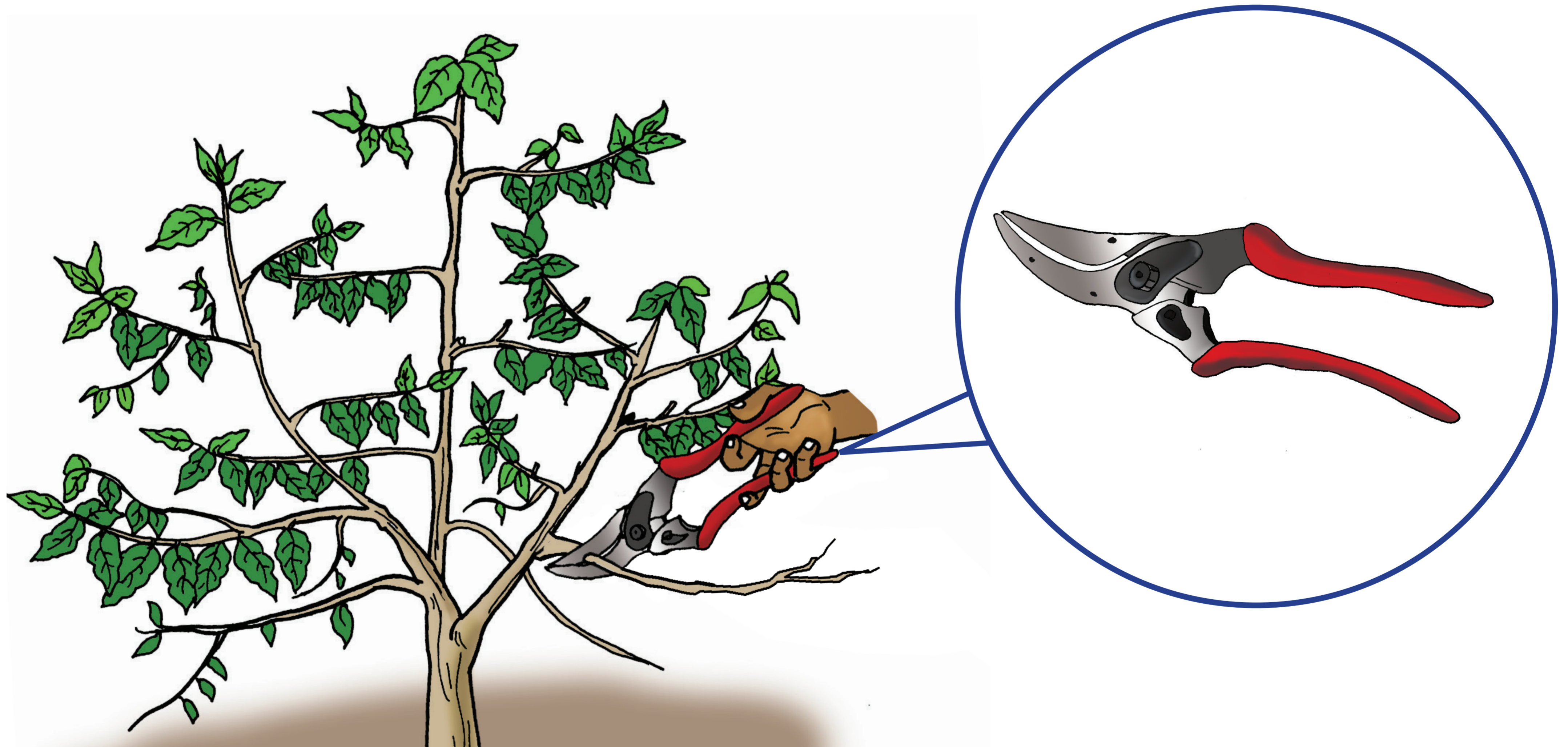
2.4 Managing soil fertility 2



Managing soil fertility in a coffee farm

1. To improve the soil fertility add inorganic fertilizer at the beginning of the rainy season (check recommended formulations and application rates).
2. Get help from the extension staff or a knowledgeable farmer when applying inorganic fertilizer for the first time.
3. Apply fertilizer within the rooting zone (under the tree canopy).

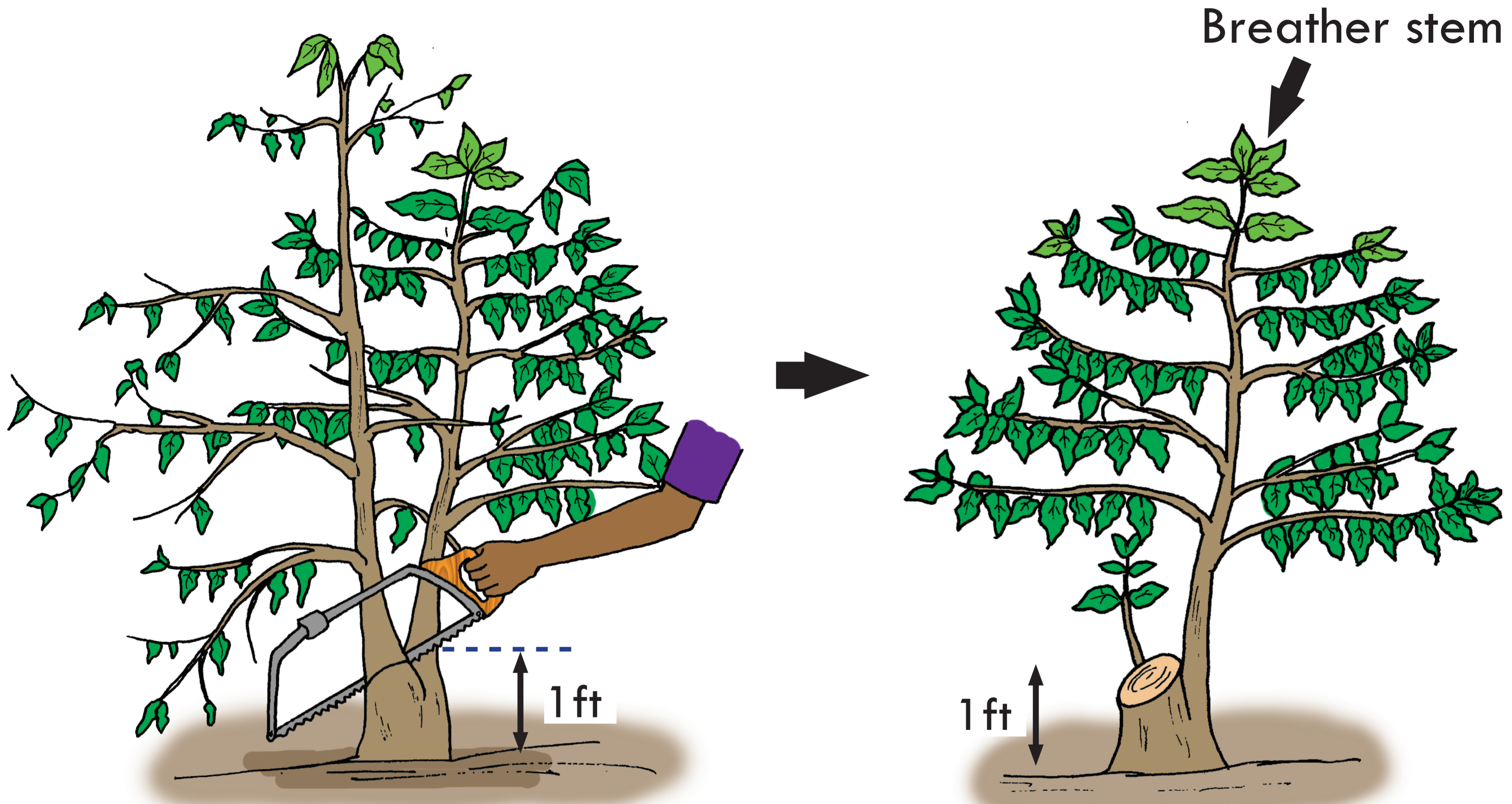
2.5 Pruning and desuckering



Pruning and desuckering

1. Remove unwanted stems and suckers, and dead, weak and unproductive branches using secateurs or pruning saws. This encourages new growth and improves productivity.
2. Also remove:
 - a. Broken stems or unproductive whole or part stems, using a pruning saw.
 - b. This reduces pest infestation from the soil.

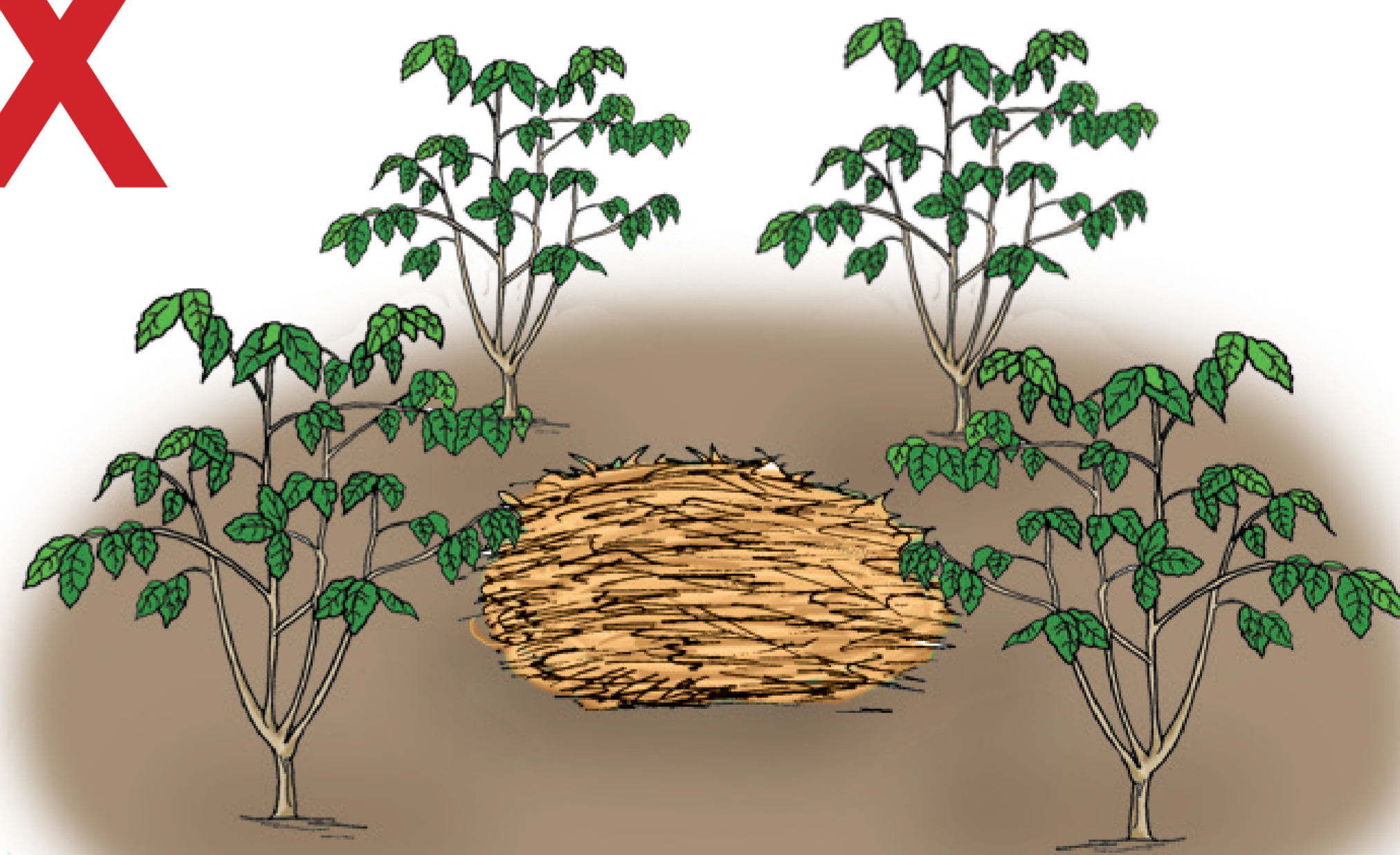
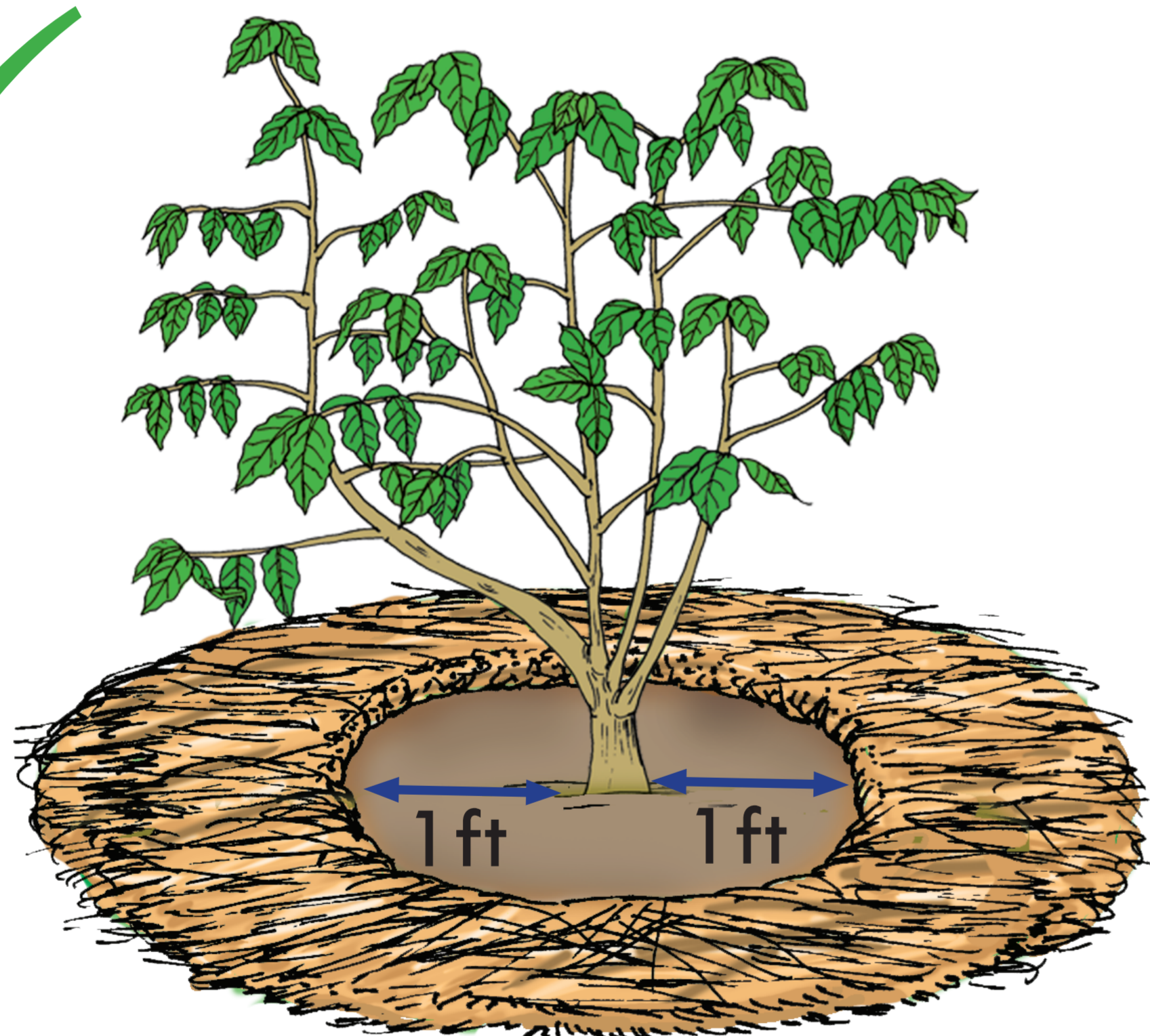
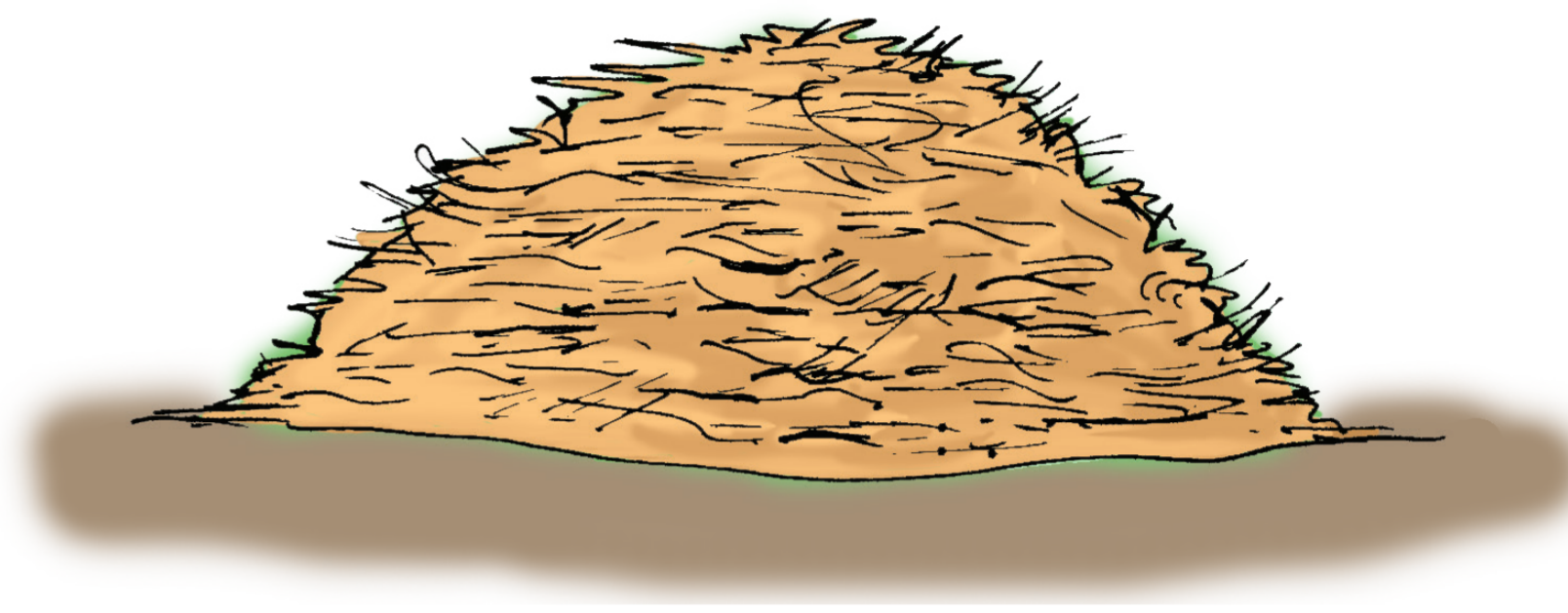
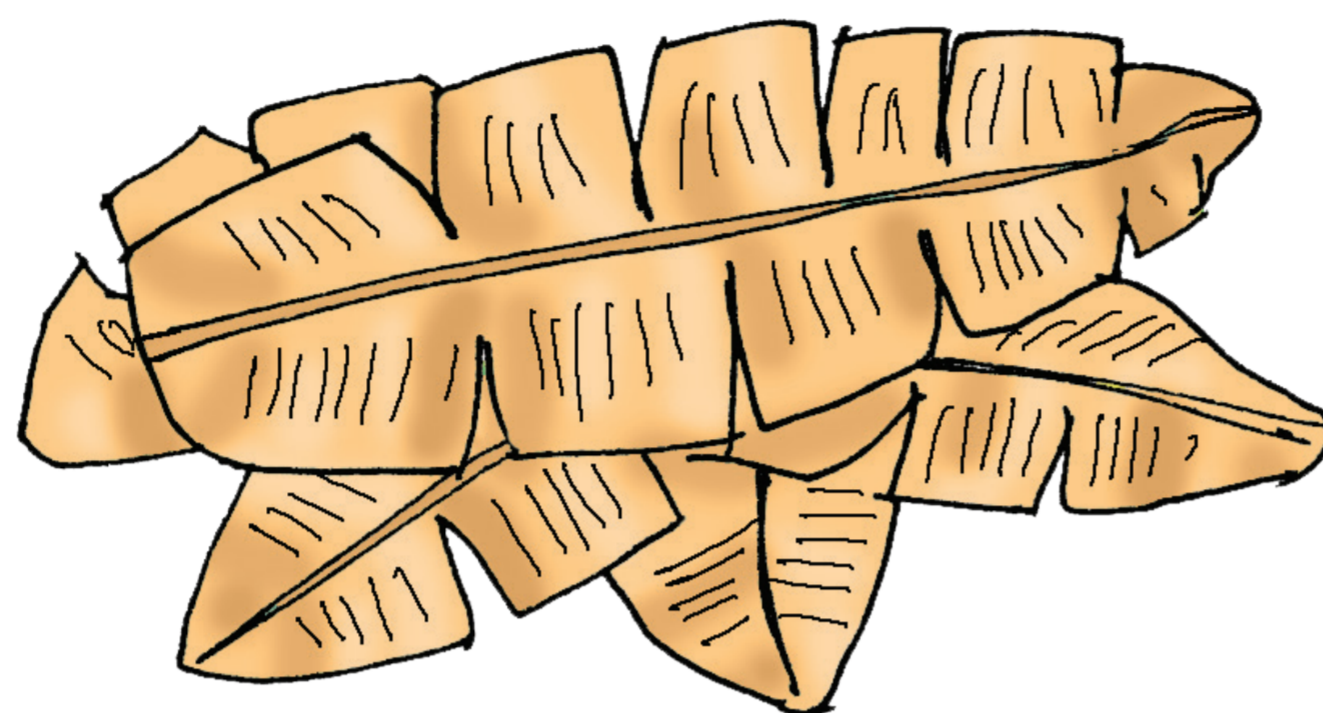
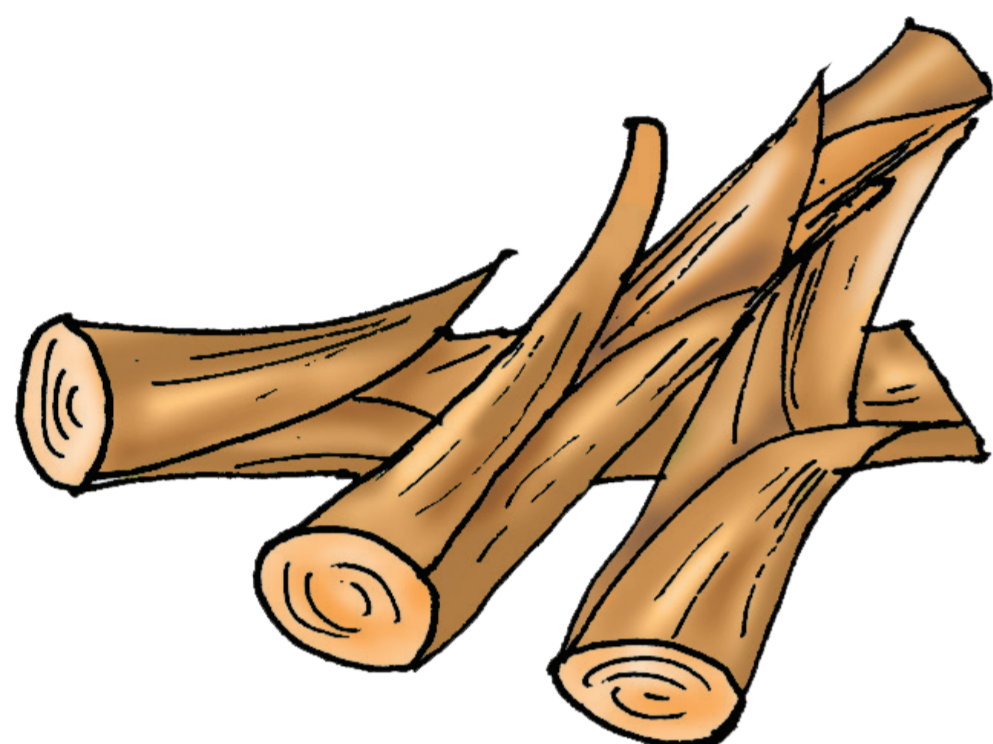
2.6 Stumping



Stumping coffee

1. Stump coffee after 7-9 years to renew the stem cycle and improve productivity.
2. Leave a breather stem which should be removed 6 months after stumping.
3. Stumping can be either staggered or clean stumping. If staggered, stump 1 in 3 trees every year so the entire garden is stumped over a 3 year period.
4. Get help from the extension staff or a knowledgeable farmer when stumping coffee for the first time.
5. The stumping should be at least 45° and sloping away from the breather stem.

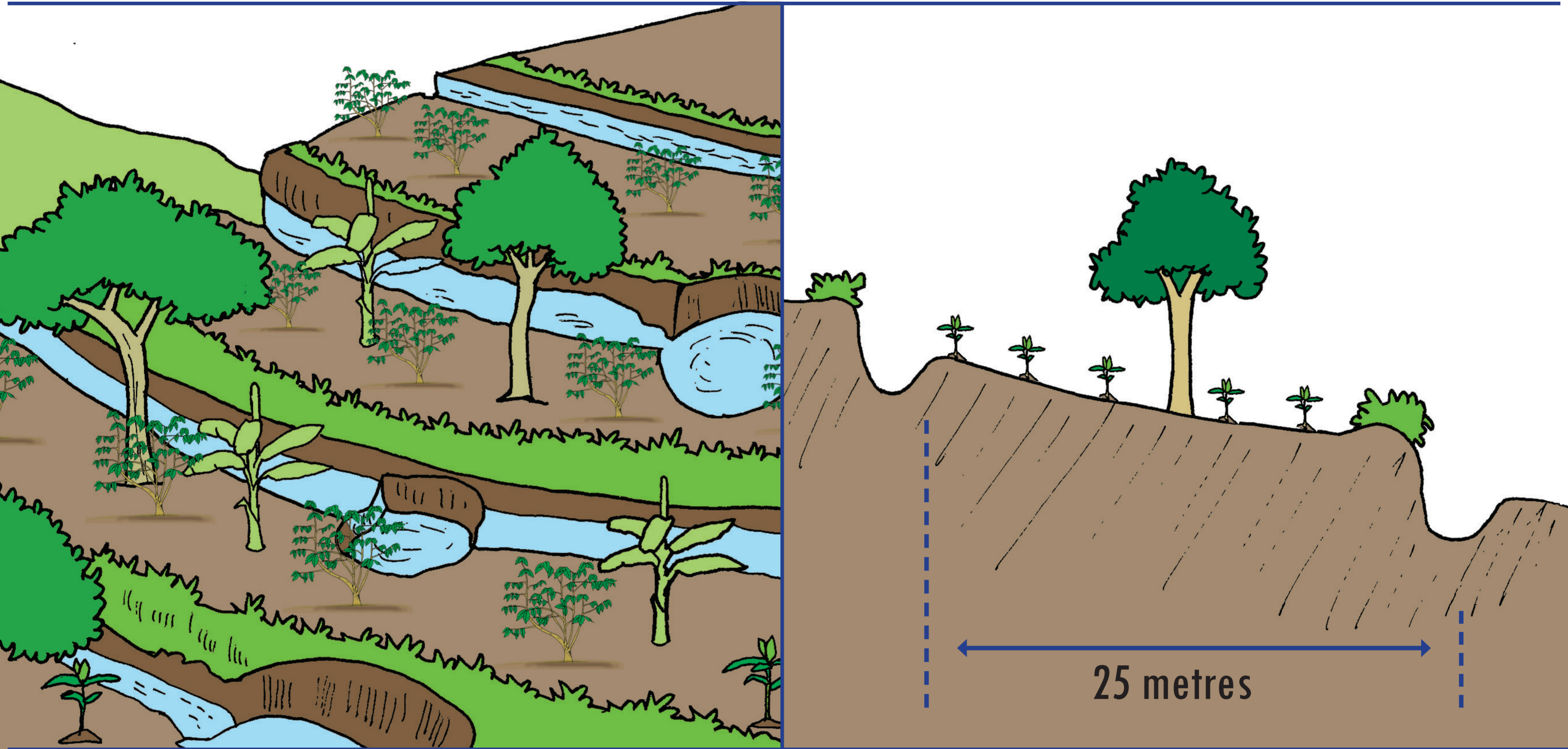
2.7 Mulching



Mulching a coffee farm

1. Mulch coffee gardens with up to 6 inches of maize straw, bean trash, banana leaves, grasses or any other dead plant materials to conserve moisture, control weeds and soil erosion, and add nutrients to the soil.
2. Place the mulch 1 ft from the coffee stem to prevent infection from collar rot or attack from ants and termites.

2.8 Soil and water conservation



Soil and water conservation

1. Digging pits/troughs at some points of the terrace preserves rain water. Add a small amount of oil to the water trapped in the pits/troughs to prevent breeding of mosquitoes.
2. Mulch coffee to prevent soil erosion and retain soil moisture.
3. Plant cover crops such as Mucuna, Phaseolus beans, lablab and groundnuts.
4. Plant grass at the edges of the gardens and ridges/terraces/contour bands.
5. Plant shade trees and/or bananas.