

Technical Bulletin #75:

After-planting Tree Care and Monitoring

Caring for the reforestation site after planting is important to ensure survival of the seedlings, while monitoring helps to identify the successes and failures of the project.

AFTER PLANTING CARE

Community members should work together to ensure everyone knows where the boundaries of the reforestation site are. This is especially important to make sure cattle do not enter the area (Fig. 1).



Some actions increase the chance of seedlings survival:

- Mulching, to keep down weeds and increase soil moisture (Fig. 2)
- Protection from cattle (Fig. 3)
- Maintenance of fire breaks

Fig. 2

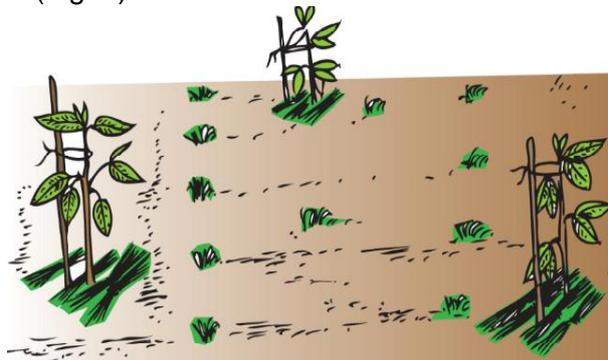
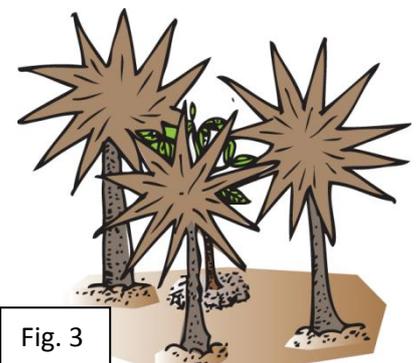


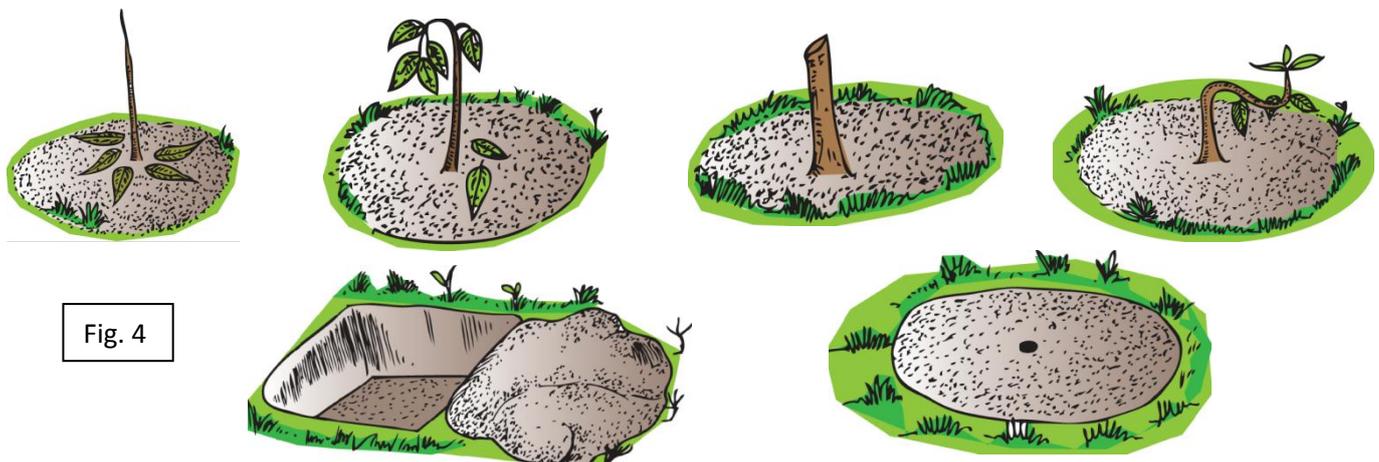
Fig. 3



MONITORING

Causes of mortality are drought, flooding, grazing, trampling, pests and diseases (Fig. 4). Monitoring helps to identify these causes and actions can then be taken to reduce their impacts.

Fig. 4



Monitoring also helps to identify the successes of the project (i.e. species performance) and makes those successes recognized by the participants.

Indicators that are important to check are (Fig. 5):

- Survival rate ($\#$ of seedlings that survive / $\#$ of seedlings planted x 100)
- Growth rates (height in meters and crown width in cm)
- Diameter in cm, 1.3 meters from the ground level (in cm)
- Foliage density (the denser the better)

Fig. 5



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