Food Forest Blueprint

Watch Geoff Lawton video “Surviving the Collapse” available at geofflawton.org for a limited time

Step 1 - Prepare the Ground

Prepare the ground with chickens in a chicken tractor or within electric netting, using lots of mulch for the chickens to scratch up the ground and remove most of the grass and weeds. The remaining few clumps of grass left after the chickens are chipped out by hand.

OR

Prepare the ground by building a swale and planting the food forest on the bare earth of the new swale mound.

Step 2 - Food Forest Planting Design

Ground Cover Support Species
Nitrogen fixing, to repair the ground. They have a relationship with microorganisms to give back free nitrogen from the air.
Time: Live for one season, 6 months, can be planted by seed.
Numbers planted at the start: Mass planted initially 100 000
Numbers in the end: All gone after 6 months
Scatter mulched.
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Short Term Small Legume Bush
Nitrogen fixing
Time: Short Term legume bush lives for 4 or 5 years, can be planted by seed.
Numbers planted initially: 10,000
Numbers in the end: 10 here and there around the edge

Medium Term Legume Tree
Planted by seed or a small potted seed from a nursery
Time: Lives for 10 to 15 years
Numbers planted initially: 1000
Numbers in the end: 100 maybe 50 most used for mulch
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**Long Term Overstory Legume Tree**
Becomes a canopy tree of the forest with long term cycles of nitrogen in the ground.
**Time:** Lives for full term.
**Numbers planted initially:** 100
**Numbers in the end:** 10 or 5 left

**Fruit, Nut, Timber Trees**
**Numbers planted initially:** 10
**Numbers in the end:** 10