



Pruning Project Background

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and
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Disclaimer: Information provided during these field days (2/28/18; 3/1/18) should be considered preliminary. Additional and replicated research/data is still needed before any conclusions about any pruning style can be made.

3-YEAR-OLD

4-YEAR-OLD

1-YEAR-OLD

2-YEAR-OLD



See next slide for explanation



Some background on our pruning trial.

Note height of coffee trees. Past yields for Kona Coffee: 200 bags of cherry (20,000 lbs) per acre; required use of ladders.

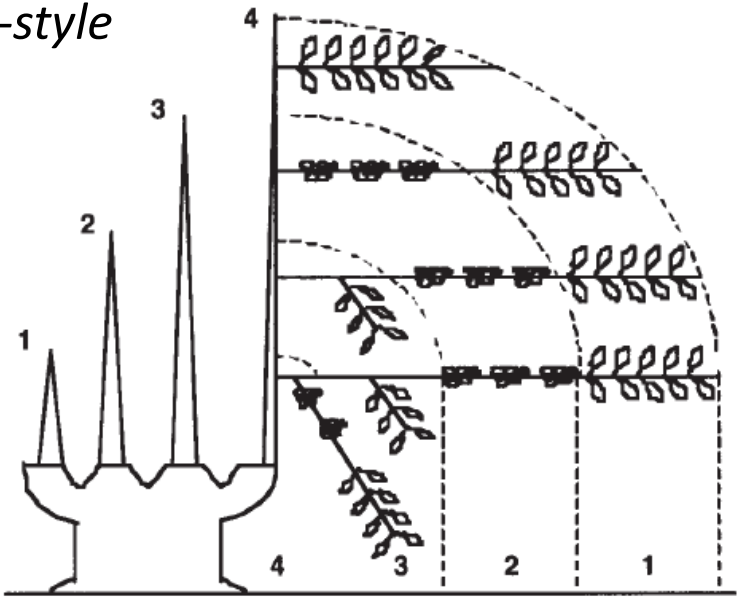
Pruning styles evolved to move away from ladders.

Today, I would expect 100 bags (10,000 lbs), but average probably is in 3-5 thousand lb range. (Role of Root Knot Nematode is another story)

We learned of pruning techniques that might double the yield of Kona-style pruning; this project is to try out and demonstrate the techniques.

We are starting year 2 of the project. Ideally, the project would run at least a full cycle – maybe 5-6 years. Much is not known and we are learning as we go. Come check our progress during these field days!

Kona-style



Stumping with nurse vertical

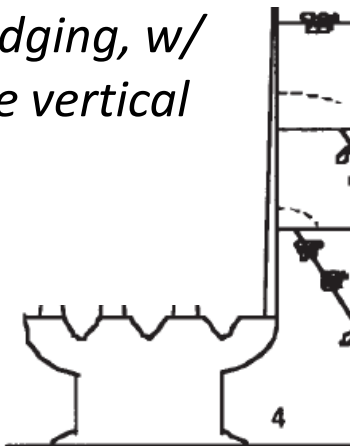


Four pruning styles

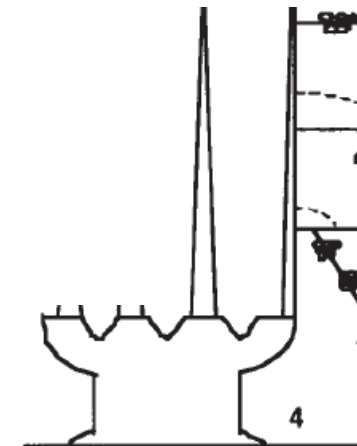
Evaluate:

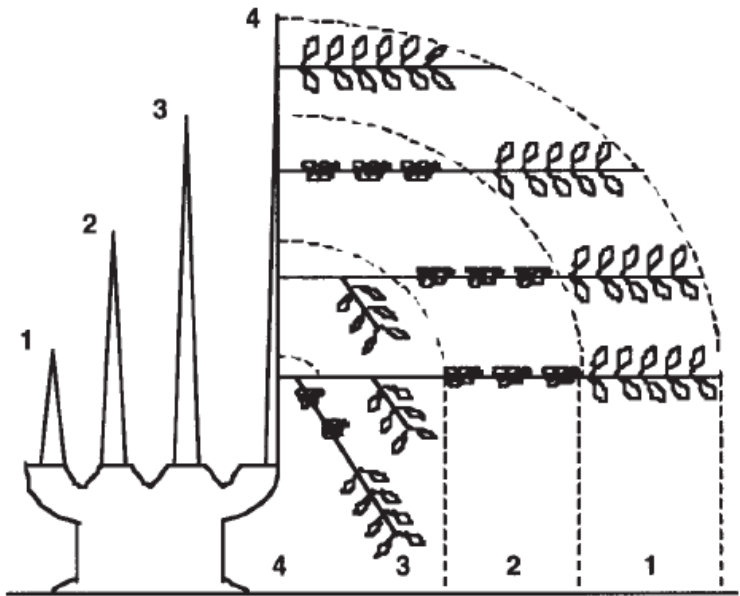
- Yield
- Labor
- CBB management

*Hedging, w/
one vertical*

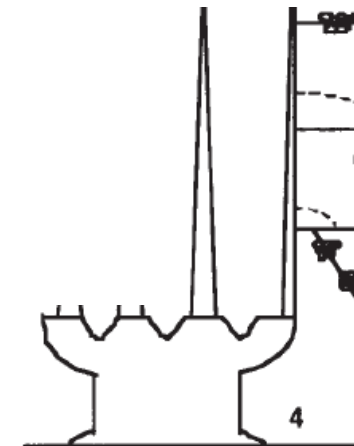
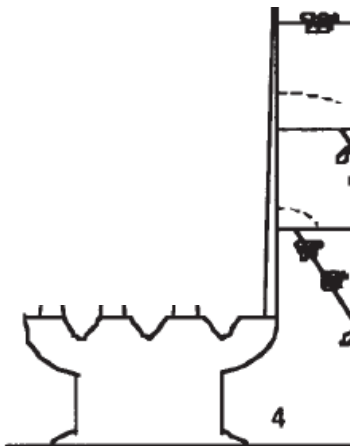


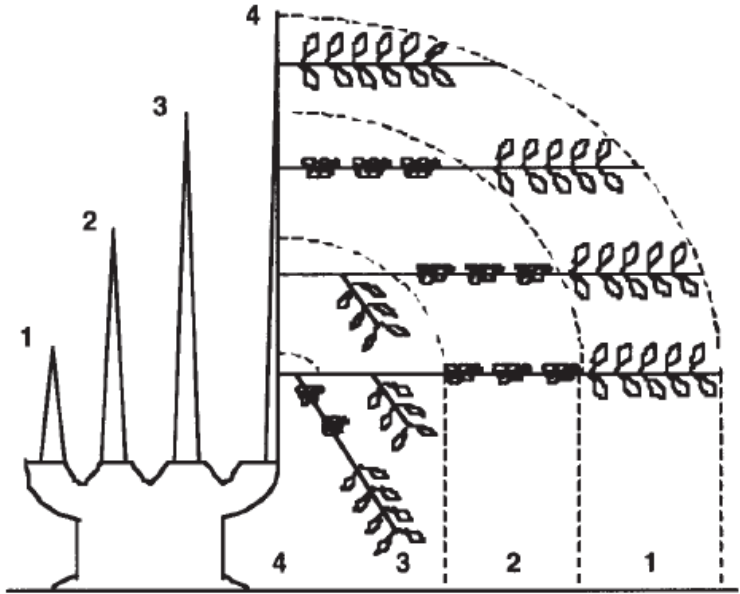
*Hedging, w/
two verticals*





Some notes from year 1
(Check out in field)





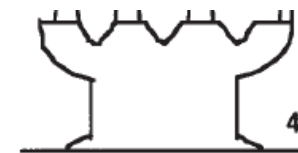
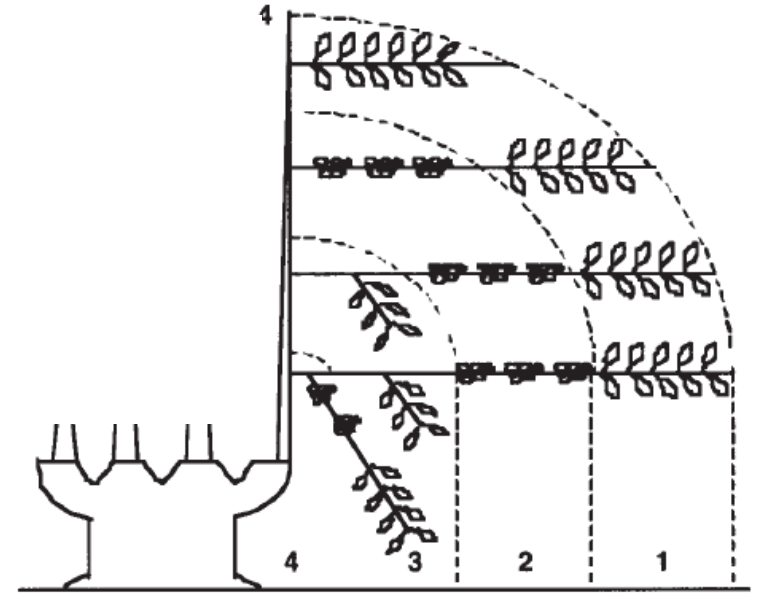
Some notes from year 1 – Kona style

- only style with yield in yr 1
- only style with CBB in yr 1
- difficult to get into “rhythm” after block pruning

Some notes from year 1

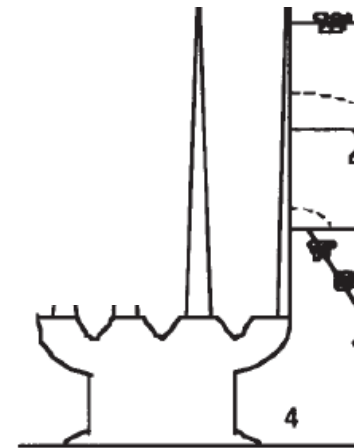
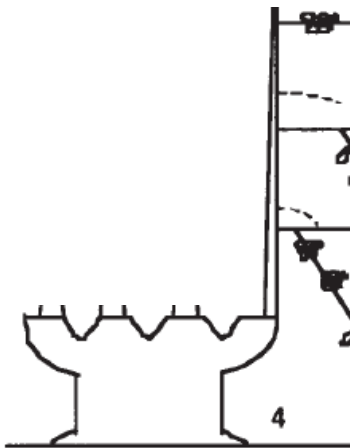
– stumping w/nurse vertical

- Tempting to NOT cut nurse vertical
- Banana moth



Some notes from year 1 – hedging

- “pukas” in laterals
- X – nurse laterals
- Hedging height a factor
- Straggler fruits
- Watershoots & laterals
- Double vertical - ??



Save the date

Pruning Project: Desuckering

May 23-24, 2018 (W-Th)

Kona Cooperative Extension Office