



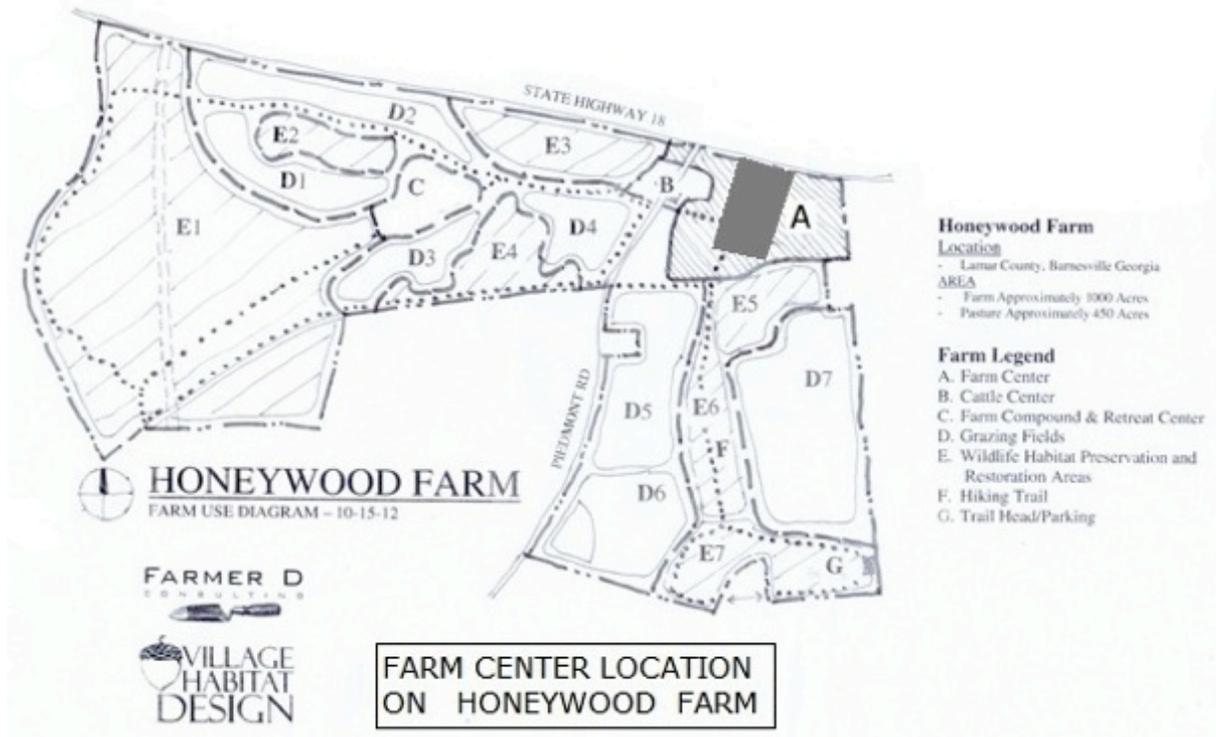
## **HONEYWOOD ORGANIC FARM PROGRAM**

Farmer D Organics conducted a phase one and phase two conceptual planning review of Honeywood farm to assess the projects potential for integrating organic, biodynamic and permaculture farming practices with a focus on production, education and community building. The following program outlines the vision, design and implementation for Honeywood Organic Farm.



# INTRODUCTION

Honey Wood Organic Farm and Farm Center consists of approximately 25 acres set within a 1,000 acre farm in Lamar County outside Barnesville Georgia on Highway 18. The 1,000-acre farm consists of approximately 450 acres of pastureland, a 25-acre Educational Farm Center, the Family Compound and Retreat Center and extensive woodlands and waterways.



The historic and current primary use of the land is for raising beef cattle. While the current focus of this study is on the main organic farm center, there is an interest in taking a more holistic approach to the cattle operation with the goal of a creating a more integrated, closed loop, biodynamic farming system.

The primary goal is to become a model sustainable farm enterprise that focuses on education, agri-tourism and intensive production of high quality fresh and value-added products. These products will be made available for sale through a CSA, farm stand, markets, restaurants and events.

The general components of the farm include a farm stand/store, a barn/event center, a farm based food hub (greenhouse, post harvest center and certified kitchen), animal husbandry areas, market gardens, vineyards, fruit forest and orchards.

Planted areas include a 1-acre show case education garden, a 4-acre market garden, a 3-acre blueberry orchard and muscadine vineyard and a 5-acre food forest.



**FARM CENTER LEGEND**

- A. PROPERTY ACCESS/CONNECTIONS
  - A1. Highway 18
  - A2. Piedmont Rd Service Lane
  - A3. Trails
- B. FARM CENTER
  - B1. Farm Stand/Store
  - B2. Show Case Garden
  - B3. Animal Husbandry Demonstration Area
  - B4. Event Center Parking
  - B5. Event Center Barn
  - B6. Farm Food Hub
- C. MARKET GARDEN
  - C1. Perennial garden
  - C2. Annual garden
  - C3. Vineyard
- D. WEST FIELDS
  - D1. Field crops
  - D2. Berry orchard
  - D3. Fruit tree orchard
  - D4. Hedgerow
- E. FOOD FOREST
  - E1. Meadow
  - E2. Food forest
  - E3. Pig paddock
- F. BUFFERS & TRANSITIONS
  - F1. Highway 18 Tree Planting
  - F2. Riparian Buffer
- G. STREAMS, PONDS & WETLANDS

**HONEYWOOD FARM**

- LOCATION  
Jasper County, Barnesville Georgia
- AREA  
- Farm approx. 1000 acres  
- Future approx. 450 acres  
- Farm Education Center approx. 25,000 sq ft

**FARM LEGEND**

- A. FARM CENTER
- B. CATTLE CENTER
- C. FARM COMPOUND
- D. GRAZING FIELDS
- E. WILDLIFE HABITATS
- F. HIKING TRAIL
- G. TRAIL HEAD/PARKING

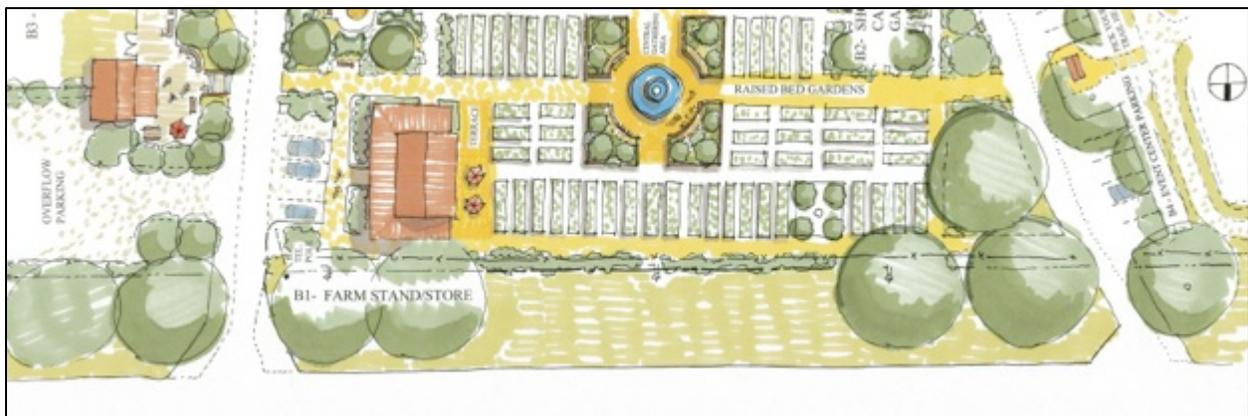


**HONEYWOOD FARM**

AN ORGANIC FARM AND EDUCATION CENTER 1-13-13

## A. PROPERTY ACCESS/CONNECTIONS

1. Highway 18 serves as the primary entrance into the farm and provides extensive views from the highway for attracting passersby. The first entry from the east brings visitors in at the farm stand, which will be highly visible from the road.
2. The Piedmont Rd service lane access enters the farm from the cattle operations central compound. This service lane will likely be used solely as a service road to get equipment from the cattle compound and for easy access from the office and homes on the west side of the property. There will be one gate just after the pigpen that protects this road from unwanted visitors, especially deer and other wild animals.
3. A loop trail and tractor paths meander throughout the farm linking the farm center with animals to the east, market gardens and food forest to the south and orchards and vineyards to the west.



## B. FARM CENTER

This area is the heart of the farm with a farm stand, showcase gardens, animal husbandry area, parking, barn, event lawn, swimming pond and food hub.



## B1. Farm Stand/Store

The farm stand is the farm's primary retail outlet for selling fresh and value-added products produced on site and from local farms. It is also an excellent venue for educating visitors about the farm's philosophy and practices through signage and videos.

The location of the farm stand is easily accessible and visible from Hwy 18 and will likely draw people in on their commute to pick up fresh vegetables, flowers, meat and more. There is also an opportunity to create an indoor/outdoor dining area off the farm store for people to purchase ready to eat foods and dine overlooking the gardens and pastures.



In addition to selling food products, the farm stand could also sell a wide variety of gardening products such as seeds, plants, compost, fertilizers, tools and more. This will likely become the front door of the farm and serve as a revenue generator and educational venue.

The store will have an east facing front porch that wraps around to the north and south providing excellent views of the pasture and gardens. A terrace on the west side opens directly into the raised bed garden area.

## B2. Showcase Garden

1. Central gathering area (fountain and sitting wall, outdoor classroom, tool shed, pump house and sitting wall).
2. Raised bed gardens
3. Permaculture gardens (orchard guild, keyholes and meandering trails with arbor entry)

This dynamic education and demonstration garden showcases aspects of permaculture and raised bed gardening. The goal of this area is to inspire and educate visitors through this imaginative, productive and beautiful garden. The combination of a meandering garden and a series of linear raised beds provide a nice balance of production and inspiration.

These gardens will serve as a real showstopper to people driving by as well as a vibrant venue for leading garden walks and workshops throughout the gardens. Some topics to be covered include organic, biodynamic and permaculture practices as well as medicinal herbs, heirloom vegetables, fruit trees and much more.



Visitors will be able to wander through and discover a wide variety of garden areas with mixed plantings of vegetables, herbs, flowers and fruit. The permaculture gardens will have mostly perennial crops while the raised beds will be geared more towards the production of annual vegetables, herbs and flowers.

At the center of the showcase garden is a fountain with a farm sculpture in the center surrounded by a sitting wall and adjacent outdoor classroom/sitting area with arbor and storage. The shape of this central feature invokes the fertility symbol, which reflects the ethos of the overall project. This gathering area will accommodate approximately sixty people and is the perfect place to rest, reflect or have a workshop or other event.

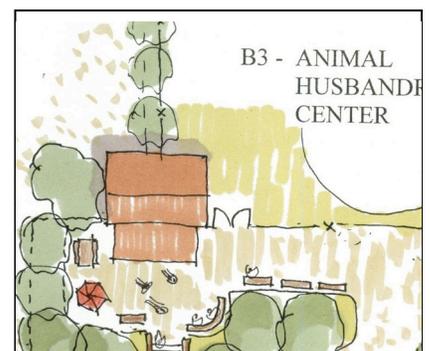
The views of the showcase garden will be primarily for passers by from Hwy 18, visitors entering the arced driveway and from the barn. The showcase garden has easy access to and from the farm stand, barn/event center, commercial kitchen, parking areas and animal pastures.



Showcase garden site from entry driveway and front of farm store

### **B3. Animal Husbandry Area**

Animals are an important addition to creating a closed-loop biodynamic farm that produces its own source of manure for composting and improving overall soil fertility. Honeywood has



plenty of great pasture to support a diversity of pasture-raised animals such as chickens, goats, cows, pigs and more. The animal husbandry area will provide an opportunity for farm visitors to see this grass-based rotation in action and to interact with these farm animals up close and personal. This will likely be one of the major attractions for young and old people alike.

The location of the pasture provides excellent visibility of the animals from the road and as a welcoming feature as people enter the driveway. Having the feeding areas close to the showcase gardens and food hub will be convenient for visitors and will make hauling manures to the compost area behind the greenhouse extremely efficient.

#### **B4. Event Center Parking**

The event center parking area is situated at the west end of the showcase garden axis. It is oriented to lead guests to the numerous destination options such as the U-pick gardens to the west, farm store and animal area to the east and barn and gardens to the south.



#### **B5. Event Center Barn**

The barn is centrally located at the high point fronting the showcase garden and Hwy. 18. The east entry faces the production side of the barn with greenhouse, post harvest area and processing kitchen. The west entry opens up to the event area overlooking the natural swimming pond with views down the garden, vineyard and orchards. The south entrance opens up on terraces overlooking the event lawn, market gardens and fruit forest.

The upstairs serves as housing and office space for the farm manager and the downstairs a bathroom and



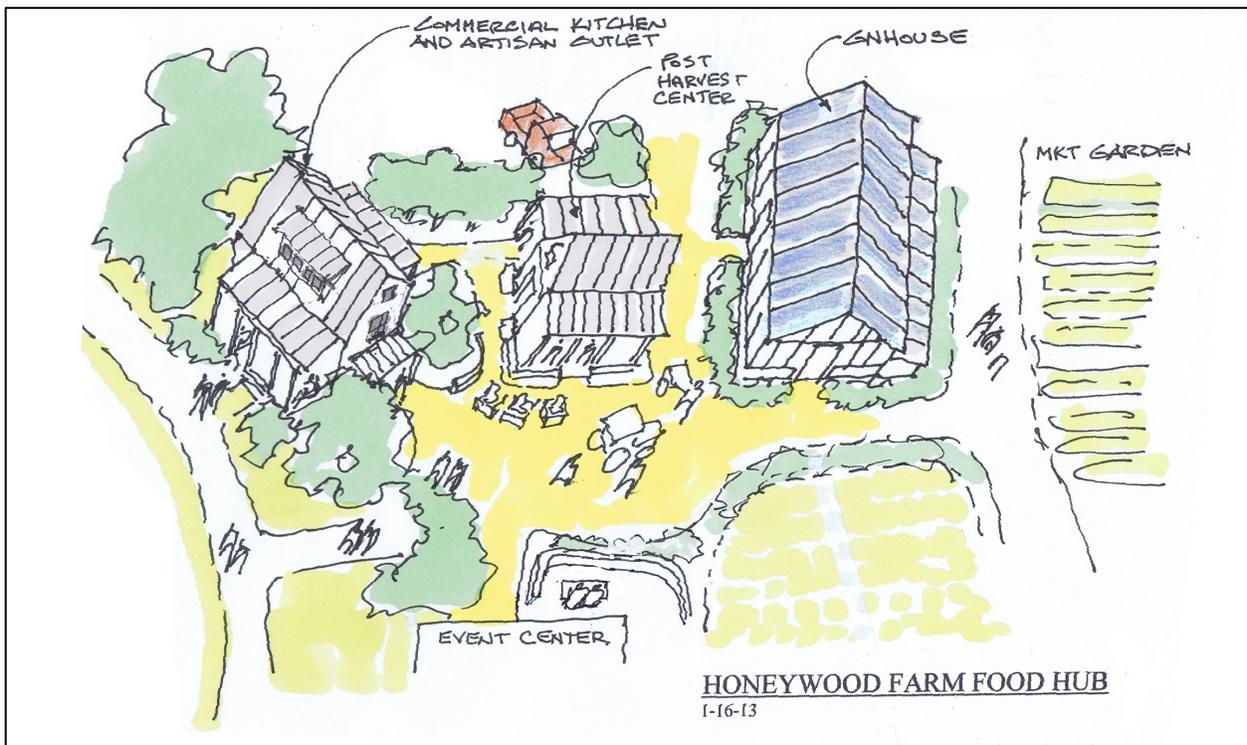
large multi-use open space. The upstairs of the barn will provide a spectacular view of both the market garden and showcase garden.

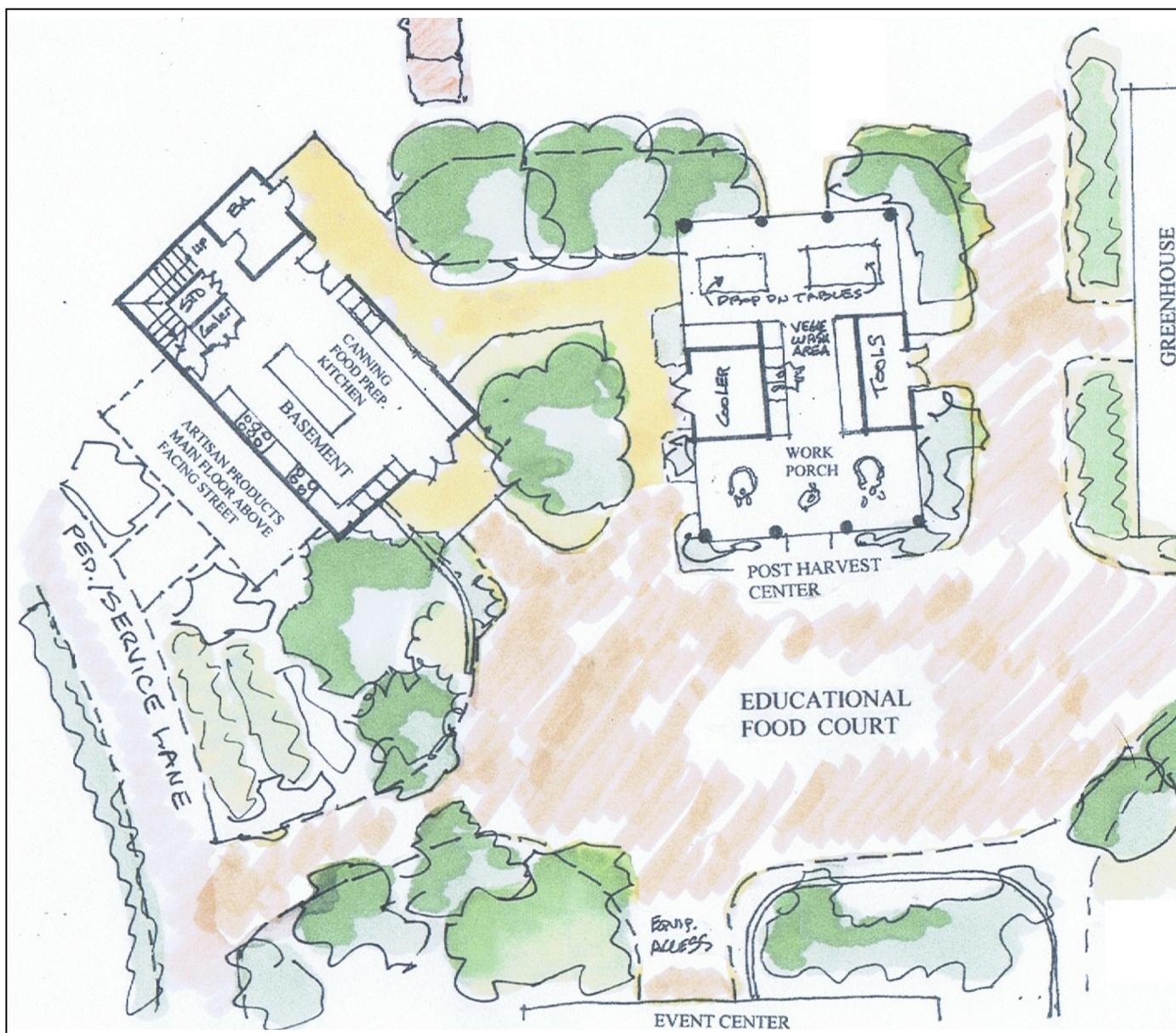
The barn is an ideal location to host events, workshops and meetings. Additional temporary uses for the main level could include tool and equipment storage, tractor storage, maintenance, post harvest processing and expanded farm market space.

## B6. Farm Food Hub

This is the central hub of activity where the primary farm operations are based.

1. The greenhouse and cold frame are located here with easy access for the farm manager to look over them and for easy access to the fields for transplanting. It is also located along the service area for easy shipping and receiving access.





2. The composting area behind the greenhouse is just big enough to manage a succession of about four 6x20' biodynamic compost piles. The primary ingredients will be manures, spent hay, crop residuals, green chop and food scraps. This area is well situated adjacent to the post harvest area, which is the primary source of vegetable scraps. It is also in close proximity to the animal pasture for collecting manure and is central to all the gardens for application. An additional vermicomposting system can be setup in or adjacent to the greenhouse. The cold frames could also serve as worm bins when not being used for hardening off seedlings in the spring.

3. The service entrance provides an area where trucks can enter the food hub with deliveries such as compost, mulch, fertilizers, feed, food products and more. It is also where products can be loaded to leave the farm for delivery to market.
4. The post harvest center is where produce gets washed, dried, packaged and stored in a walk-in cooler. There is also an area here for storing tools and small equipment. It is strategically located with easy access to the gardens, farm store and commercial kitchen. Water from washing vegetables can be drained out towards the pasture. The area of pasture where this water collects could serve as a watering hole/muck area for pigs or fowl.
5. The commercial kitchen is situated here in the hub adjacent to the post harvest area and walk-in cooler. It is also facing the main showcase garden with easy access for any potential retail such as a small bakery and/or creamery. The primary use of this space is to produce value-added products that can be sold to the public both retail and wholesale. There will also be opportunities for leading culinary workshops on canning, pickling, cheese making and more. The current design has the downstairs as a back of house production kitchen and the upstairs as a prep area and retail counter for sales of products made fresh such as breads, cheese, ice cream and more.

### **C. Market Garden – Perennial garden, annual garden and vineyard**

The market garden is located between the barn and fruit forest and is bordered by walking trails, perennial orchards, vineyards and berries. The garden is on axis with the barn to the north and fruit forest to the south.



### **C3. Vineyard**

An approximately half-acre muscadine vineyard and blackberry patch is proposed between the market garden and drainage way. Due to the gradual slope of this area, a perennial vineyard and berry patch is recommended with permanent grass and clover pathways in between. This will help prevent erosion on this slope and provide a natural buffer transition between the annual gardens and the orchards to the west.

This series of four plots start out from the north at about 30' wide x 90' long and widen gradually to the south to about 60' wide x 90' long. These fields can be planted in muscadine vineyards and blackberries with trellises running in 90' long sections.



Vineyard and blackberry patch site

## D. WEST FIELDS –Field crops, Berry patch, Orchard and Hedgerow

This area makes up about five acres running to the west of the showcase garden and market garden and is separated by a drainage ditch.



### D1. Fields Crops

At the northeast corner of this area is an approximately a one quarter acre pick your own strawberry patch located within very easy access of the parking area. A trail from the parking area will guide visitors into this field and crosses further east over the drain way into an additional pick your own patch that is about another quarter acre. Directly to the south of the strawberry field is an approximately three quarter-acre pick your own pumpkin patch.

### D2. Blueberry Patch

A blueberry patch will run along the lower third of the approximately three acre field to the west of the drainage way. This area is approximately one acre and ties in nicely to the pick your own strawberry and pumpkin patch to the north and east.



## Companion Planting

### Apples

Chives around apples help with apple scab.

Lavender and nasturtiums help with codling moth.

Foxglove helps with disease resistance and helps the apples to stay on the tree longer.

### Peaches

Plant garlic around peach trees to help against borers and prevent leaf curl.

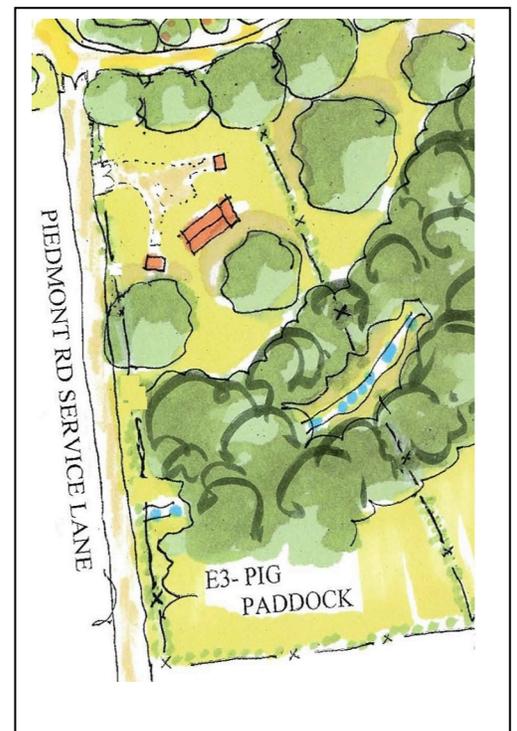
Basil helps against fruit flies.

### Pears

Plant legumes around the base of the trunk of Pear trees to help with nitrogen and the vine protects the trunk against borers

## E3. Pig Paddock

The pig paddock is an existing fenced in area that can serve as a permanent home for the pigs. From here they can be guided into different areas of the farm needing to be tilled.



View of pig paddock looking southwest with orchard and garden behind