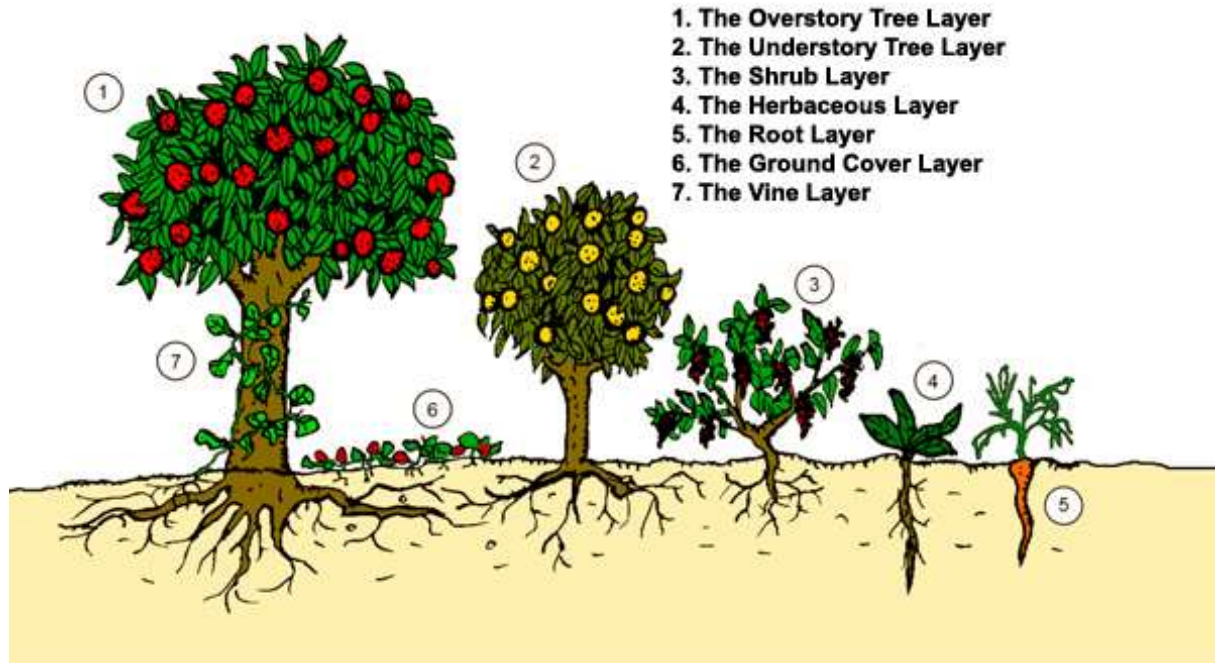




OLIVE BLISS – AGROFORESTRY

The Seven Layers of Every Forest



WHY

Our compass: [increasing health and happiness in the Thyrea area](#). Aligning the economy with ecology and the human spirit. By-effects:

- Climate mitigation (carbon in soil, water retention)
- Healthy food self-sufficiency
- Lots of education and inspiration for young people created

[What DO we want](#): Increased health. Increased biodiversity. Young families to come back to the area, attract travelers and tourists, education opportunities. An ecological economy.

[What DON'T we want](#): Greed. Outsiders to decide what Greek, local people want for their land and their country. Pollution of air, water, and soil. Waste, organic or inorganic.

Agroforestry is a good method for ecological intensification. The current olive orchards need lots of pesticides. And the olives are not grown to their full potential of value for a healthy community and a healthy local economy. We can do better.

HOW

It all starts with ecosystem restoration. Going organic, regenerative. Strong immune systems for the trees. We can create biodiversity and extra income streams for the farmers and local producers.

Olive orchards with biodiversity. Companion planting for extra food, medicinal herbs, flower borders or organic and inorganic resources (e.g. perennial phytomining - phytomining). Other agroforests or regenerative farming practices with other themes than olives can follow.



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We can grow virgin olive oil with a [EU health claim of high phenolic compounds \(432/2012\)](#). Farmers can export part of their harvest with a high margin to rich clients. Clustering farmers together for strong positions in the supply chain. The rest of the harvest can be sold to locals for affordable prices (increased human health in the area) and tourists (with branding).

Collaboration in the supply chain (with olive product producers and restaurants, tourist locations) makes it easier to increase the value with branding.

WHAT

The following steps can be taken to make it happen. Every entrepreneur makes her or his own choices. All collaborations are between partners who trust each other and are complementary in skills and talents. Olive farmer consortiums or cooperatives can ensure good export prices for the olive oil to compete with Italian and Spanish suppliers.

- **Aim: ecological intensification** – agroforestry methods and regenerative agriculture
- **Specialist agroforestry methods** - Syntropic Farming which includes natural succession <https://agendagotsch.com/en/>, Miyawaki method (dense planting for quicker growth) also used for urban tiny forests <https://wildurbanspaces.com/>
- **Greek agroforestry** – Southern Lights <http://thesouthernlights.org/> has a project creating 6 pilot farms in the Peloponnese. One farm in Korinthos is a chi-farm full of healthy life energy. This is an example farm for us
- **Aim: healthy soil** - healthy soil has a few elements: micro-organisms, fungi and organic matter. Olive trees grow on rocky soil. So, our first step to increase the immune system of the soil and the trees would be to work with inoculated biochar and crushed volcanic rock
- **Specialists on holistic, healthy soil and water** – many expert knowledge can be found online from permaculture, soil food web, and soil scientists like Elaine Ingham and others
- **Aim: healthy olives** - high phenolic compounds are found in wild olive orchards. Testing method and specialist knowledge can be gained from [Aristoleo](#) and ([professor wild olive health and his wife](#))
- **Aim: increased entrepreneurship** – by seeing the combinations and opportunities, we can increase the economy side of things with strong area branding and clever choice of (export and local) customers and partnerships
- **Aim: education and inspiration** – we can attract students, universities and polytechnics. We can organize events to involve the communities. We can explain and make Greek education materials.

It all starts with a desire in the community, a farmer, another entrepreneurial spirit to design a project and start experimenting with creative steps forward. Feeling the land. Finding the acupuncture points of change in a system. Taking action in line with ecology.

The role of Abundantism <https://www.abundantism.com/> is to mentor people on the journey and help overcome practical hurdles. All knowledge can be found online or from specialists if you know where to look and have the network. Inspiration and education are our tools. We will share our findings broadly for other areas in the world to be inspired. So anyone can create an ecological economy. Our specialties are communication, education, deep ecology, cluster economy, and biomimicry technology.