

BAMBOO CARE

MAINTENANCE & HARVESTING

A year-round guide to growing,
managing and harvesting
clumping bamboo in **the tropics**.

Plan every season.

Protect your clump.

Grow more, harvest better.



LATE DRY SEASON

Fertilize to build strong bamboo 1-2 months before the rain starts.

NATURAL FERTILIZER RECIPE

Algae (LG) + aquatic plant residue
+ manure from pigs, chickens,
goats, or bats.

ALTERNATIVE BLEND

Legume plant residue combined with manure
from cows, horses, buffalo, or poultry.



DEAD STUMP

TREATMENT & TRENCHING

DEAD STUMP TREATMENT

- 1 Prepare the stump.
- 2 Replenish nutrients.
- 3 Seal and protect.

TRENCHING (FERTILIZATION)

- 1 Prepare the trench.
- 2 Apply natural fertilizer.
- 3 Cover with soil.



MOUNDING

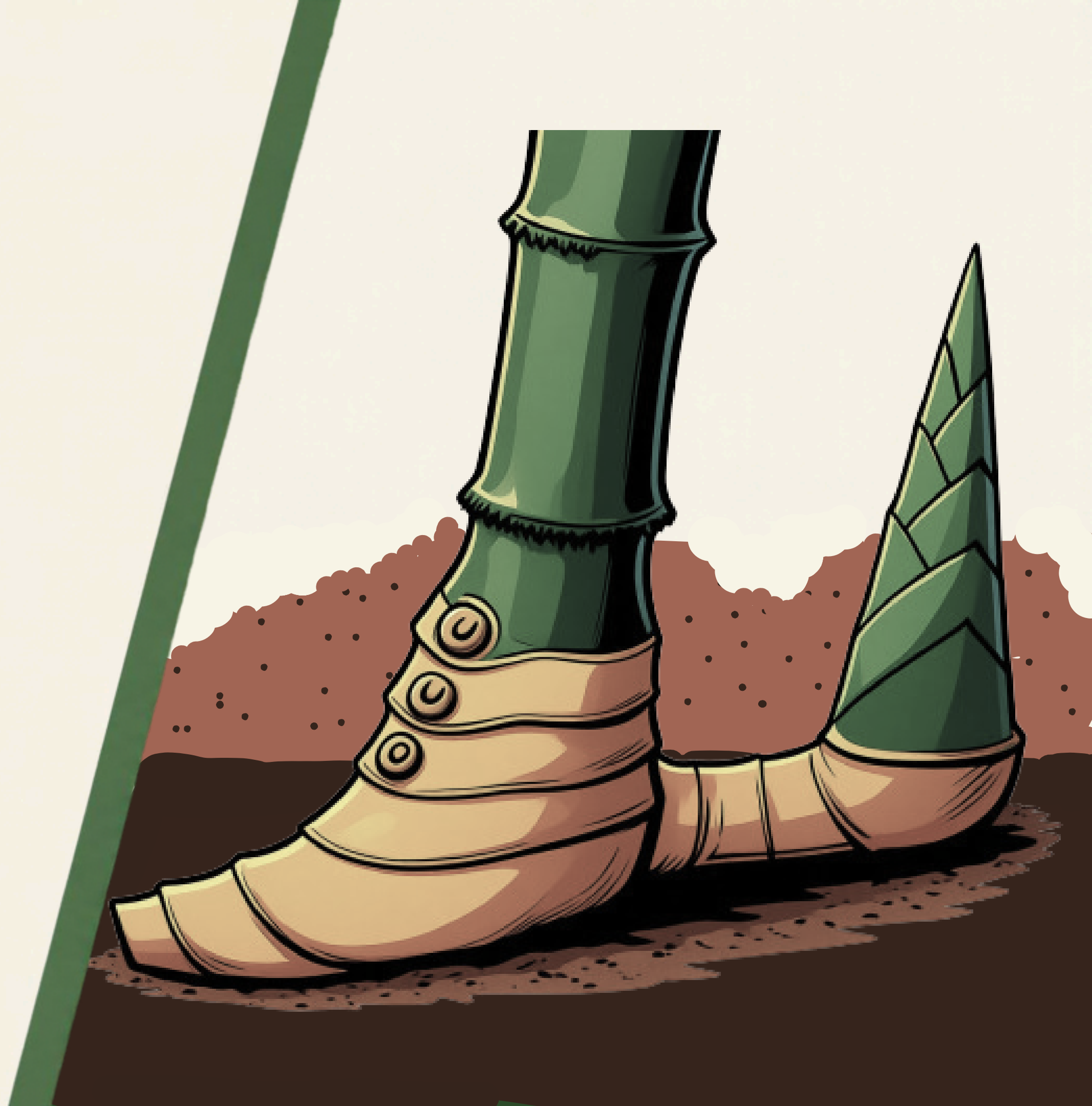
(RHIZOME PROTECTION)

Build soil up to **1 cm** below the first internode of the bamboo culm.

Make sure all **rhizome buds** are fully covered.

Mix **bamboo leaves** into the soil to improve structure and nutrients.

Do not cover on top of shoots!



WET SEASON

Cut problematic shoots early and **feed** your bamboo.

Cut Shoots

Remove off-season, damaged, or overcrowded shoots to ease stress on healthy culms.

NPK Fertilizer

Apply after the rainy season for better uptake and minimal runoff.

250 g Per Clump

Use NPK at a 5:1:1 ratio (N:P:K) or nitrogen alone. Mix into the soil after new shoots are growing.



WET SEASON

Stronger bamboo, healthier soil, **thriving** plantation.

CLEAN SURROUNDINGS

Clear weeds around the clump and remove the entire roots.

COMPANION PLANTS

Plant Curcuma, Turmeric and Ginger around the clump with adequate spacing.

MULCH FOR NUTRITION

Apply a 15 cm layer of mulch made from bamboo leaves, rice skin, cow poo, rice straw, cut grass, saw dust, and sugarcane.



COMPOSTING

Prepare compost after crop harvests to feed your bamboo naturally.

WHY IT MATTERS

- Boosts soil health
- Improves bamboo growth
- Low cost and easy to start

NUTRIENT-RICH LAYERS

Build in nine layers from vegetation and manure to palm leaves and charcoal.

Turn and moisten monthly!

KEY PRACTICES

- Allow a minimum of four (4) months for decomposition
- Keep it moist, not wet
- Create air channels with five (5) holes to the bottom
- Add fresh coconut milk every few layers

BEST INGREDIENTS

- Chicken or pig manure
- Food scraps and coffee grounds
- Egg shells and grass



DIMENSIONS:

1.5m
HEIGHT

1.5m
WIDTH

1.5m
LENGTH

DRY SEASON

Natural Insecticide + Maintenance

01

Stump water prevention

Prevent water accumulation to stop rhizome rot and keep bamboo healthy.

02

Nourish

Apply the 4:3:2:1 mix with fresh rainwater to feed the bamboo.

03

Neem oil application

Use neem oil as a natural insecticide and reapply after heavy rainfall.

04

Culm density management

Manage clump spacing to grow larger, stronger culms.



HARVEST

Dry season is best for harvesting. Lower starch levels deter pests, improve durability, and reduced moisture preserves strength.

BEST TIMING

Early morning harvest is best. The dry season is ideal. Off-season harvest needs longer treatment.

PICK THE RIGHT CULMS

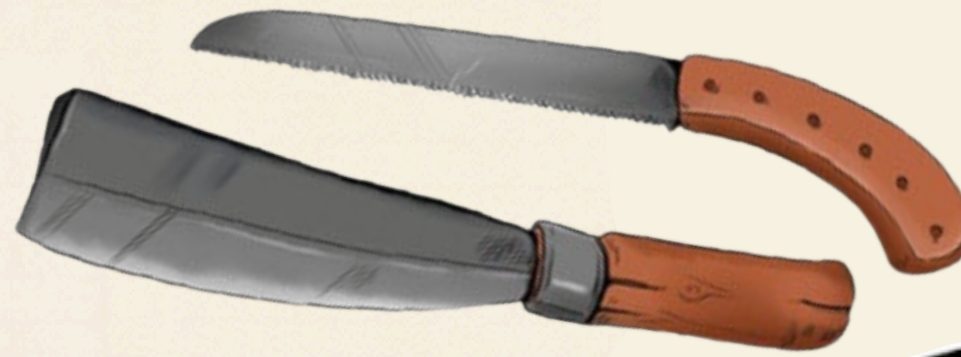
Harvest only 3 - 5 year old culms. Look for darker spots, branch orders, or use marks from when they shoot.

REMOVE CAREFULLY

Take out deceased, infested, old (6+ years), bent, broken, and crowded culms. Keep at least 12 cm spacing and prune branches.

TAG NEW CULMS

Tag new culms with oil paint or a durable marker to track age for future harvest and maintenance.



HARVESTING

10 Rules of Harvesting

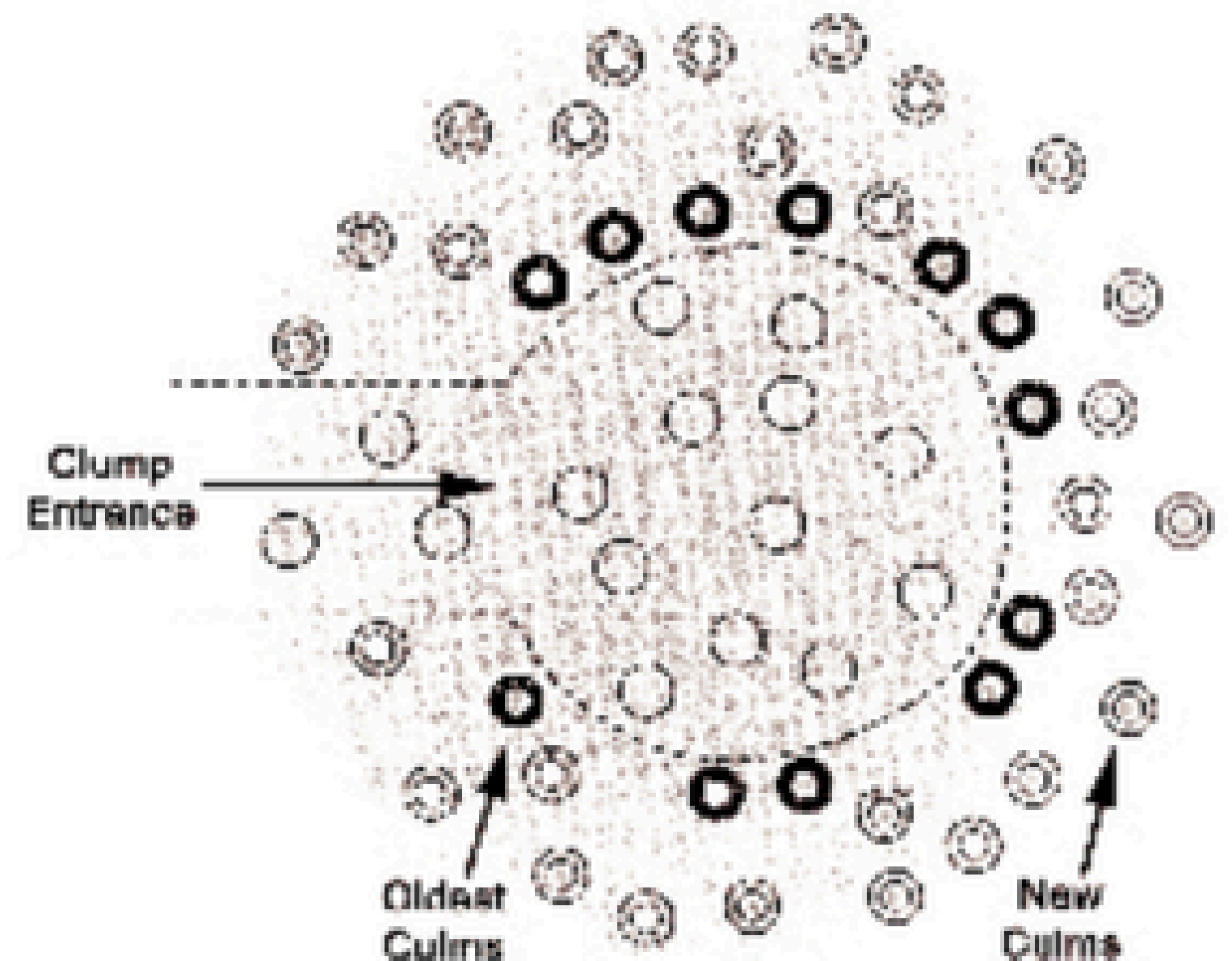
1. No clear cutting.
2. Do not harvest more poles than the number produced in the previous year.
3. Do not harvest young culms. They should be more than 3 years old.
4. Mark new culms to identify what year they first appeared.
5. Cut the culms at the first internode (about 10 cm) from ground level.



HARVESTING

10 Rules of Harvesting (continued)

6. Use a sharp instrument (knife or saw) to avoid splitting and damaging culms.
7. Do not harvest during shooting season.
(Beginning of dry season is best.)
8. It's necessary to thin the shoots, keeping no more than two per mother culm.
9. Remove dead, dry, cracked and crooked culms (with exceptions for cross support).
10. Maintain 20 meter fire break around the plantation.



Horseshoe shape harvesting method
(see also previous slide illustration)

TAG
NEW
CULMS

POOR CARE

Improper bamboo management has serious consequences

Over-harvesting, insufficient nutrients, and neglect will impair the bamboo's ability to produce strong, healthy shoots and can eventually result in the death of the entire clump.



BAMBOO MORPHOLOGY

- First year branching
- Second year branching
- Third year branching

BEST
TIMING

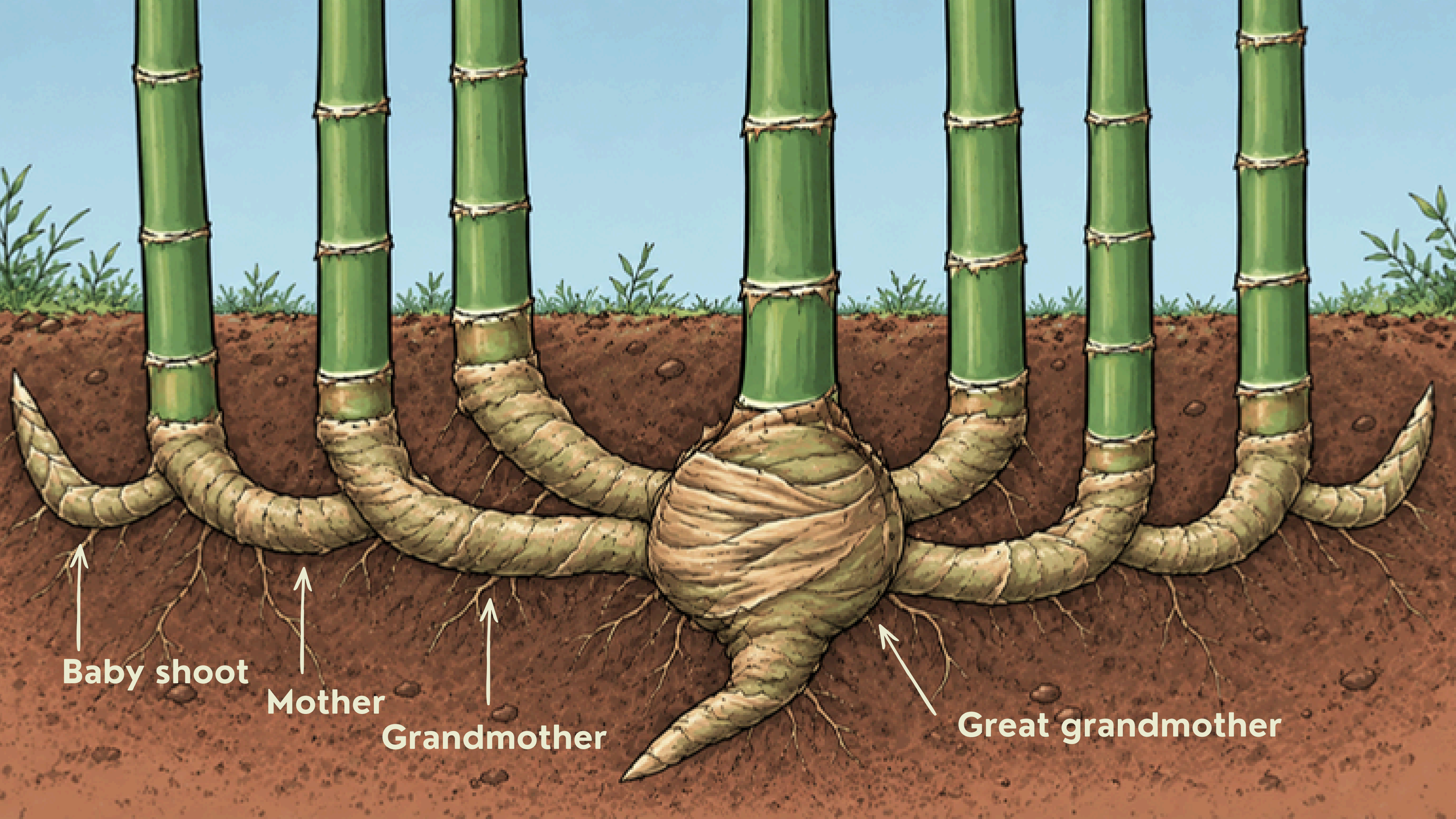
- One-year old culm
- Two-year old culm
- Three-year old culm

REMOVE
CAREFULLY

- Internode
- Node or nodal joint
- Rhizome
- Roots

TAG
NEW
CULMS





Baby shoot

Mother

Grandmother

Great grandmother

LEARN MORE

BambuBatu.com

mail@bambubatu.com

Sources:

housing-now.org

bamboovillagetrust.earth

wububamboo.com

