

# How to Mulch Fruit Trees and Vines

M W Last  
Pitjantjatjara Council  
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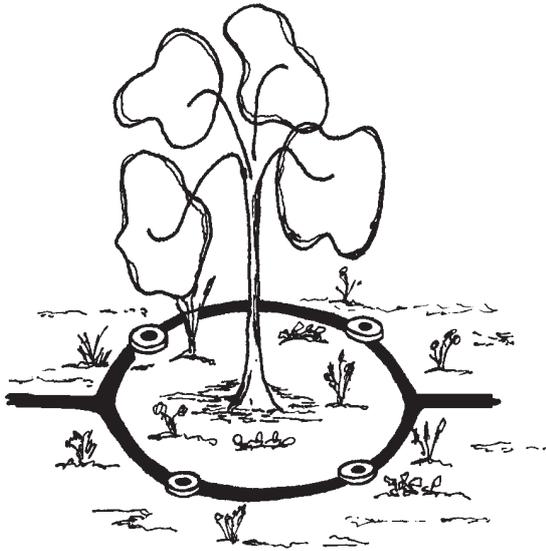


Fig 1

Clean away weeds and grass from around the tree or vine to a distance of 1 metre out from the plant.

Blood and Bone  
or Densified  
Poultry Manure

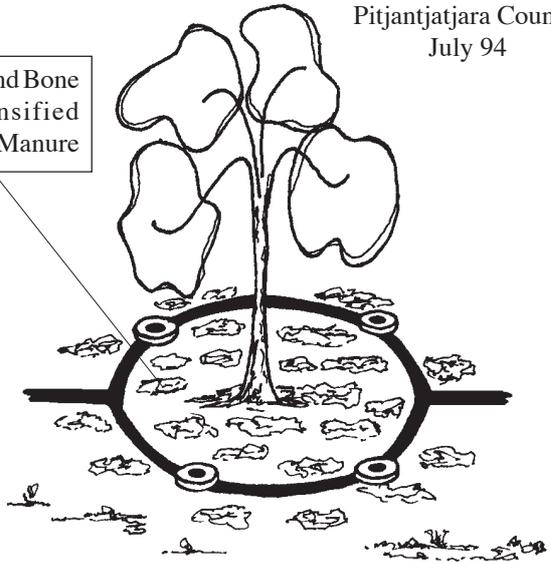


Fig 2

Sprinkle Blood and Bone or Densified Poultry Manure on the soil surface around the tree or vine to a distance of 600 to 800 mm from the plant. Animal Manure can be used in place of the above two fertilisers.

Cardboard or  
Shredded Paper

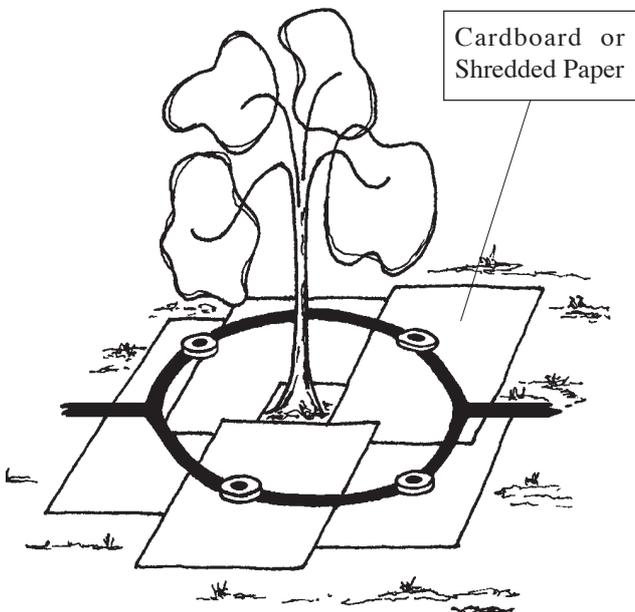


Fig 3

Lay sheets of cardboard or shredded paper under the drip pipe and on top of the Blood and Bone or Densified Poultry Manure. Cover an area from the base of the tree or vine out to a distance of 1 metre. If shredded paper is being used, make it about 250 mm deep. Keep the area around the base of the tree clear so the stem won't suffer from collar rot.

Grass and  
Weeds or  
Creek Sand

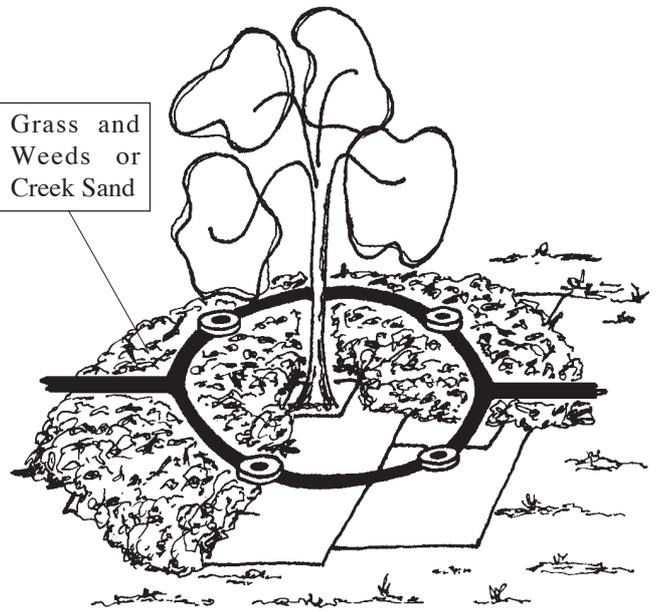


Fig 4

Cover the cardboard or shredded paper with dry grass or weeds to a depth of 250 mm keeping the area around the base of the tree or vine clear to prevent collar rot. The drip pipe should be on top of the grass and weeds. If these materials are not available, then use creek sand on top of the cardboard or shredded paper to prevent it from being blown away. Soak the new mulch with water so the bacteria can begin working under the cardboard. Put some earthworms under the cardboard 4 weeks after making the mulch. As the mulch breaks down repeat the above process.