

REGENERATIVE LAND PLANNING & DESIGN

An illustrated process



Edible landscapes

THE DESIGN PROCESS

Welcome!

If you have a piece of land and wonder what it could become, this brochure gives you a clear overview of how a complete land design takes shape.

Step by step, I guide you from the first research and site analysis to a coherent, practical plan for the whole landscape.

The illustrations are based on the design and development of a 3.5-hectare regenerative farm, bringing together a market garden, orchard and agroforestry, pasture, water, infrastructure and an intensive food forest zone.

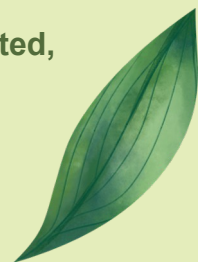
This project goes deeply into planting design, but the same process can guide self-sufficient homesteads, productive small farms and larger private properties.

Every design emerges through the interplay between your vision and goals, the unique qualities and limitations of the land, and my experience as a regenerative land planner.

The design process may include:

- 01 Preliminary research
- 02 Base plan
- 03 Site and soil analysis
- 04 Client interview
- 05 Zoning plan or masterplan
- 06 Detailed landscape and planting design
- 07 Plant lists and technical specifications
- 08 Implementation and phasing guidance

You are closely involved from the beginning, so the result is supported, feasible and ready to implement.





A two-year-old food forest within a wider regenerative farm design in Vremde, Belgium.

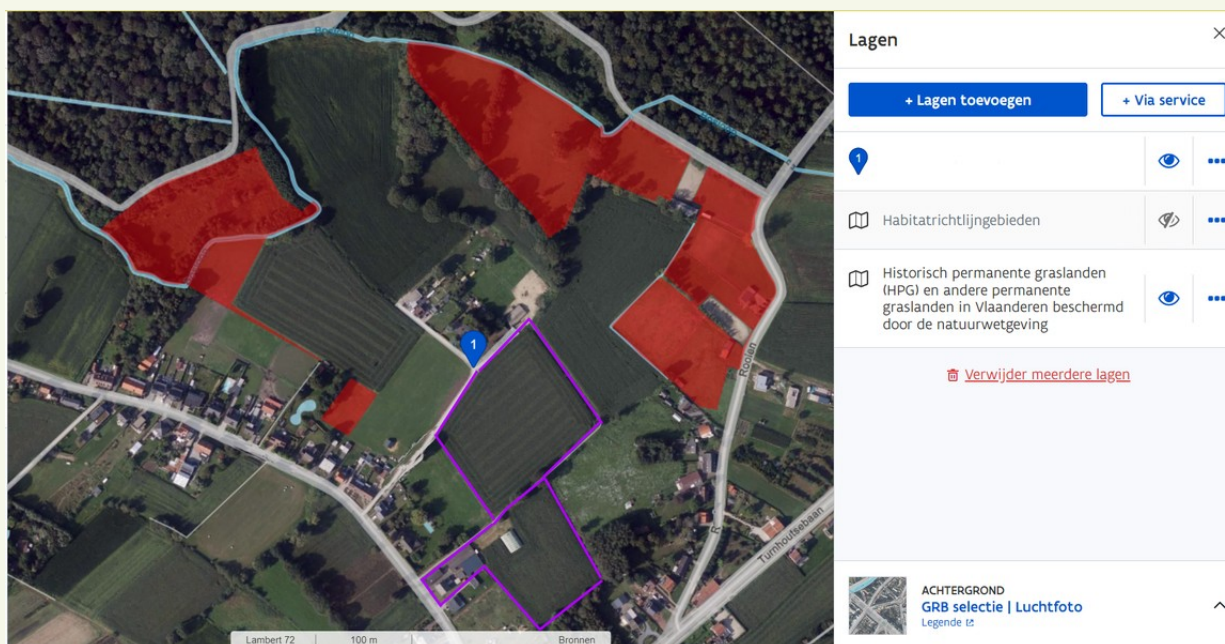
Design: Edible Landscapes



PRELIMINARY RESEARCH

Before the design begins, I research the wider context of your project. This includes the planning and legal framework, surrounding land uses, landscape designations, access, water systems and available soil information.

This preliminary research reveals opportunities, potential limitations and questions that require further investigation. It ensures that the design is grounded in the realities of both the land and its wider surroundings.



Example from a Belgian project:
online cartography showing legal constraints and opportunities



THE BASE PLAN

The base plan is a scaled working document showing the property boundaries, buildings, watercourses, access points, infrastructure, existing vegetation and other fixed features.

It provides a clear and accurate foundation on which all subsequent analysis and design steps are built.



Scaled base plan including existing structures and site boundaries;
original project document in Dutch.



SITE AND SOIL ANALYSIS

Good design begins with understanding how the land works.

The site analysis maps slope, orientation, sunlight, wind, water movement, soil, existing vegetation, microclimates, access and current use. Soil samples and profile pits provide further insight into texture, fertility, compaction and drainage.

Together, these layers reveal the site's opportunities and limitations and guide every design decision that follows.



THE CLIENT INTERVIEW

The client interview is where your land and your life come together.

We explore your wishes, needs, priorities, budget, available time, skills and resources, as well as how you hope to live, work and grow on the land.

Through focused questions, we translate your vision into clear design criteria. These become the building blocks for a plan that truly fits you and the way you want to use the land.

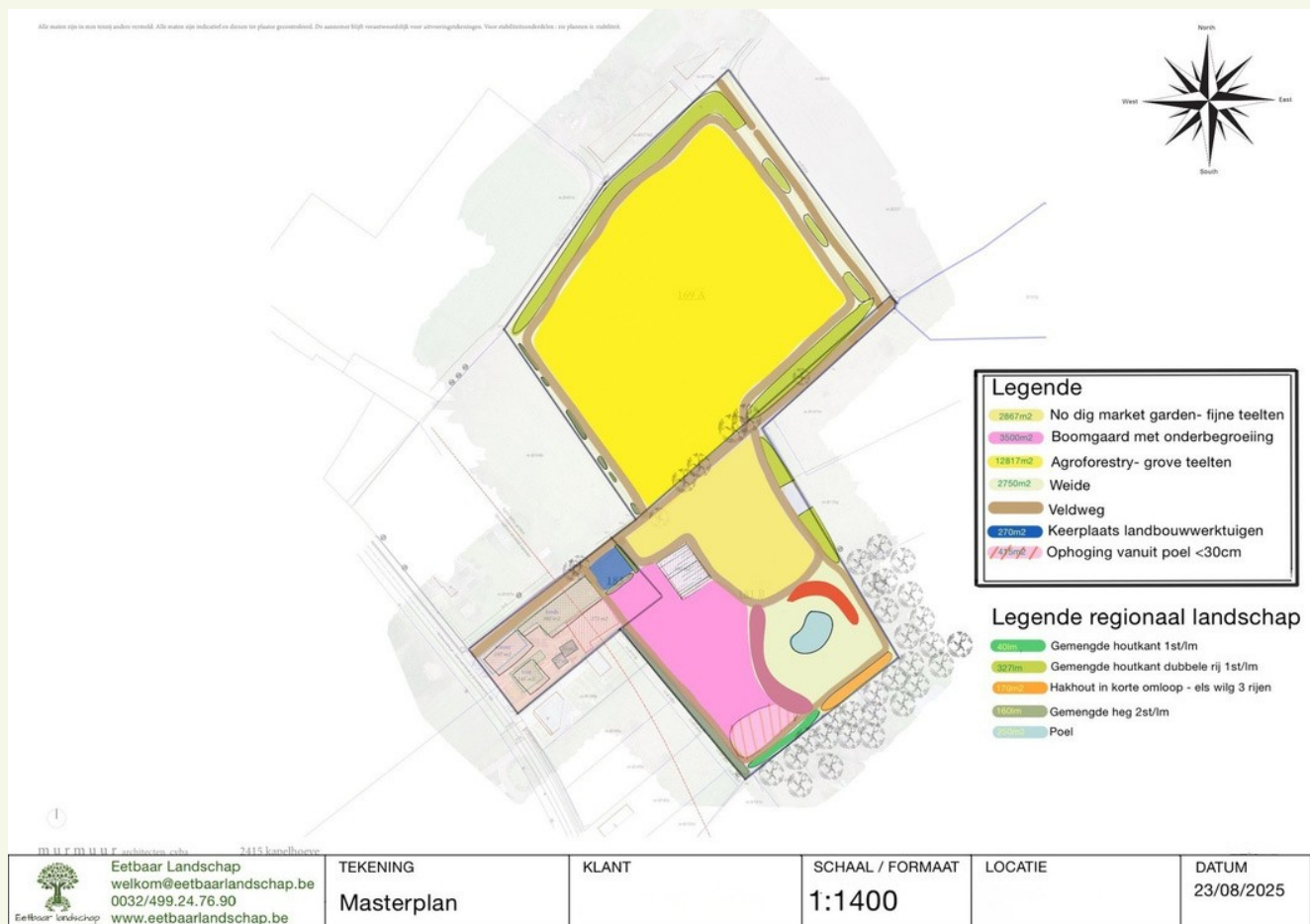


ZONING PLAN / MASTERPLAN

The zoning plan brings the whole property together. It shows where the main functions belong and how they relate: buildings, access, paths, water, growing areas, orchards, food forests, agroforestry, pasture, animals, composting, infrastructure, recreation and habitat.

Placement is guided by intensity of use, slope, soil, water, microclimate and daily movement across the site.

The result is one coherent masterplan that connects production, ecology and everyday life, and provides the foundation for detailed design and phased implementation.



Scaled masterplan for a Belgian project; original design document in Dutch.

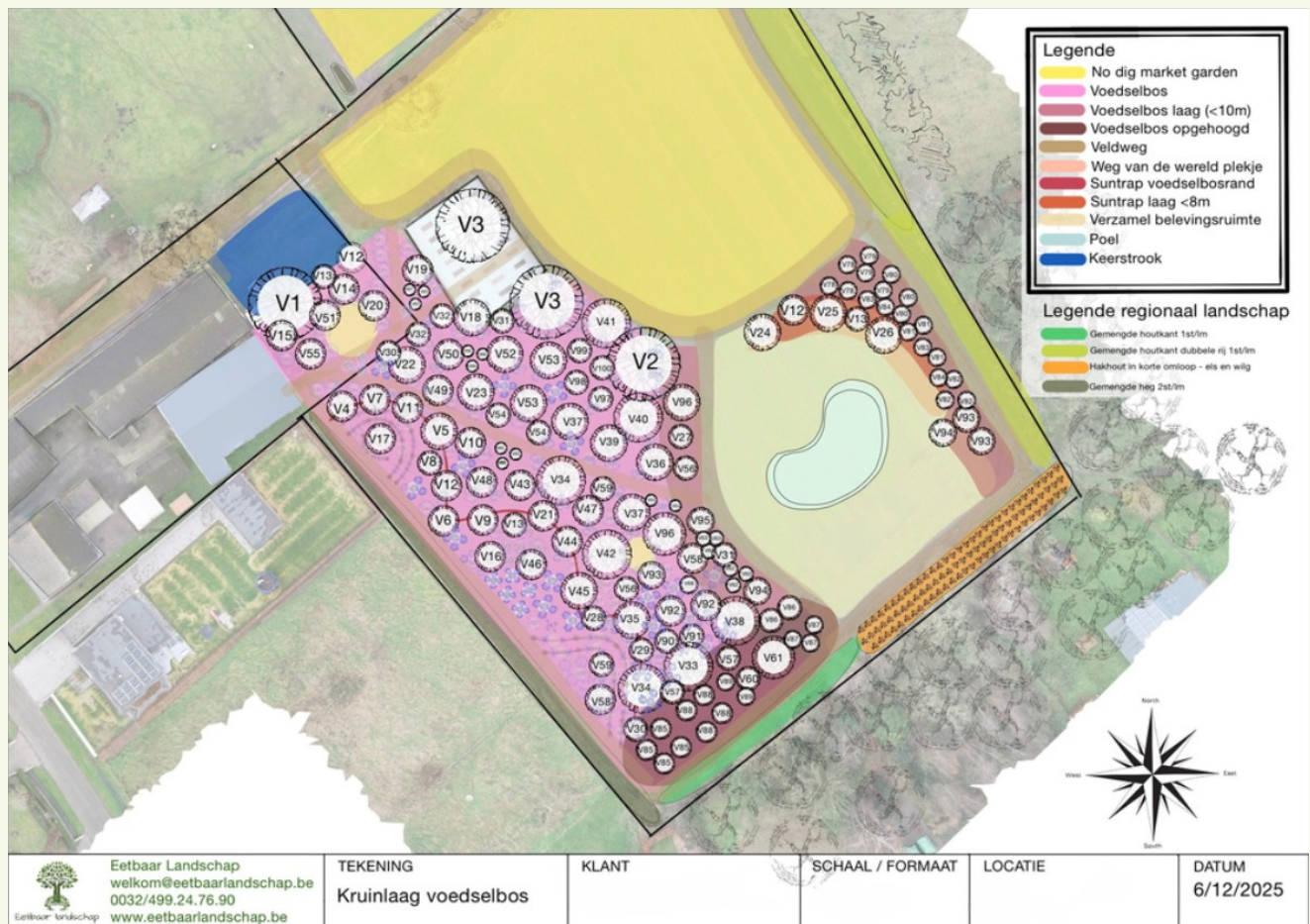


DETAILED DESIGN & PLANTING PLAN

Once the masterplan is clear, selected areas can be developed in greater detail.

For planted systems, the design translates the overall vision into species selection, spacing, layers, functions and exact planting locations. Soil, sunlight, water, wind, management and harvesting needs are all taken into account. We work with the best varieties available.

Food production, shelter, fertility, habitat, shade and biodiversity are combined into a resilient system suited to the land and its intended use.



Detailed canopy and shrub-layer plan; original project document in Dutch.



PLANT LISTS & TECHNICAL DETAILS

Detailed designs are accompanied by the practical documents needed for implementation.

A plant list may include common and botanical names, cultivars, quantities, planting sizes, flowering and harvest periods, pollination requirements, suppliers and management notes.

Depending on the project, the technical details may also cover hedges, herb layers, climbers, irrigation, soil improvement, composting, tree protection, fencing and the integration of animals.

Together, these plans and lists provide a clear reference for budgeting, ordering, planting and future management.

Kruinlaag													
Legende	Spreeknaam	Botanische naam	Cultivar	Onderstam	Maat	#	2	Kruinbree	Bloeitijd	oogsttijd	Leverancier	Opmerking (eetbaarheid)	
V34	Appel	Malus domestica	Summered	Zaailing/bittenfeld	C5L 200	2	8m	midden	midden sept	Fruitforlife	Resistent, friszuur, gezond		
V35	Appel	Malus domestica	Doece Noën	MM111	C10L 150-200	1	6m	midden	oktober	Fruitforlife	Sterke groeier, bewaarbaar		
V36	Appel	Malus domestica	Herefordshire Russet	MM111	C10L 150-200	1	6m	midden	midden sept	Fruitforlife	Fijn aroma, oude smaak, beperkt bewaarbaar		
V37	Appel	Malus domestica	Topaz	MM111	C10L 150-200	2	6m	midden	oktober	Fruitforlife	Klassiek, sterk, goed bewaarbaar, weinig ziektegevoelig		
V38	Appel	Malus domestica	Ananas Reinette	Bittenfelder	C25L hoogstam	1	8m	midden	eind okt	Fruitforlife	Het vruchtvlees is geelachtig wit, fijn, saprijk, zeer arom		
V39	Appel	Malus domestica	Florina	halfstam	WG 5 jarig, 3 m	1	6m	midden	midden sept	Fruitforlife	Handappel met stevig vruchtvlees. Net na de pluk met		
V40	Appel	Malus domestica	yellow transparent	Bittenfelder	C25L hoogstam	1	8m	midden	juli-aug	Fruitforlife	Vroege zomerappel, matige bewaartijd		
V41	Appel	Malus domestica	Fuji Kiku 8	Bittenfelder	C25L hoogstam	1	8m	midden	eind oktober – november	Fruitforlife	Zeer zoet, krokant, goed bewaarbaar, populair handras		
V42	Appel	Malus domestica	Tydemans Early	Bittenfelder	C25L hoogstam	1	8m	vroeg	eind juli – begin augustus	Fruitforlife	Vroege zomervrucht, sappig, matige bewaartijd, oude E		
V43	Peer	Pyrus communis	Kyrgyzskaya zimnaya	kwee	WG 150-175	1	4-5 m	midden	oktober – januari	Fruitforlife	Zeer veelbelovend, stevig, lange bewaring		
V44	Peer	Pyrus communis	Conference	Kichensaller	C6L 150	1	4-5 m	midden	sept – okt	Fruitforlife	Bekende handpeer, sappig, goede ziekteverstand, zeli		
V45	Peer	Pyrus communis	General Leclerc	Pyrus communis	C10L 200	1	5-6 m	midden	oktober	Fruitforlife	Grote peer, zoet, sappig, matige bewaring		
V46	Japanse peer	Pyrus pyrifolia	Hayatama	Pyrus communis	WG 150-175	1	4-5 m	vroeg	augustus	Fruitforlife	Tropische smaak, vroeg rijpend		
V47	Japanse peer	Pyrus pyrifolia	Kil Tsu	Pyrus communis	WG 10/12	1	4-5 m	midden	begin september	Fruitforlife	Zeer gezonde boom, gave vruchten		
V48	Japanse peer	Pyrus pyrifolia	Kosui	Pyrus communis	C25L hoogstam	1	4-5 m	midden	eind september	Fruitforlife	Zoet, sappig, klassiek nashiras		
V49	Pruim	Prunus domestica	Mirabelle de Nancy	Cerasifera	WG 150-175	1	4-5 m	vroeg	augustus	Fruitforlife	Zeer zoet, betrouwbare drager		
V50	Pruim	Prunus domestica	Sonora	Cerasifera	WG 150-175	1	4-5 m	vroeg	eind juli	Fruitforlife	Zelfbestuivend, nieuw ras		
V51	Pruim	Prunus domestica	Opal	Cerasifera	WG 150-175	1	4-5 m	midden	begin augustus	Fruitforlife	Vroege zomervrucht, klassieke smaak		
V52	Pruim	Prunus domestica	Reine Claude d'Althau	Cerasifera	WG 150-175	1	5-6 m	midden	eind augustus	Fruitforlife	Stevige smaak, bewaarbaar, klassiek ras		
V53	Moerbe	Morus alba x rubra	Illinois Everbearing	stek	C10L 150	2	4-6 m	midden	juli – september	Fruitforlife	Zeer winterhard, zwarte vruchten, continue productie		
V54	Moerbe	Morus alba x rubra	Carman	stek	C5L 50	2	3-4 m	midden	juli	Fruitforlife	Witte vrucht, makkelijk te oogsten, goede productie		
V55	Moerbe	Morus alba x rubra	Chin. Te	stek	C10L 150	1	4-6 m	midden	eind juli – september	Fruitforlife	Zeer goede smaak, late, goede productie		
+ = kruinlaag voedselbos struiklaag voedselbos Klimlaag voedselbos pioniersbomen kruinlaag voedselbos Plantvoorstel kruidlaag Materialen voedselbos raming Bestellijst fruitforlife kruin													

Example plant list for the canopy layer; original project document in Dutch.



IMPLEMENTATION & PHASING

Not everything has to happen at once.

Implementation is divided into logical phases based on your priorities, budget, the seasons and the time and labour available.

Depending on the project, this may include soil improvement and composting, water and access works, fencing and animal infrastructure, or the establishment of a market garden, orchard, agroforestry system or food forest.

A clear phasing plan keeps the development feasible while ensuring that every step contributes to the long-term vision.

FOOD FOREST IMPLEMENTATION

From preparation to a thriving ecosystem



GENERAL
PLANTING ADVICE



Dig a square
planting hole
for better
root growth.



Place the stake
first,
then the tree.



Plant bare-root
trees and shrubs
on planting day.



Use quality,
fungi-dominated
compost.



Water deeply:
once per week
in dry periods.

Example: phased implementation from soil preparation to planting and follow-up.



FROM PLAN TO LIVING LANDSCAPE



A newly planted food forest zone within the wider 3.5-hectare regenerative farm design.

The planting was implemented over two weekends with 15 volunteers from the client's network.

Design and coordination by Edible Landscapes.



WHAT COULD YOUR LAND BECOME?

Every piece of land holds possibilities. A place to grow food, care for animals, restore soil and water, create beauty, or build a more self-reliant way of living.

A good design does not begin with a fixed solution. It begins by listening - to the land, its wider context and the way you hope to live and work there.

Together, we bring the different parts into one coherent whole: productive, regenerative, beautiful and practical to develop over time.

With more than ten years of experience, I am happy to guide you from A (apple) to Z (Ziziphus), from the first questions and soil analysis to detailed design, implementation and follow-up.

Would you like to explore what your land could become?



Get in touch for an introductory conversation:

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