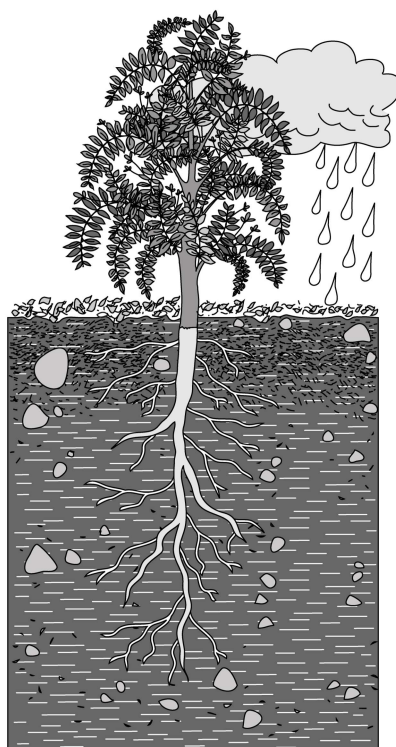


# The Water Table

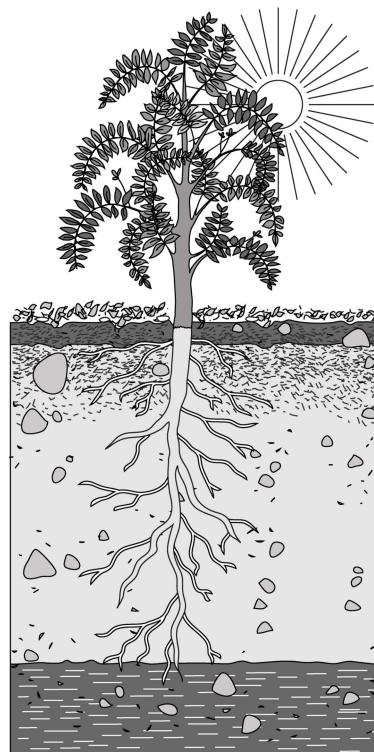
# Poster 10

## Healthy Water Table



### Rainy Season

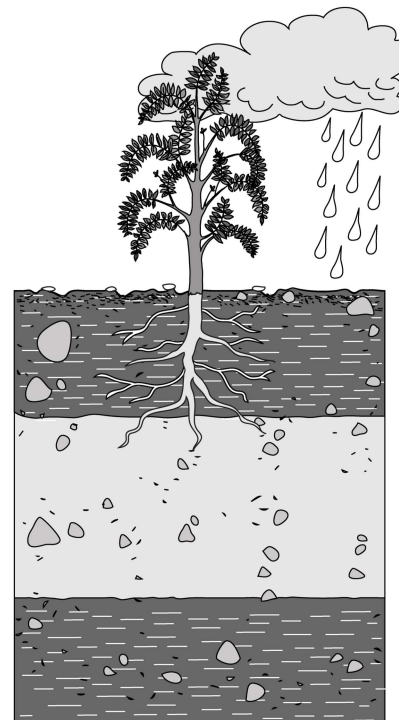
Rains have soaked into healthy soil filling the water table. Roots can grow through soft soil which is protected by mulch.



### Dry Season

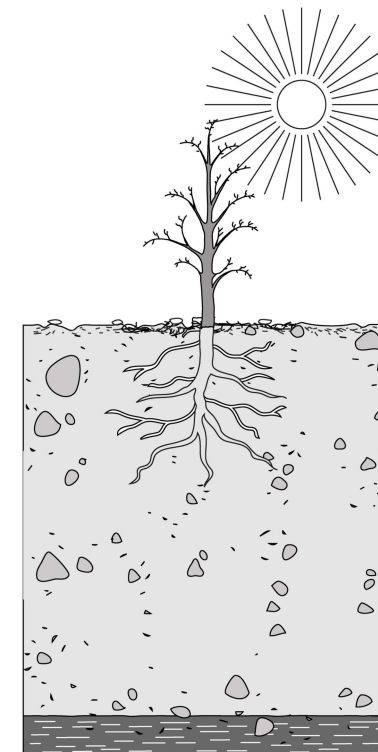
The underground water stores are full. Deep-growing healthy roots can reach the water even during the dry season.

## Unhealthy Water Table



### Rainy Season

Hard, bare soil does not let the water soak in. The roots can only absorb the water nearest to the surface.



### Dry Season

The water table is low. The soil is too hard for the roots to grow through it. The plant is weak and vulnerable to drought.

*Sustainable Nutrition Manual by Stacia Nordin, editing & illustrations by Sarah Beare  
Funded by World Food Program Malawi, 2016. Download (free) from [www.neverendingfood.org](http://www.neverendingfood.org)*