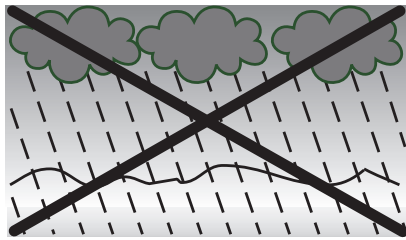
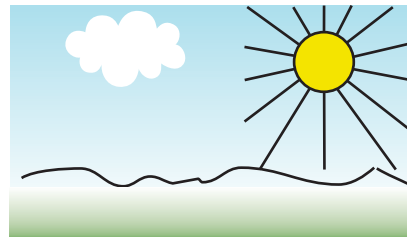


Harvesting Bamboo



Wet Season



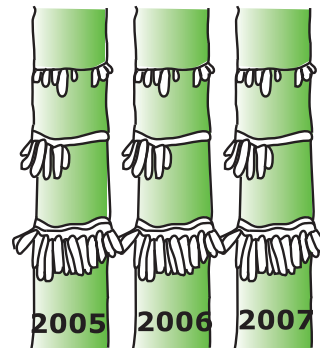
Dry Season

Harvest bamboo during the dry season

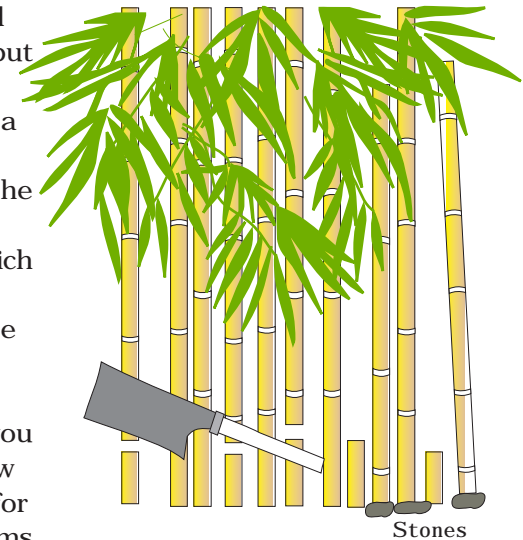
The best season for harvesting is after the rainy season when starch content in the bamboo sap is low. Starch is the favorite food for pests. Don't harvest during shooting season! Cut bamboo that is 3-5 years old. Bamboo older than 5 years is harder and the inner culm wall becomes impermeable to the treatment solution. If the poles are not regularly harvested, they push each other and this causes the development of bent poles.

There are 3 different ways to tell the age of bamboo culms:

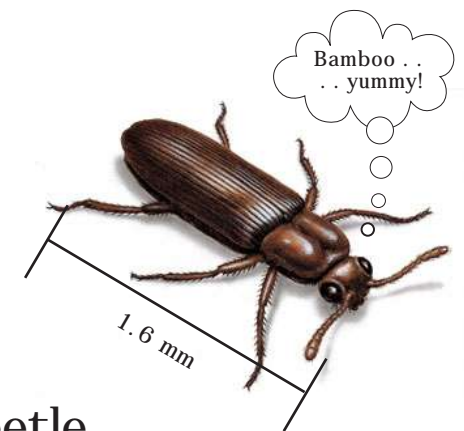
- 1) Mostly, culms at the inside of a clump are the oldest.
- 2) Label the new shoots; this is the safest method.
- 3) If you are an experienced bamboo harvester you will know the age by knocking on the culm and observe the different sounds.



The culms should be treated soon after having been cut, but can be left for a few days standing upright, placed on a stone. Due to the ongoing transpiration by the leaves the culm will lose some of its moisture and also starch, which is the food for the pest. But don't wait too long, since moisture is required for the following diffusion process. If your bamboo is very dry you can soak it in water for a few days to reopen the vessels for treatment. In case of split culms cut the cracked pieces off, treat them in the horizontal basin.



Stored bamboo is endangered by beetle infestation which can be recognized in the form of a talcum-like yellowish powder and small holes in the area of the nodes and along the internodes.



The Powderpost Beetle

