

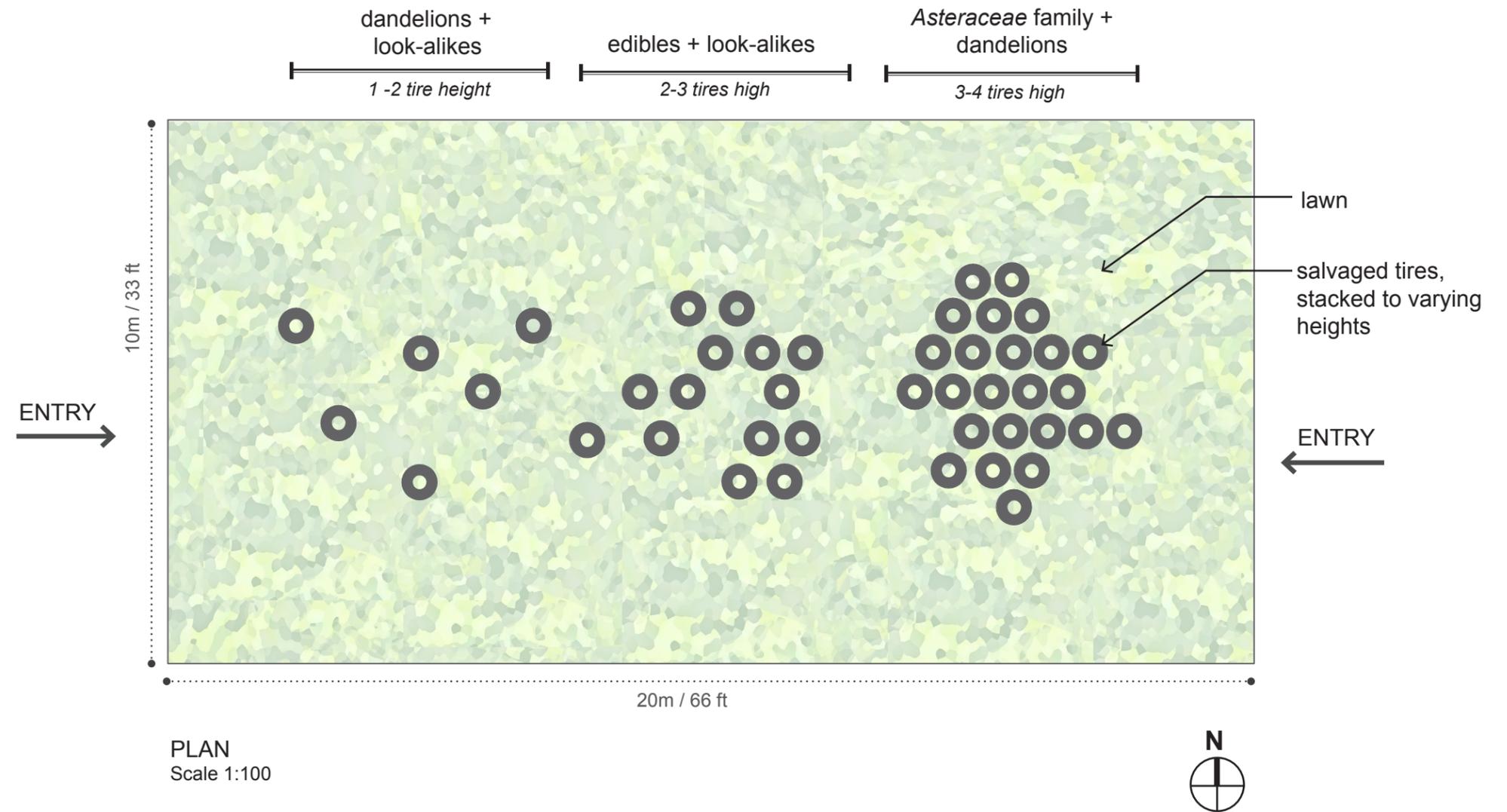
DENT-DE-LION

In Hanover, Germany last October 2014, leading tire manufacturer Continental introduced 'Taraxagum', a line of tires made from the latex rubber of the Russian Kazakh dandelion. Easily grown in temperate climates and harvested within a season, *Taraxacum kok-saghyz* has proven a viable alternative to the rubber tree, a crop grown in tropical plantations susceptible to price volatility and substantial transportation and ecological (environmental) costs.

The common dandelion, *Taraxacum officinale*, is often dismissed as a weed despite its widespread use as an edible and herbal remedy. Our design invites visitors to rethink the dandelion as a "nuisance" plant by showing its numerous varieties and many look-alikes, the larger family *Asteraceae* to which it belongs, and its beneficial use as insect habitat and a companion plant.

As a medicinal plant, the roots and leaves can be used in a tea as a diuretic, laxative, and anti-inflammatory. The flowers can flavour jelly or wine, and the leaves of cultivated varieties are prized as salad greens.

Bees favour the nectar and pollen from dandelions. Furthermore, when planted near beans, tomatoes and fruit, they attract pollinators and increase crop yield.

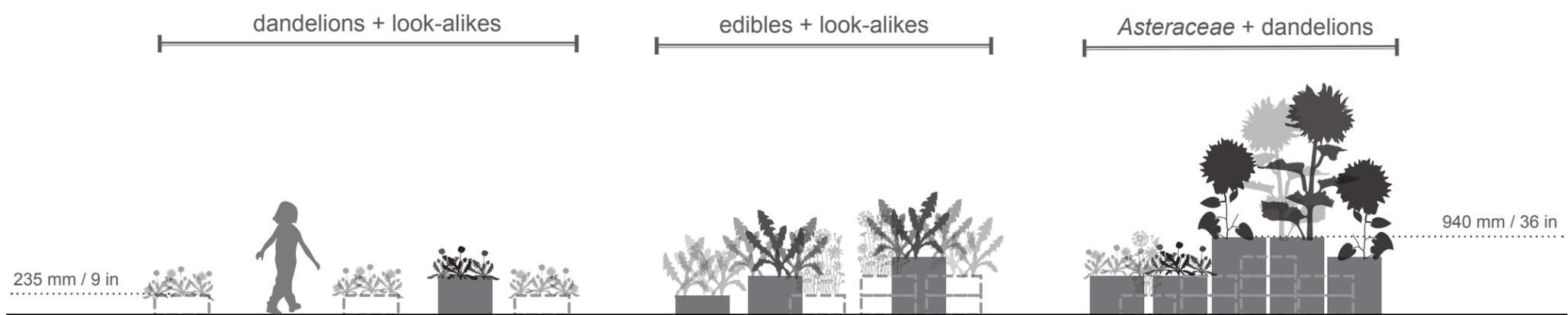


SUGGESTED PLANT SPECIES

<i>Dandelions and look alikes</i>				<i>Edibles & lookalikes</i>			<i>Asteraceae family</i>			60"+
← 6 - 8" →				← 12 - 18" →			← 30 - 48" →			
										
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> Common Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum albidum</i> Japanese Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum kok-saghyz</i> Kazakh Dandelion	<i>Crepis occidentalis</i> Western Hawksbeard	<i>Crepis rubra</i> Hawk's Beard	<i>Cicorium intybus</i> Italian Dandelion "Catalogna"	<i>Cicorium intybus</i> Garnet Stem Chicory	<i>Zinnia elegans</i> Zinnia Queen Lime	<i>Calendula officinalis</i> Calendula	<i>Dahlia</i> Ball Dahlia "Night Queen"	<i>Helianthus annuus</i> Common Sunflower



Site Perspective



LONGITUDINAL SECTION through centre of site
Scale 1:75



Precedent: Dandelion Ranch, Los Angeles