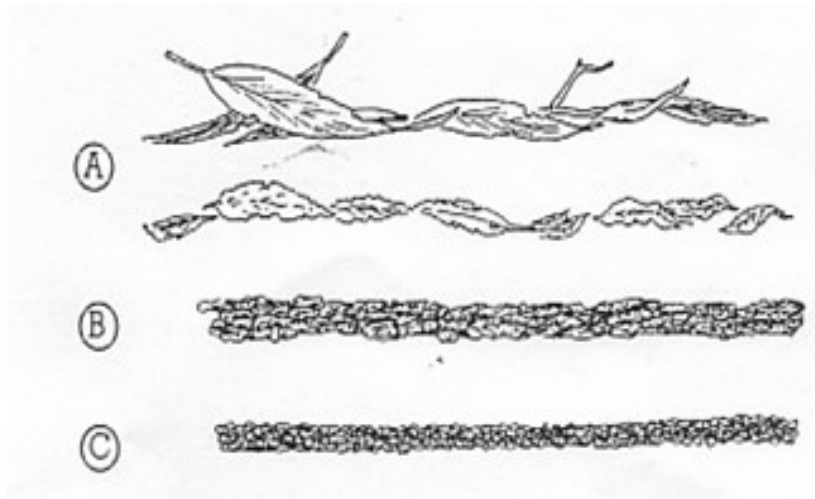


Leaf Litter Decomposition

At least 1/5th of Australian native mammal species depend directly upon the litter layer for food

Layering of litter, humus and topsoil



Freshly fallen plant material

Partially decayed litter

Humus layer. Plant structure has disappeared

Soil. The particles are derived from weathering of parent rock

Sight: look at the top and the bottom of the pile.

Touch: Temperature difference and moisture difference, top and bottom of the pile?

Smell: Again compare top and bottom.

What is happening?

What is it happening to?

Is it beneficial and why?

What can we do to make it happen everywhere?



Tamworth Regional
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