



## News

**Beyond GDP: making nature count in the shift to sustainability**

From mangroves shielding a storm-prone coast to peatlands locking up megatons of carbon and landscapes coated in life-giving soil: Earth's ecosystems have massive value. But that value is hard to measure and often gets ignored – with alarming consequences for the environment. UNEP's report *Becoming #Generation Restoration* found that half of the world's GDP is dependent on nature, and every dollar invested in restoration creates up to 30 dollars in economic benefits. Now, new tools are available to gauge the worth of nature and its many benefits to people, enabling governments and other decision-makers to consider Earth's "natural capital" alongside its human and manufactured counterparts and step up efforts to restore it.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** February 07, 2022**Source:** UN Environment Programme**Agricultural Fungicides May be Driving Resistance**

New research from the University of Georgia has shown, for the first time, that compounds used to fight fungal diseases in plants are causing resistance to antifungal medications used to treat people. The study focused on *Aspergillus fumigatus*, the fungus that causes aspergillosis, a disease that causes life-threatening infections in 300,000 people globally each year. Published in *G3: Genes, Genomes, Genetics*, the study linked agricultural use of azoles—compounds used to fight fungal diseases in plants—to diminished effectiveness of the clinical azoles used to treat fungal infections in patients. "Our results show that resistance to the compounds used to combat fungal infections in humans is developing in agricultural environments," said Marin T. Brewer, a corresponding,

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** February 08, 2022**Source:** ENN Environmental News Network**The earth likely holds more than 9,000 undiscovered tree species; and they are in danger**

Over 9,200 tree species around the world are still awaiting discovery, according to estimates from a new study. The overall global tally of known and unknown tree species could be nearly 73,000. Roughly 43 per cent of all tree species can be found in South America, followed by Eurasia (22 per cent), Africa (16 per cent), North America (15 per cent) and Oceania (11 per cent), according to the findings. A 2017 study had estimated that the earth has 60,065 species of trees. Most were concentrated in Brazil, Colombia and Indonesia, it had added. The present study "estimated how many species are not yet known (undiscovered). No one had tried to do that before," Peter Reich, a forest ecologist at the University of Michigan, United States, told *Down To Earth*.

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** February 08, 2022**Source:** Down to Earth**Amazon losing far more carbon from forest degradation than deforestation: Study**

He assumption has long been that deforestation — easily and accurately measured from satellites — poses the greatest threat to the billions of tons of carbon stored in the biomass of the Brazilian Amazon. But forest degradation due to environmental and human disturbance is responsible for the bulk of that carbon loss, according to researchers at the University of Oklahoma. In fact, degradation — the loss of forest quality — released three times as much carbon as deforestation between 2010 and 2019, they say. "We're excited that we can analyze the forest area, forest cover change and the biomass change," says Yuanwei Qin, a researcher in the University of Oklahoma's Center for Earth Observation and Modeling and the lead author on the study. "But after we saw the results, we have some concern about forest conservation in the Brazilian Amazon.... We need to do something to increase the carbon sink in the forest to help mitigate climate change."

[.....Read more...](#)**Date:** February 09, 2022**Source:** Mobgabay**Kaziranga National Park is a net carbon emitter; climate change may make it worse**

Kaziranga National Park in Assam, home to the largest-population of the one-horned rhinoceros in the world, is releasing more carbon than it is absorbing. This is according to latest research conducted by a group of scientists from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, Maharashtra and Tezpur University in Tezpur, Assam. A forests, or trees in a forest, take up carbon dioxide for the process of photosynthesis and release carbon dioxide when they breathe. If the amount of carbon dioxide taken up by a forest is more than the carbon dioxide released by it through respiration, it acts like a carbon sink. Usually, forests absorb more carbon than they release, which makes them carbon sinks and they are globally promoted to counter the carbon dioxide emissions from different human activities. The main process by which a forest absorbs carbon is the process of photosynthesis that trees use to produce food for themselves and for other organisms in the forest.

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