



News

Tree plantation to control environmental degradation, climate change impacts

The depleting forest resources due to rapid population expansion and more reliance on fossil fuels have increased the emission of greenhouse gases while affecting the natural environment, bio-diversity, wild-life and aquatic resources. Though the bounties of natural resources vary from deserts to alpine meadows, rivers, winds, plenty of sunshine and rich biological diversity but the country has enormous potential to expand its forest cover. According to National Forest Policy (2015), Pakistan is losing about 27,000 hectares of forest every year, which mainly occurs in private and community-owned natural forest, especially in Gilgit Baltistan and KP where the green gold was under enormous pressure due to rapid population growth, increased demands for woods, land encroachment and desertification.[Read more...](#)

Date: March 01, 2021

Source: The Nation

Saplings plantation has improved soil quality across Tiruppur district, says study

A short-term study made on the Vanathukkul Tiruppur sapling plantation initiative has shown that the plantation of over 10 lakh saplings in the past six years across Tiruppur district has positively contributed to the environment such as improvement in soil quality and biodiversity. The Ecological Impact Survey Report released by Coimbatore-based environment NGO Siddharth Foundation on February 27 in Tiruppur, studied 70 out of the total 481 plantations where the saplings were planted since 2015. As many as 79 species of birds, 65 species of butterflies and 41 species of spiders were recorded in these 70 plantations during the study, the report said. The report estimated that 7,377 tonnes of carbon were sequestered through the saplings planted in the initiative. Carbon sequestration is the removal, capture or sequestration of CO₂ from the atmosphere which could help in mitigating global warming.[Read more...](#)

Date: March 02, 2021

Source: The Hindu

Planting problems: Unscientific plantation leading to no gains for environment, a new report points out

Last year, The Independent, a UK-based newspaper, reported that unscientific planting of trees was causing environmental harm instead of the benefits intended. The UK government had carbon sinks in mind when it ordered the planting of trees in large numbers, but planting in peatlands and wetlands destroyed soil quality and led to more emissions. India, with plans to create a 3 billion tonne carbon sink from forests by 2030, seems to have failed to learn from this episode. The Times of India cites a study by the Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE) to report that tree plantation under the National Clean Air Programme is just a target-driven exercise with little planning and application. In Delhi, for instance, trees were planted in the Eastern and Central Delhi region,[Read more...](#)

Date: March 03, 2021

Source: Financial Express

Gardening: 'Super plants' could help reduce air pollution in your home and garden

POOR air quality in towns and cities – what with traffic, lack of green spaces and gardens being paved over – can be highly detrimental to our health. Here RHS experts Dr Tijana Blanus and Leigh Hunt recommend 'super plants', that could help soak up some of that pollution. Hedges are great at filtering pollution from the air, trapping it on their rough/hairy leaves and stems, until it is washed to the ground by the rain or falls off with the leaves. One of the top plants is Cotoneaster franchetii, which is at least 20 per cent more effective at soaking up pollution compared with other shrubs. It's not a typical hedging plant, but trimmed into shape, it is a top performer. Other options include Thuja plicata (western red cedar) and Taxus baccata (yew). Plant between the source of pollution and where you are – so usually between the road and the house. Bigger is better, so aim for at least 1.5m high and 1m wide.[Read more...](#)

Date: March 13, 2021

Source: The Irish News

Eliminating deforestation is as important as planting trees

Will two hours in the park become the next 10,000 steps? This was suggested in a paper by the Wall Street Journal a fortnight ago. The seven billion human population shares the planet with three trillion trees. At the beginning of civilisation, a fraction of this number shared the planet with about double the number of trees. In its global assessment report, the International Union of Forest Research Organisations (IUFRO) links severe water scarcity faced by four billion population today to the scarcity of forests and trees in their regions. Forests have always been an integral part of human life. Every civilization in the world has venerated nature and encouraged its members to spend more time with it. There is increasing scientific research that directly connects the nature experience to positive health benefits. The last few years have shown an increasing proclivity among urban populations to[Read more...](#)

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Source: CNBC TV18

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