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News

Global warming is changing our plant communities

"Live Oaks occur throughout the southeast and all the way up to coastal Virginia, so down here we are in one of the very hottest places in its range," said Feeley, who is also the University's Smathers Chair of Tropical Tree Biology. "As temperatures increase, it may simply get too hot in Miami for oaks and other temperate species." Likewise, in Canada, as temperatures increase, sugar maple trees -- which are used to produce maple syrup -- are losing their habitats. And in New York City, trees that are more typical of the balmy South, such as Magnolias, are increasing in abundance and blooming earlier each year, news reports indicate. These are just a few examples of a larger trend happening across the Americas -- from Hudson Bay to Tierra del Fuego -- as plant communities shift their ranges andRead more...

Date: August 17, 2020 **Source:** Science Daily

Plantation drive compensates for the lost trees

A tree plantation drive organised by Panjab University's department of life long learning and extension had nature lovers highlighting methods of keeping surroundings green. While volunteers indulged in tree plantation, they also identified areas/patches with scanty green cover to increase the density there. An appealing Golden Bottle Brush tree was replanted, whereas several Ficus trees were planted. The Bottlebrush variant is unique and it can grow to a good height. The event took place around emerging area building of PU where besides new plants a number of existing plants were replanted. It was done particularly in the area where old trees had died. Department chairperson Dr Paramjit Singh Kang said that the drive was organized in collaboration with horticulture wing of Panjab University.Read more...

August 18, 2020 Date: **Source:** The Times of India

Gadkari reviews road projects; starts Harit Path app to monitor plantation

Union minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday stressed the need for utilising modern and green technologies in highways construction besides reducing the cost of road building by at least 25 per cent. The road transport minister also launched a mobile app 'Harit Path' to monitor the plantation along the national highways. Chairing a meeting via video conference to review 'New Green Highways Policy (Plantation)' and discuss use of new technologies in road construction, Gadkari said it should be the ministry's mission to reduce cost of construction by 25 per cent and for this new technologies are required, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways said in a statement. Gadkari, who also holds MSME portfolio, also stressed on utilising modern and green technologies in road construction all over theRead more...

Date: August 21, 2020 Source: Business Standard

Global forest restoration and the importance of empowering local communities

Forest restoration is a crucial element in strategies to mitigate climate change and conserve global biodiversity in the coming decades, and much of the focus is on formerly tree-covered lands in the tropics. But recent forest restoration research rarely acknowledges the social dimensions or environmental justice implications of such projects. A new study finds that nearly 300 million people in the tropics live on lands suitable for forest restoration, and about a billion people live within 5 miles of such lands. Many of these people live in poverty. Just and equitable implementation of restoration projects will require that communities be empowered to manage and use local forests, according to the authors of the study published in the journal Nature Ecology & Evolution. Community management of forestRead more...

Date: August 24, 2020 Source: Science Daily

Delhi to Get Four New City Forests to Tackle Air Pollution Issues, Improve Green Cover

Delhi is all set to develop new forest areas within the city in a bid to boost its green cover. The forest department is expected to introduce four more forests to the existing ones in and around Delhi, some of which may even be ready by the end of this year. The new plantation will add to the existing green cover of 12 forests, which play a key role in mitigating the air pollution over the landlocked capital. According to a Times of India report, the four new forest areas are being developed at Aya Nagar, Jaunapur, Dera Mandi, and Mamurpur in Narela. All these forests will host butterfly zones, cacti gardens, water bodies, and herbal patches. The new city forest covers will mainly host native trees along with shrubs and smaller plants. The forest development plan has also added zones for recreational activities like yoga, in addition to walking tracks, gazebos, and bridges to cross water bodies. "Monsoon is the best time to plant shrubs and native saplings. Work at the four forests is already underway and a couple of them might get ready by the year-end," an official told TOI. These new forests will be replicas of previous successful models of the likes found in Taj Enclave near Geeta Colony orRead more...

Date: August 26, 2020 **Source:** The Weather Channel

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