

Mangrove Facts

Mangrove Protection

Mangroves are trees that _____ in coastal swamps. They have many tangled roots which grow above the ground. It is vital to protect mangrove forests.

Red mangrove

The seedlings of red mangroves are attached to their parents' trees and germinate. When they are released to the sea, they can either take root with their parent trees or be carried to a suitable environment by the tides. This type of germination _____ them more resistant to disease and natural disasters.

They are unique and can thrive in saltwater. Their roots _____ oxygen reach their pores and filter out salt water. Their bark, leaves, and seeds can be used to make food and natural dyes.

Pneumatophores

These special roots extract oxygen from saltwater. Because they have small pores, oxygen can diffuse into the root. Their large surface area _____ for more oxygen to be absorbed. This process is not yet understood. Here are some possible mechanisms.

Cable roots

Tangled roots _____ stability and oxygen access. Their cone-shaped lobes act as snorkels in areas that are partially flooded. These roots also have lenticels that repel water.

Phytoplankton

Primary producer of mangrove estuaries, they are essential for the productivity of the fishing industry. It is a major component of the marine food chain and a primary source of food. They _____ biodiversity and the functioning of the marine food chain.

Algae

They mostly grow on sediments and tree roots. Their dense biomass _____ water from passing through the pneumatophores which allows oxygen to penetrate roots. Then, barks fall from the roots (decertification).

Shrimp farming

While they have many benefits, the negative effects of this activity far _____ the economic and environmental benefits. Mangrove areas were lost in eight countries between 1980 and 2005. 51.9% of it was converted to shrimp farming.

Match the pictures to the phonetic symbols.
Then pronounce the words.

/ˈæɪ.lɪ.ʒi:/	/ˈes.tu.ər.i:/	/rʊts/	/si:/	/ˈsnɔːr.kəl/	/ʃrɪmp/
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