



Global Nature Crisis: Invisible Threat to Ecosystems – ScienceAlert

Description

When you go for a walk in nature, you expect to see trees, shrubs, and grass growing naturally. However, there is a problem called "dark diversity" where many native plant species are missing from their suitable habitats due to human activities.

In areas heavily impacted by humans, only about 20% of native plant species are present. Even in less disturbed areas, only 33% of viable plant species can be found. Pollution, habitat conversion for farming, logging, and fires are some of the reasons for the low number of species in the wild.

Our actions, such as farming and urbanization, are leading to a loss of plant species. Nearly 600 plant species have gone extinct since 1750. To better understand this loss, a study was conducted in 119 regions around the world. It was found that areas with less human disturbance had lower biodiversity loss.

Protecting nature is important to prevent further loss of plant species. By identifying missing species, we can work towards bringing them back to their habitats. This study highlights the need to protect and restore our ecosystems.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Biodiversity** /ˌbaɪ.ɒʊ.dɪˈvɜːr.sɪ.ti/ (noun): The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat.
2. **Extinct** /ɪkˈstɪŋkt/ (adjective): The state of a species that no longer exists.
3. **Habitat** /ˈhæbɪtæt/ (noun): The natural home or environment of an animal plant or other organism.
4. **Pollution** /pəˈluːʃən/ (noun): The introduction of contaminants into the natural environment that causes adverse change.
5. **Urbanization** /ˌɜːr.bən.ɪˈzeɪ.ʃən/ (noun): The process of making an area more urban or city-like.
6. **Ecosystems** /ˈiː.koʊ.sɪs.təmz/ (noun): A biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice



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1. What is the term used to describe the problem where many native plant species are missing from their suitable habitats due to human activities?
 - Option: Biodiversity loss
 - Option: Dark diversity
 - Option: Habitat disruption
 - Option: Ecosystem imbalance

 2. In areas heavily impacted by humans, approximately what percentage of native plant species are present?
 - Option: 10%
 - Option: 20%
 - Option: 40%
 - Option: 60%

 3. What is one of the reasons mentioned for the low number of plant species in the wild?
 - Option: Disease outbreak
 - Option: Pollution
 - Option: Climate change
 - Option: Insect infestation

 4. How many plant species have gone extinct since 1750 due to human activities?
 - Option: 300
 - Option: 600
 - Option: 900
 - Option: 1200

 5. What was the key finding related to biodiversity loss in areas with less human disturbance?
 - Option: There was no significant difference in biodiversity loss.
 - Option: Biodiversity was higher in areas with human disturbance.
 - Option: Lower human disturbance resulted in lower biodiversity loss.
 - Option: Biodiversity loss was higher in protected areas.

 6. What is highlighted as important to prevent further loss of plant species?
 - Option: Habitat destruction
 - Option: Human activities
 - Option: Protecting nature
 - Option: Industrial development



True-False

7. Nearly 80% of native plant species can be found in areas heavily impacted by humans.
8. Urbanization and farming activities have no impact on the loss of plant species.
9. The study conducted in 119 regions showed that areas with higher human disturbance had lower biodiversity loss.
10. Identifying missing species is crucial for bringing them back to their habitats.
11. There have been no efforts to protect and restore ecosystems highlighted in the study.
12. Habitat conversion for farming has not contributed to the loss of plant species.

Gap-Fill

13. Nearly _____ plant species have become extinct since 1750.
14. A study conducted in 119 regions aimed to better understand the loss of plant species due to human _____.
15. Identifying missing species can help in _____ them back to their habitats.
16. Areas with less human disturbance exhibited lower biodiversity _____.
17. Protecting nature is crucial to prevent further loss of plant _____.
18. Habitat _____ for farming is listed as one of the reasons for the low number of plant species in the wild.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Dark diversity 2. 20% 3. Pollution 4. 600 5. Lower human disturbance resulted in lower biodiversity loss. 6. Protecting nature

True-False: 7. False 8. False 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False

Gap-Fill: 13. 600 14. activities 15. bringing 16. loss 17. species 18. conversion



Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What can cause mutations in DNA and lead to cancer?
Option: Radiation
Option: Debris
Option: Satellites
Option: Ecosystems
2. What can be used to communicate instantly across the globe?
Option: Strokes
Option: Technology
Option: Promotion
Option: Habitat
3. Where is biodiversity essential for maintaining balance?
Option: Production
Option: Ecosystems
Option: Risks
Option: Unsafe
4. What leads to habitat destruction and pollution?
Option: Significant
Option: Urbanization
Option: Risks
Option: Orbits
5. What can render satellites unsafe for operation?
Option: Radiation
Option: Debris
Option: Collisions
Option: Promising
6. In what setting are hormonal imbalances often diagnosed and treated?



- Option: Clinical
- Option: Reaction
- Option: Exposure
- Option: Analyzing

7. Why is it necessary to be able to detect radiation exposure?

- Option: Reaction
- Option: Detection
- Option: Orbits
- Option: Biodiversity

8. What kind of technology development offers new solutions?

- Option: Promising
- Option: Eager
- Option: Analyzing
- Option: Risks

9. Why is it important to analyze the effects of certain exposures on disabilities?

- Option: Disabilities
- Option: Stroke
- Option: Instantly
- Option: Habitat

10. What could happen to species due to habitat loss and urbanization?

- Option: Pollution
- Option: Extinct
- Option: Biodiversity
- Option: Technology

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. When individuals are _____ to radiation it can have harmful effects on their health.

12. Proper monitoring of radiation levels is _____ for ensuring safety in nuclear facilities.

13. _____ data from clinical studies helps in understanding the impact of certain factors on health.

14. Advancements in technology allow us to communicate _____ with anyone around the



world.

15. Assessing the potential _____ associated with a certain activity is crucial for decision-making.

16. Space missions have to consider the risks of collisions with _____ in orbit.

17. Satellites are placed in specific _____ around the Earth to perform their functions.

18. Managing waste and pollution from industrial _____ is essential for environmental protection.

19. Certain medical conditions are treated with _____ therapy to restore balance in the body.

20. Understanding the body's _____ to different stimuli is crucial in medical research.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. A stroke can result from a disruption of blood flow to the brain leading to potential brain damage.
22. Urbanization often results in increased pollution levels impacting the quality of air and water.
23. Debris orbiting Earth poses a significant risk to satellites in operation potentially causing collisions.
24. Habitat destruction contributes to the decline in biodiversity affecting various species and ecosystems.
25. Exposure to certain chemicals or substances can render a workplace unsafe for employees requiring safety measures.
26. In medical emergencies a quick and appropriate reaction to the situation can significantly impact the outcome.
27. The destruction of natural habitats due to human activities threatens many species with extinction.
28. A significant increase in temperature can have far-reaching effects on polar ice caps and global weather patterns.



29. Scientists and researchers are eager to explore new technologies to address pressing social and environmental issues.

30. Efficient communication is essential in emergency response situations to coordinate actions effectively.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Radiation 2. Technology 3. Ecosystems 4. Urbanization 5. Collisions 6. Clinical 7. Detection 8. Promising 9. Disabilities 10. Extinct

Gap-Fill: 11. Exposed 12. Necessary 13. Analyzing 14. Instantly 15. Risks 16. Debris 17. Orbits 18. Production 19. Hormonal 20. Reaction

Matching sentence: 1. Stroke 2. Pollution 3. Satellites 4. Biodiversity 5. Unsafe 6. Reaction 7. Habitat 8. Significant 9. Eager 10. Communication

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL2

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