Plant Forests And Make A Fortune

An idea for combating deforestation.

One of the greatest threats to the natural world, is this obsession we have for growing trees and plants in an altered state, far away from their native home soils and often making one great celebration of it. In this paper we question the wisdom of much of this, consider the alternatives and in so doing look at ways of saving the natural forests around the planet by allowing them to work and pay for themselves.

The idea began with an understanding that a new and fresh approach was needed if the world's forests were to have any future at all. It was common knowledge that Rubber Trees were native to Central S. America and yet most of the production occurs in S.E. Asia, and likewise, I knew Oil Palms belonged in Western Central Africa while their production was happening there too. Given that trees offer greater ecological benefits growing where they are indigenous, a widely accepted view in all other spheres, and coupled with the fact that these commodities were earning vast amounts of wealth for individuals whose interests were not altogether for the common good. It became apparent that major shifts were needed, shifts as to where these trees were grown, as well as shifts as to where these vast sums should be heading.

The concept was radical and yet very simple, and entailed conservationists buying up degraded or deforested land and turning it into mixed, thinly scattered and unregimented plantations. Native, naturally occurring, crop-producing species-trees, low-density enough for them to be ecological, but dense enough for them to be viable concerns. In addition, there could be nature reserves running along side into which all manner of endangered, vulnerable and beneficial native plant species could be grown, everything paid for with the business side of things. **The eventual aim would be to set up various wealth creating natural systems which would be both ecologically and economically self-sustaining.**

Once in ownership, whole tracts of land could be planted up with whatever was wanted, and by combining conservation with commercialisation, we would be in a very strong position for securing further land-deals. New habitat attracting birds and fruit bats, which would bring in seeds, and add greater diversity into each and every new site, with the wealth funding projects around the world. **They would be nothing less than systems working on the lines of £s and ecology, and not the way things are currently run, on those of £s, death and annihilation.**

There are commodities especially within the tropics that command very respectable prices on the world-market, it's not about selling handfuls of pea-sticks in a local store to save a garden-sized patch woodland, but about using commerce to save rainforests worldwide. Endless opportunities are out there but it must be conducted by real conservationists because only they would end the current cycle of death and destruction. Multinationals have shown they can never be trusted, and only with the right people involved could these basic principles of wealth going hand in hand with conservation ever be guaranteed. **As sad as it is, forests these days need to earn their keep, and there's no better way for them to do this than for conservationists to get out there and bring that land into ownership.**

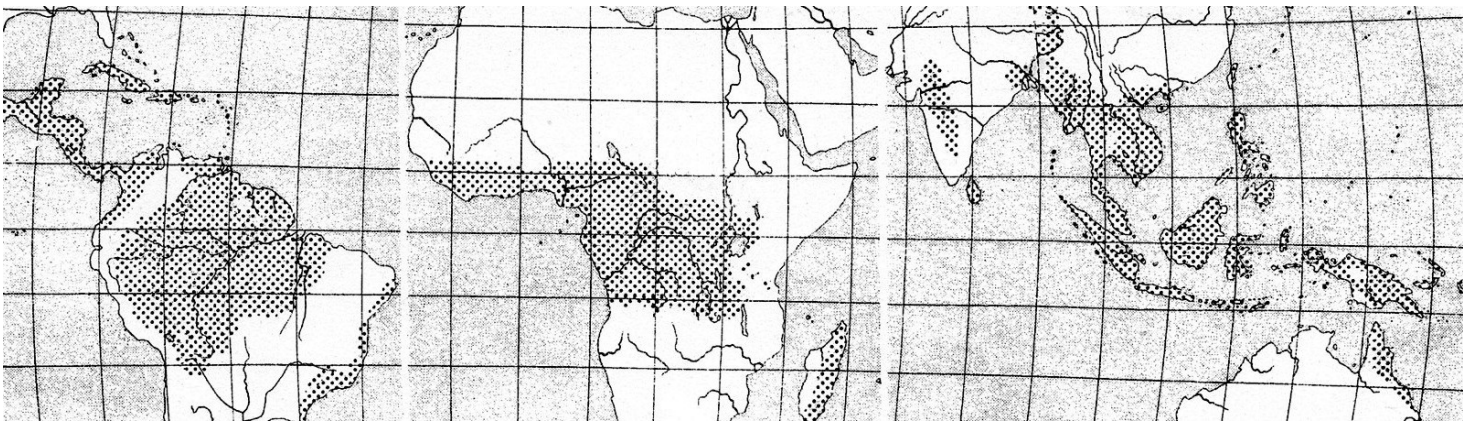
With major shifts in wealth and production, a more liberal approach to other species living within these forests and with nature reserves included, there could not help but be major improvements. It would get these forests earning their way and would stop tropical rainforest destruction in its tracks once and for all.

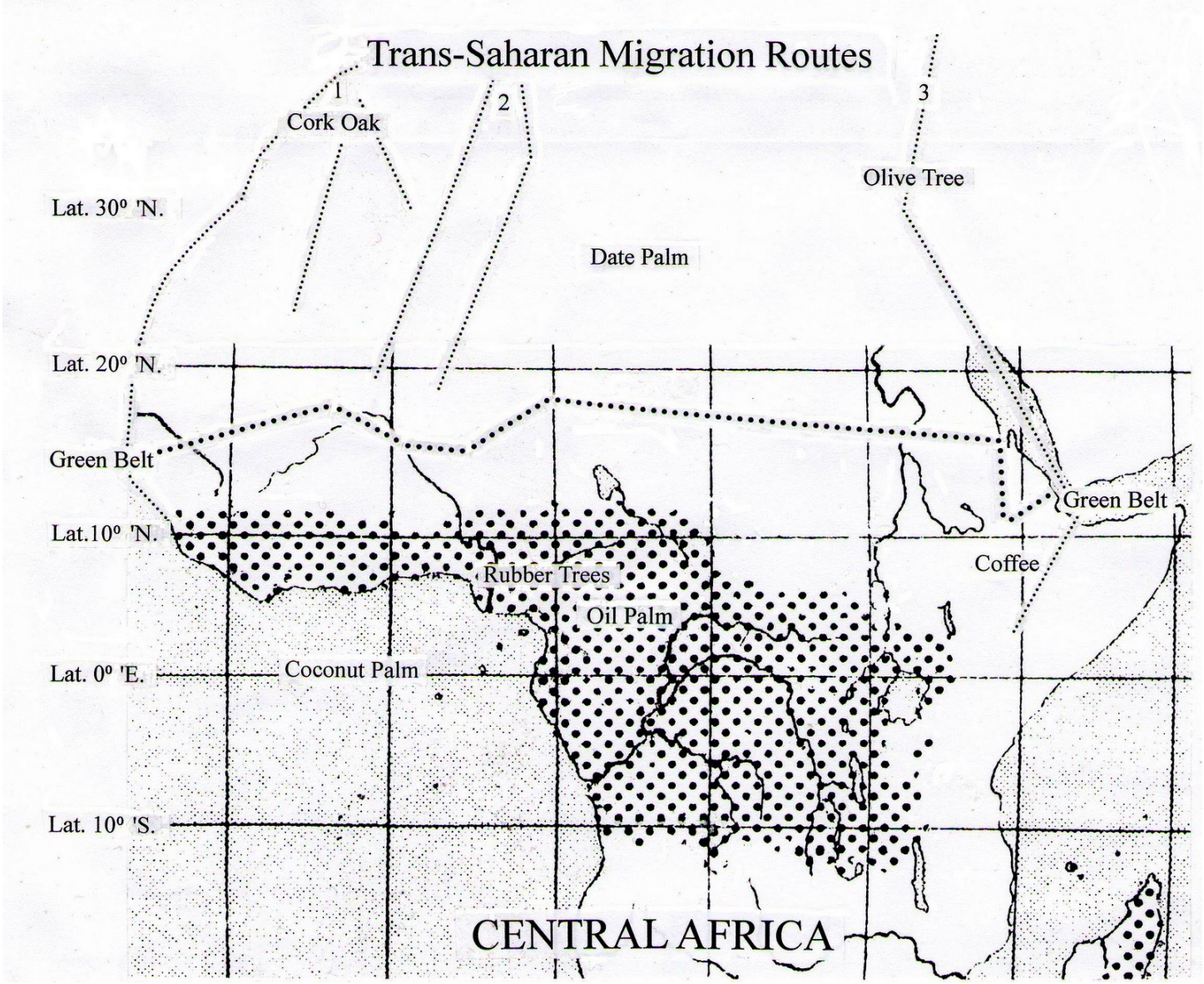
One of the greatest stumbling blocks for saving forests is getting the locals on side. For them, and I don't include everyone here, they need to earn money and forests either rightly or wrongly, are just something that sits there and looks pretty and there are no real incentives to save or cherish these places. The plain fact is it doesn't need to be like this and the best way, if you want to get locals on board, even those who currently may be on the wrong side, is to get them involved and offer them jobs so they can feed their families.

Without being overly exploitative we would need to bring industry into the equation too, because it's the finished and packaged products which command the highest prices. **With the systems we have in place at the moment the middlemen are buying up the raw materials for a pittance with the large Western supermarkets upping the prices even more. So much so that there's often a 4,000% markup from what the growers get and the eventual prices we pay in the shops, and there are already examples of how this is working in the field so to speak.** A coffee roasting and packaging plant is now operating in Ethiopia, and more bizarrely perhaps, there's a condom factory in the Amazonia. Both are using native and naturally occurring local produce and are commanding a much higher prices as a result. There's no reason at all why this couldn't be expanded upon to include the widest range of products found in other places too. There's no need to have factories right on top of the sites being protected either, just so long as there's a good prices are being brought in for the products. Palm oil producers in S.E. Asia certainly don't let obstacles like this stand in their way of making fat profits and there's no reason why we should either.

And so this now brings us onto another reality. **When I first put this paper together in 2009, I sent it out there on speck, approaching all the various conservation bodies thinking rather naïvely at the time, that conservation groups like the WWF., Rainforest Alliance, Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International, Rainforest Action Network etc., thinking they would had been at least half interested.** In fact their responses other than a brief letter or two obviously worded and typed out by some secretary, together with leaflets from the PEFC., FSC. and Fairtrade telling me how I could do my bit, it didn't even register. I'd only found out later they'd all long ago signed up to the palm oil and other deals and clearly weren't interested in anything like this. And so, with all of this negativity, I had to form a one-man crusade and get this message out there as best I could. **I knew the concept would work, it simply couldn't fail, but without the big boys getting involved, if only as experimental plots here and there, it simply wouldn't make it onto the runway never mind take off.**

But anyway, let's embark on this journey around the planet and take a closer look at what the options might be. The shaded areas are the main regions of the world's tropical rainforests and where these eco-forestry schemes would be most appropriate. The eventual aim would be to secure any available mile² either of these or anywhere else where it could work.





Central Western Africa.

This region of the planet is where Oil Palm grows in its indigenous and rightfully belonging state and it is here where its full scale production should be happening (see pages 6-8).

Lat. 10°-20° 'N., with Sierra Leone to the west and with Sudan and Eritrea to the east. Along that band there's desertification to the north and deforestation to the south, by introducing these systems here, then these appalling problems could be eradicated.

The Green Belt, or the Great Green Wall, a line of trees, such as Date Palms and Acacias etc., 9 miles wide by 5,000 miles long, has been envisaged in a bid to halt the advancing desert. Throughout most of its route it is described by many as being nothing more than a stunt for attracting funds and having no political will while in other parts work has begun and good progress has been made. It has the backing of the African Union and hopefully it will succeed.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_2e682adf04e3438b8a424b4e691f1e1e.pdf

Across the desert to the north there are Trans-Saharan Migration Routes where most of the bird species make their journeys.

1) Across the Straits of Gibraltar, many continuing around the western bulge of Africa with others traveling right over the desert, very much depending on where they're intending to end up for the winter.

2) Down through Italy and then island hopping to Sicily, Malta and then on to Tunisia, and from there on they go straight across the desert.

3) Through the Bosphorus, Turkey, then down past Israel and Sinai, along the Red Sea and on through the mountain passes in Ethiopia.

The map above is only a rough guide, other small birds will cross the Mediterranean and the Sahara taking all kinds of routes. But anyway this is just one small consideration in the greater scheme of things so to speak.

The increasing deserts together with fewer and fewer birds is becoming an ever increasing problem. **Knowing at least, more or less where these routes run, it would make sense to have say three or four migratory refuelling stations in the desert to give these birds a far better chance of making it through**. With wild Date Palms or Acacias planted around existing oases and other vegetation encouraged, research stations and some much needed dropping in points could be established. This of course is just a minor part of what we're trying to put forward but it is something worth considering nonetheless.

Throughout the rest of this continent there are endless possibilities of making ecology not only pay for itself but bring in vast fortunes for conservation projects too. The only limitations are in our own thoughts. If ever we're going to breathe that sigh of relief about using sustainable goods, then it needs to be the real deal, otherwise we're really only fooling ourselves. Most people's idea of the word sustainable these days has become so perverse that it now has absolutely no bearing for its true meaning. **There needs to be a completely new 'Rainforest Assured' standard, a symbol of trust that actually means something.**

Central Western Africa - The true indigenous homeland of Oil Palm.

The wild Elaeis guineensis growing in its natural unaltered state.

Knowing that people there have to live and families need to be fed, what better place is there to produce palm oil.

Multinationals however talk an entirely different language from true environmentalists. They use exactly the same words and phrases but meanings are light years apart, and nothing reveals this more than words like sustainable, non-conflict or responsible. In fact it's all a deliberate ploy to hoodwink as many of us in as they possible can thinking we're all idiots which of course many of us are. This becomes all too apparent by the way huge sways of otherwise rationally thinking people will so vigorously defend wind farms and other abominations they've been drip fed over the decades.

They use professional speakers of course who have busily infiltrated all corners of just about every organisation found anywhere around the globe. Smooth talkers who have done their level best to steer everything in a wrong or perverse manner from where things should be heading. Examples of them can be seen here.

Dr. Christopher Stewart, Olam International, speaks at RSPO's EURT2016.
https://vimeo.com/176141313

WRI's Anne Rosenbarger speaks at RSPO's EURT2016.
https://vimeo.com/176141311

WWF Palm Oil and RSPO Board Member, Adam Harrison speaks at RSPO's EURT2016.
https://vimeo.com/176141309

Each and every one of them purveyors of evil and misguiding us ever further from the truth and are found in all levels of society.

Palm Oil Gabon – The right part of the world but simply not how it should be done and there are four basic reasons for this.

1) This plantation is run by Olam International which is a multinational company rather than a conservation organisation.

https://bioenergyinternational.com/biofuels-oils/gabon-adapts-rspo-standard-sustainable-palm-oil

2) Looking at the picture rainforest has obviously been cleared in order to grow the stuff.

3) It has been planted in regimented rows rather than in more natural scattered groups.

4) And most importantly they are likely to be a man-made cultivar rather than the wild naturally occurring species which is indigenous to this region of Africa.

These may seem like almost impossible conditions but only by doing things this way are we ever likely to achieve true sustainability which would actually increase habitat and not destroy it. Palm oil has a $multibillion annual turnover and if it was cultivated here in its original Central Western Africa, by conservationists using proper species trees, this would create habitat for wildlife as well as a great deal of money for conservation.

History and Origin Of Oil Palm.

The oil palm (Elaeis guineensis) originated from West Africa, where evidence of its use as a staple food crop dates as far back as 5,000 years. There is even evidence in Egyptian tombs of people being buried with casks of palm oil, reflecting the high societal value attributed to the product. Needless to say, with origins in West Africa and evidence of consumption in Egypt, palm oil can be considered one of the earliest traded commodities.

http://theoilpalm.org/history-and-origin/

We need to grow this stuff ourselves in C.W. Africa where it is native. Creating habitat by using the wild naturally occurring species and growing it in scattered groups, cutting in on the trade of the exploiters on the world-market and hopefully one day put them out of business. Think big and prosper or think small and wither away is what I'm saying here.

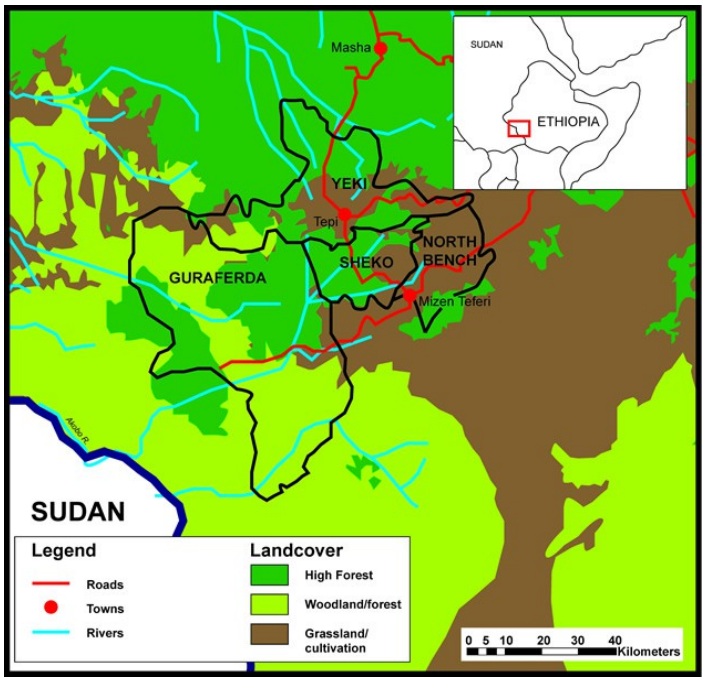
If Oil Palm ever was grown to such vigorous sustainable standards as this it would deserve to be sold well and above the cut of any bog standard so-called sustainable gloop that currently swamps the markets, for this would be a new conservation grade oil, the way things always should've been done but never were. Palm oil has a $multibillion annual turnover and so it's a trade well worth getting into in monitory terms alone. We simply do not need these clumsy multinationals doing the worst possible deals for the planet and never did and there's 5,000 years of history to prove it.

Indigenous wild Oil Palm connecting forest reserves, creating habitat and fighting back the deserts throughout this region of Africa instead of destroying natural forests as is currently happening elsewhere.

Combating the deserts by planting wild Date Palm and Acacia.

With each tree growing within its own naturally occurring range.

Wild Coffee Conservation and PFM Project (WCC-PFM).



Welcome to the homepage of the Wild Coffee Conservation and PFM Project (WCC-PFM).

This project operates in Sheko, North Bench and Guraferda Districts of Bench-Maji zone and Yeki Districts of Sheka Zone in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS) (see map). Within these districts the project works with 55 communities who live in or near to the forests which dominate this area.

http://wetlandsandforests.hud.ac.uk/wcc_home.html

The Native Coffee Forests Of Ethiopia.

These forests are still worked and harvested today, an enterprise by contrast to what's going on everywhere else, is a model of what should be happening. It's a tradition that dates back many thousands of years but by bringing more land into ownership and collecting seeds, these forests could easily be expanded upon further to create even more extensive habitat as well as extra employment for the locals. All the time keeping to that same principle of natural planting of native species trees and plants, with the business side paying for the conservation. **Coffee also has a $multibillion annual turnover.**

AFRICA.

Coffee Coffea arabica: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; seeds used to make coffee; **distribution of the wild shrub Ethiopia.**

Date Palm Phoenix dactylifera: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; fronds are used for basket and rope making; **distribution of the wild tree Sahara to parts of India.** Wild Date Palm could be used for combating desertification within that region.

Argan Tree Argania spinosa: Nuts used to make an edible oil; **distribution S.W. Morocco.**

Oil Palm Elaeis guineensis: Grown as a cultivar throughout tropical S.E. Asia and elsewhere; fruits produce palm oil; **distribution of the wild tree C.W. Africa;** the oil has all kinds of uses. Palm oil is one of the greatest single threats to the tropical rainforests, but if the species tree was grown where it is native, it would actually help protect the rainforests and not destroy them.

Rubber Trees various African species, Landolphia oicariensis, L. Gentilii, L. droogmansiana, L. klainer and L. owariensis: Saps contain latex; **distribution C.W. Africa.**

Shea Tree Vitellaria paradoxa: Fruits are eaten; seeds used to make butter and soap; **distribution Africa.**

Baobab Tree Adansonia digitata: Fruits are eaten; **distribution Africa.**

Rosy Periwinkle Vinca rosea: Extracts used as an anticancer drug; **wild distribution Madagascar.**

Buchu Barosma betulina: Used in the treatment of kidney stones and arthritis; **distribution Southern Cape.**

Aloe Vera Aloe barbadensis: Grown throughout the temperates; used in the treatment of skin conditions and leukemia; **wild distribution South Africa.**

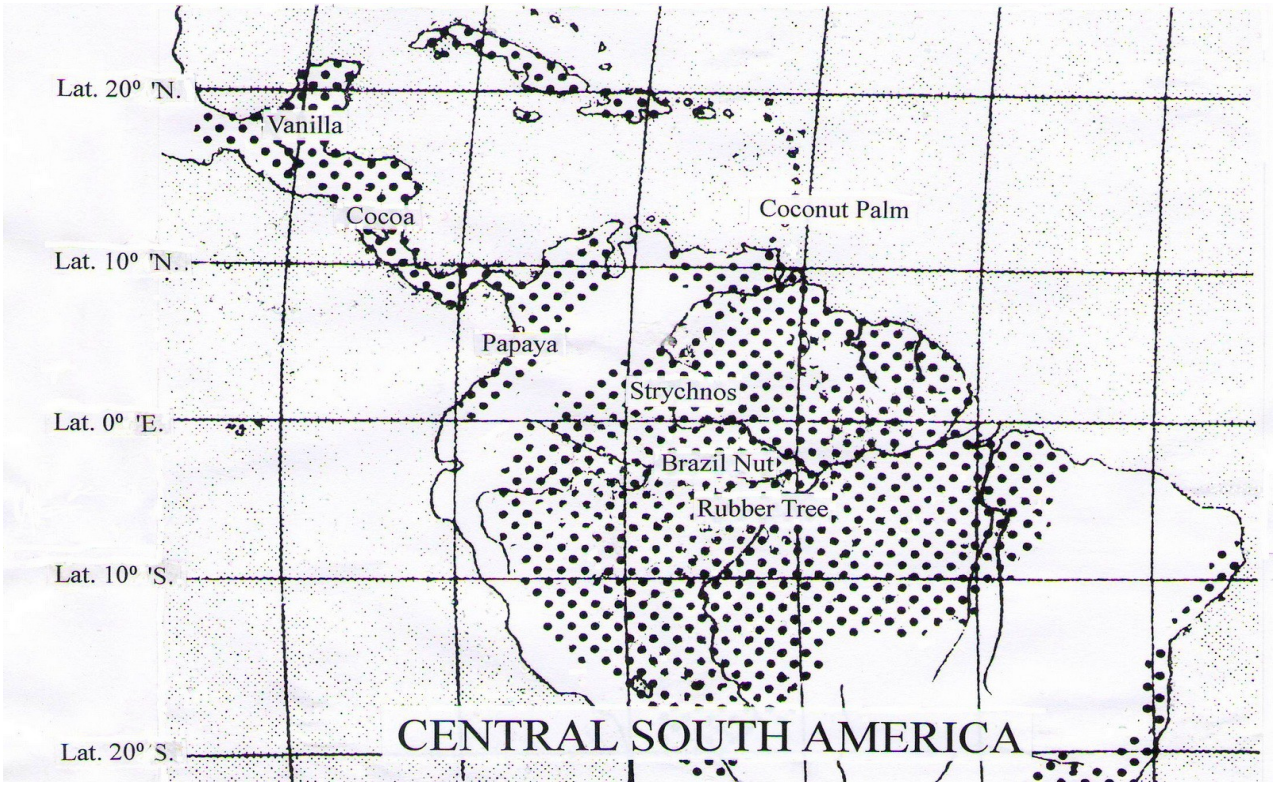
Henna Lawsonia inermis: Dye used for both skin and textiles; **distribution N. Africa to India.**

Myrrh Commiphora myrrha: Resin used in perfumery and medicine; **distribution Somalia to Yemen and Oman.**

Frankincense Boswellia sacra: Resin used for burning as incense; **distribution Somalia to Yemen.** Threats from goats, Long-horned Beetles and decades of overexploitation has driven it to the edge of extinction but there's no reason why it couldn't be cultivated within its desert range.

Castor Oil Plant Ricinus communis: Grown throughout the tropics; seeds used to make castor-oil and ricin; **wild distribution N.E. Africa to India.** Oil used in lubrication and as a purgative, also makes very good skin cream. Ricin is highly poisonous but produces an anticancer drug.

Fan Palms various species: Borassus aethiopum, B. akeassii **W. Africa.** B. madagascariensis, B. sambuanensis **Madagascar.** B. flabellifer **S.E. Asia.** B. heineanus **Papua New Guinea.** Fibres have all kinds of uses and fruits are eaten.



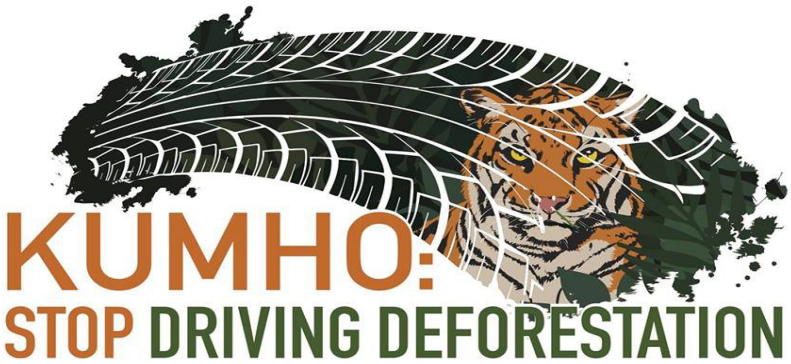
In Central South America the fragmentation of Amazonia is absolutely horrendous, with land under cattle, soya or simply laid waste, but even amongst all of that carnage salvation is far from impossible. By buying up land in that part of the world, converting those areas which are now fragmented on all sides, these places could be brought back to life once again. From S. Mexico, over the mountains of Columbia and right down to Amazonian basin, we could have pockets of working forest intermingled with forest reserves instead of the abysmal void we so often now have.

A tapper working in one of Brazil's native Rubber forests without destroying habitat at all.

There's no reason why rainforests couldn't generate enough wealth to support themselves on mass two or three times over. Rubber alone has a $multibillion annual turnover and if this was cultivated in its original Brazil and Peru both extensive habitat as well as vast fortunes could be made. Obviously it's not going to end up as a pristine species-rich rainforest overnight but it would nonetheless create a viable habitat which could provide home for Jaguars and many other species which would surely be the next best thing. **At the moment these animals are alternating between hapless conservationists who want to save them and ranchers on the other hand who want to kill them and as such are struggling for their very survival.** I believe extensive rubber cultivation in Amazonia could well be their salvation and would certainly better than anything they have at the moment with the endless expanses of ranches and soya.

By buying up and acquiring land paid staff workers could then conserve and protect the wildlife within its boundaries and once in ownership it's a simple matter of cultivating the right commercial tree and plant species to pay for it all. The dappled shade of Rubber Trees could also support an understory of wild Cocoa and many other native plants which would double or even triple potential profit. There are any amount of rainforest crops that produce nuts, fruits, spices, resins and waxes etc. By generating cash from self-sustaining systems like this around the world it could then bring in great benefits for everyone and everything living both in and around the forests as well as the whole of conservation itself.

For political reasons however governments have been wilfully engaged in the opposite of what's good for the planet for centuries and things are far from improving. We need a completely new 'Rainforest Assured Standard,' a symbol that would actually mean something, in which the public could truly engage with in sustainable shopping. A system where wild indigenous, native species trees and plants would be cultivated in their homelands creating habitat on mass and thus providing the truly sustainable credentials which would no doubt had been fully expected in the first place.



Tire companies like Kuhmo account for 70% of global tire production. But in order for the industry to thrive, huge swathes of forests are being destroyed to increase profits at the expense of endangered species and local communities. Deforestation for rubber is rapidly growing cause of deforestation around the world. It is destroying the habitats of endangered animals from gibbons to elephants, driving climate change, and taking the land of people who have lived there for generations.

Kumho can no longer kick the can down the road. Six of their competitors have already adopted their own policies for sustainable natural rubber, so it's critical that Kumho act quickly to keep up and commit to a "no deforestation, no exploitation" policy.

That's why we're gathering at Woodruff Park with a 10ft tall, 500 pound Tire Monster mascot, to demand that Kumho act fast to stop their environmental destruction and human rights abuses. With Kumho on the right side of history, and local community members pushing them, we can have a global impact on an issue that affects us all.

Mighty Earth.

Sadly however Rubber these days is grown in the distant lands of S.E. Asia threatening wildlife on mass. Seen as a problem that should be grown 'sustainably' but it's really so simple it doesn't have to be grown there at all. With conservationists wringing their hands in the air, "everything's going wrong, boohoohoo, and we can't understand what's happening." Pathetic!

All of this was all down to Britain of course back in the day. The start of the rot when the British, shamefully assisted by Kew, stole the Rubber seeds from Brazil. With sustainable this and sustainable that, with everything grown in the wrong place, we can only look on in utter helplessness at the right old mess conservation has made of things ever since.

What The Conservationists Don't Want You To Know.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_3613f6c81f834e59a2efcac16c21bd0e.pdf

SOUTH AMERICA.

Coca Erythroxylon coca: Leaves produce cocaine, the raw leaf is sold and used quite legitimately by the locals for pain relief treatment; **distribution tropical S. America;** more appropriately grows on the higher slopes rather than down in the forests themselves.

Rubber Tree Hevea brasiliensis: Grown throughout tropical S.E. Asia; sap contains latex; **wild distribution Amazonia.** Latex has all kinds of industrial uses and could make such a project a fortune in itself.

Brazil Nut Bertholletia excelsa: Seed kernels are eaten; **distribution Amazonia.** Brazil nuts require the presence of a certain wasp to assist with germination; something to bear in mind when planting.

Achiote Tree Bixa orellana: Grown mainly in the Caribbean and elsewhere; seeds contain the food colouring Annatto; **wild distribution Amazonia.**

Strychnos Strychnos nux vomica: Seeds contain strychnine; **distribution Amazonia.** Curare, used as a muscle relaxant in heart surgical procedures, is a derivative of strychnine.

Tapioca Manihot esculenta: Roots are eaten; **wild distribution Amazonia.**

Cashew Anacardium occidentale: Cultivated in Africa and India; seeds are eaten; **wild distribution tropical S. America.**

Guarana Paullinia cupana, P. crysan, P. sorbilis: Seeds are used as a dietary supplement; **wild distribution Amazonia.**

Ceiba Ceiba pentandra: Fruits contain kapok; **distribution Amazonia and Ecuador.**

Tagua Phytelephas macrocarpa: Nuts used as a synthetic ivory for jewellery; **distribution Panama to Paraguay.**

Tabebuia Tabebuia altissima: Bark contains antibacterial properties; **distribution Amazonia.**

Myroxylon Myroxylon pereirae: Produces balsam; used as an inhalant; **distribution Amazonia.**

Oil Palm Elaeis oleifera: This is the S. American species; fruits used to make palm oil; **wild distribution Honduras to N. Brazil;** oil is used in all kinds of cooking products and in biofuels.

Cocoa Theobroma eacao: Grown in tropical Africa; seeds produce chocolate; **wild distribution S. Mexico to C. S. America.** Another crop with a good opportunity for making money.

Caimito or Abiu Pouteria caimito: Fruits are eaten; **distribution Amazonia.**

Tucumã Palm Astrocaryum vulgare and aculeatum: Fruits are eaten and used to make oil, the seeds are used to make jewellery; **distribution Amazonia.**

Açaí palm Euterpe oleracea. Fruits are eaten; **distribution Guatemala to Amazonia.**

Peach Palm Bactris gasipaes: Fruits are eaten; **distribution Guatemala to Amazonia.**

Papaya Carica papaya: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **distribution of the wild tree, Ecuador to S. Mexico.**

Avocado Persea americana: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **distribution of the wild tree Central Mexico to Guatemala.**

Chinchona Chinchona pubescens: Grown throughout the tropics; bark produces quinine; **wild distribution tropical S. America.**

Jatropha Jatropha curcas: Grown throughout the tropics; seeds produce oil which can be used for biofuel; **wild distribution S. America.**

Passion Fruit Passiflora edulis: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution Amazonia.**

Camu Camu Myrciaria dubia: Fruits are eaten; **distribution Amazonia.**

Turu Palm Oenocarpus bacaba: Fruits are eaten and used as a moisturiser; **distribution Amazonia.**

Balsa Ochroma lagopus: Timber used in model making etc.; **distribution Amazonia.**

Wild Pineapple Ananas comosus: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; distribution of wild plant, **S. America.**

Acai Euterpe oleracea: Fruits and are eaten; **wild distribution S. America.**

Guava Psidium guajava: Grown throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution tropical S. America.**

Potato Solanum brevicaule: Multiple cultivars grown throughout the world; tubers are eaten; **wild distribution Peru and the wild plant is still grown and harvested there today.**

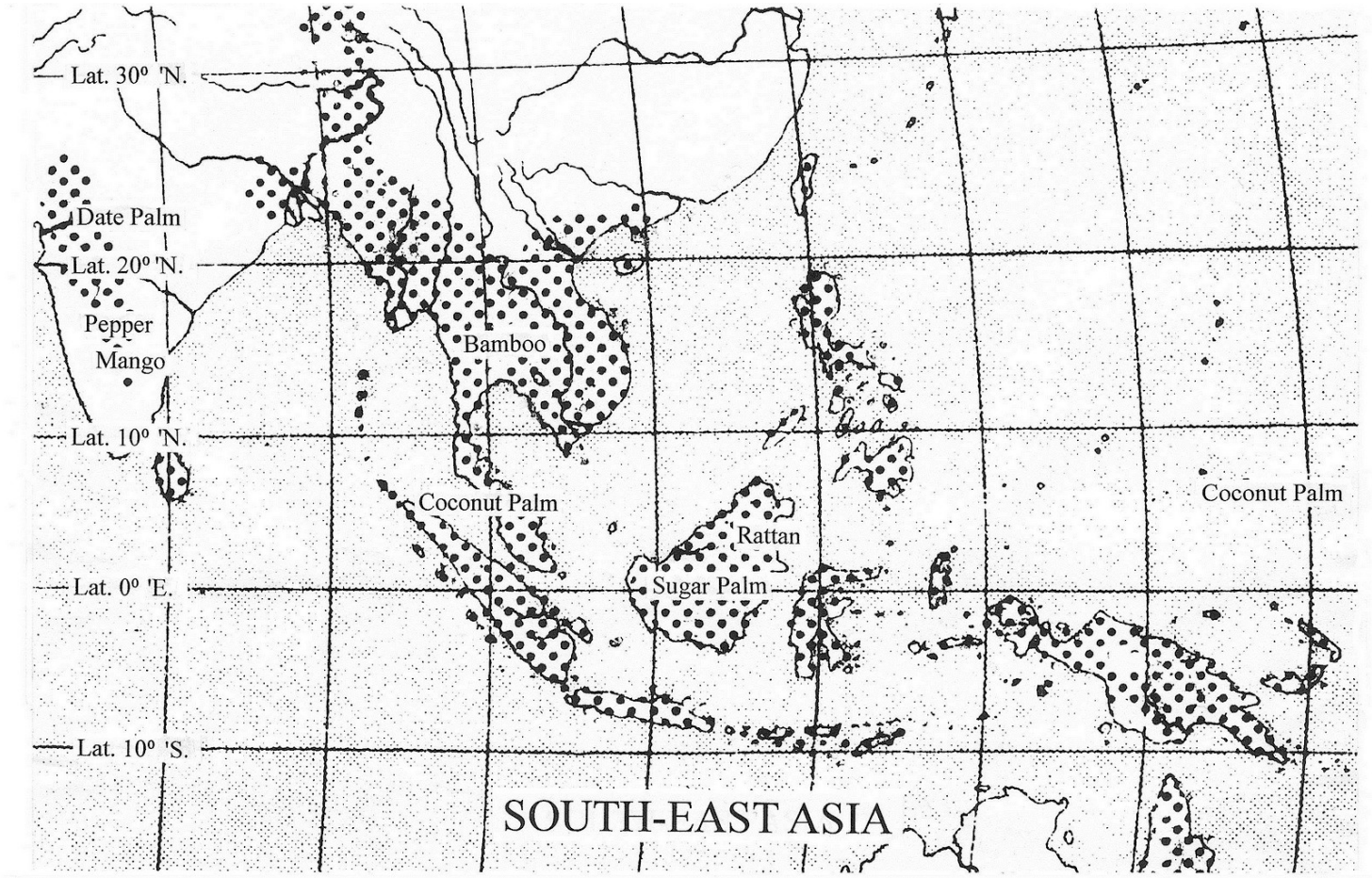
Vanilla Vanilla planifolia: Cultivated throughout the tropics; pods used as luxury flavouring; **wild distribution Mexico and Guatemala.**

Avocado Persea americana: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution Mexico.**

Chayote Sechium edule: Cultivated throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution Mexico.**

Chicle Manilkara chicle: Sap used to make the original chewing gum; **distribution Mexico and Guatemala.**

Curare Chondrodendron tomentosum: Used in anesthesia; **distribution West Indies to S. America.**



These once beautifully forested parts of S.E. Asia have now become the ultimate dumping grounds for all manner of abuse from inappropriately grown Oil Palm, Rubber to Coffee. From the past under British rule, to the multinationals and governments of today, with conservationists telling us to buy everything that's sustainably sourced. But the overriding message is loud and clear, "buy this crap and don't worry about it."

This is palm oil – Don't let anyone tell you different!

Until such time as palm oil really is produced sustainably, grown by real conservationists as a species tree on marginal land in Central Western Africa where it's native. Or, if the plantations here were ever bought up for converting back to some kind of native planting, within the interim period until that's achieved, then that could also be considered sustainable because of the ultimate aim. But in the meantime avoid this muck like the plague!

A simple guidance to avoiding because they are or might be palm oil.

Vegetable Fat, Vegetable Oil, Etyl Palmitate, Glyceryl, Hydrated Palm Glycerides, Octyl Palmitate, Palm Truit Oil, Palm Kernel Oil, Palm Kernel, Palm Stearine, Palmate, Palmitate, Palmitic Acid, Palmitoyl Oxostearamide, Palmitoyl Tetrapeptide-3, Palmity Alcohol, Palmolein, Sodium Kernelate, Sodium Laureth Sulfate, Sodium Lauryl Lactylate/Sulphate, Sodium Lauryl Sulfate, Sodium Palm Kernelate, Stearate and Stearic Acid. Soya based lecithin's not exactly great either.

So many funny names, it's enough to confuse anyone, which of course they're designed to do. Always check the ingredients and go for the sunflower, rapeseed, olive or coconut oils instead. Remember generic Vegetable Oil has become the new whale oil in as much as it's something we all need to very much avoid.

Sintang Orangutan Center - A truly sustainable alternative to Oil Palm in S.E. Asia.

The Tengkawang Trees, of which there are several species, all are native to the various parts of Indonesia and Borneo. An entirely different proposition to all of the other sustainable hype that's mostly spoken about these days it's a way the forests here can earn their way out of destruction. We look forward to the day when the big conservation organisations can see beyond their own noses.

Solutions from the Jungle: The Tengkawang Factory.

The Tengkawang Factory: A promising solution from the Jungle. Project by Willie Smits and the Masarang Foundation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5jo4yC6H1g

SOUTH-EAST ASIA.

Tengkawang Trees Shorea amplexicaulis, S. beccariana, S. compressa, S. fallax, S. havilandii, S. lepidota, S. macrantha, S. macrophylla, S. mecystopteryx and S. palembanica etc. Nuts used to produce oil; **distributions throughout Indonesia and Borneo. Seen as a real viable alternative to palm oil in this part of the world.**

Black Pepper Piper nigrum: Grown in many tropical parts; seeds used as a spice; **wild distribution India.**

Neem Tree Azadirachta indica: Fruits are eaten; seeds used as an insecticide; **distribution India.**

Acanthus Acanthus ilicifolius: A mangrove with the properties to cure liver cancer; **distribution India.**

Chaulmoogra Hydnocarpus kurzii: Used in the treatment of leprosy; **distribution India to Malaysia.**

Cardamom Elettaria cardamomum and E. amomum: Seeds used as spice; **wild distribution India, Nepal and Bhutan.**

Cinnamon Cinnamomum verum: Grown as a coppice, inner bark used as a spice; **wild distribution Sri Lanka.**

Moringa Tree Moringa oleifera: Cultivated in many temperate and tropical countries; seeds are used for their health benefits; **wild distribution Himalayas and NW India.**

Teak Tectona grandis: One of the few tropical hardwoods which can be sustainably grown if managed well; **distribution India, Burma, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia.**

Hemp Cannabis sativa: Cultivated in many temperate and tropical countries; fibres used for ropes, twines and linen etc., and cannabis obtained from certain species; **distribution Asia.**

Mango Mangifera indica: Grown throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **distribution of wild tree India.**

Nutmeg Myristica fragrans: Cultivated throughout the tropics; both fruit and seed are used as spices; **wild distribution Maluku (spice islands).**

Clove Eugenia caryophyllus: Grown throughout the tropics; flower buds are used in cookery, oil used as a tooth desensitiser and can even prevent gum disease; **wild distribution Maluku (spice islands).**

Musa Musa textilis: Another species of Hemp, **native to Maluku and the Philippines.**

Betel Piper betle: Leaves used in cooking; **distribution S.E. Asia.**

Rattan various species Calamus: Branches used to make walking-sticks and other items; jernang fruits are eaten; **distribution tropical S.E. Asia.**

Bombax Bombax ceiba: Fruits contain kapok; **distribution India and Malaysia.**

Coconut Palm Cocos nucifera: Seed interiors are eaten, oil used for cooking and biofuels, outer seed cases or fruit used to make mats; distribution, **low-lying coastal land throughout the tropics.**

Bamboo various Bambuseae: Used in furniture, house and boat construction; **distribution throughout the tropics and subtropics especially S.E. Asia.**

Ignatius Bean Ignatia amara: Used in the treatment of cholera and fever; **distribution Vietnam to the Philippines.**

Sugar Palms various species: Arenga pinnata, **S.E. Asia.** Caryota urens, **India.** Sap tapped for producing various goods.

Salak Palm Salacca zalacca: Several cultivars; grown as impenetrable hedges; **distribution of wild trees S.E. Asia.**

Tropical Almond Terminalia catappa: Nuts are eaten; **wild distribution Asia, Africa, and Australia.**

Tung Tree Vemicia fordii: Cultivated throughout the Americas; seeds used to produce oil; **wild distribution S. China and Burma.**

Areca Palm Areca calechu: Seeds are eaten; **distribution S.E. Asia and Polynesia.**

Breadfruit Artocarpus communis and A. altilis: Grown throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution Polynesia.**

Macadamia Nut Macadamia integrifolia and M. tetraphylla: Grown throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution Queensland, Eastern Australia.**

Wild Banana Musa itinerans: Grown as a cultivar throughout the tropics; fruits are eaten; **wild distribution S. China.**

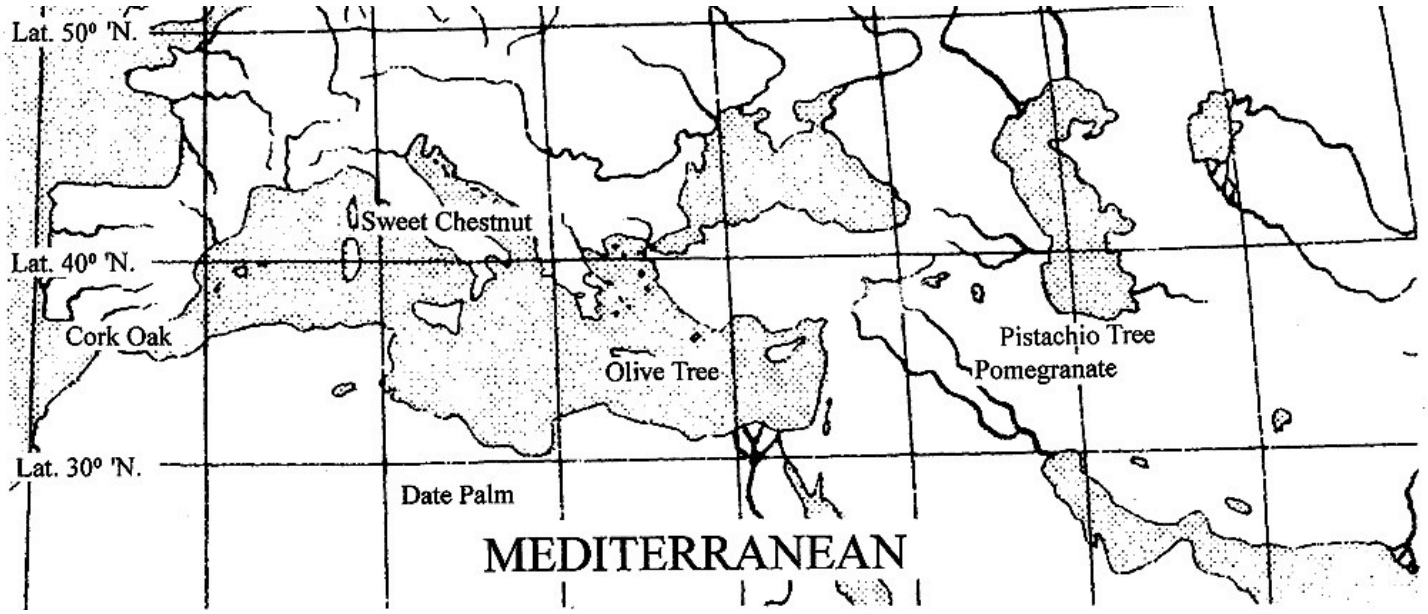
Lychee Litchi chinensis: Fruits are eaten; **distribution S. China.**

Xi shu Camptotheca acuminata: Used in the treatment of cancers; **distribution China and Tibet.**

Ginkgo Ginkgo biloba: Used in the treatment of Alzheimer's and high blood pressure; **wild distribution China, Korea and Japan.**

Lacquer Tree Toxicodendron vernicifluum and T. succedanea: Sap contains lacquer and the fruits also produce wax; **distribution India, China and Japan.**

Camellia Tree Camellia japonica: Grown as a cultivar; nuts produce oil; **wild distribution China, Taiwan, S. Korea and S. Japan.**



Now moving away from the rainforests to the Mediterranean which is also a very productive region for crop trees. With Sweet Chestnuts to the north, wild Date Palms to the south, Cork Oaks to the west, wild Olives throughout, and Almonds and Pistachios to the east.

Until recently the only ecological thing about a bottle of wine, other than the glass which is widely recyclable, was its cork. But now the industry is largely abandoning its use and is switching to synthetics instead. **Throughout Spain, Portugal and Morocco, a massive wilderness area could be established by planting it up with Cork Oaks.** There are of course other markets such as table mats to wall-tilings and every niche needs to be exploited.

Many Olive groves these days are unnecessarily sprayed, mown and manicured, while the Olives themselves are very often cultivars. If conservationists owned their own groves, they could of course ensure only wild, genetically pure, native Olives were used and that the land was treated with a good deal more respect than is often the case.

Wild, native Pistachio Trees were once grown from Turkey, Iran right through to the Himalayan foothills of Afghanistan, creating good employment for the locals, invaluable stretches of habitat for an entire range of species and helped stop desertification. The Asiatic Cheetah, which is found nowhere else in the world, is hanging on by its teeth only in Iran. Pistachios as a habitat and there's an ever increasing risk of desertification without them.

Here again politics is not far away. **The Americans have had a good many disagreements with countries like Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Syria, and so now, just about anywhere we look, we simply cannot buy Iranian grown Pistachios or Syrian grown Almonds in the shops any more.** Instead, we now have Californian USA. grown products that now seem to have cornered the entire market. What would once had supported the very kinds of economies in these original countries, thanks to them, are no longer there. Not ending with that, there are now some of the most horrendous problems occurring in California itself. The US. in these places is now having to carry its ecology around on the backs of trucks because they have no bees left at all.

Native Pistachio Trees growing in their home countries of Turkey, Iran and Afghanistan.

Please see the various links.

Where Do Your Nuts Come From?

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_2c67adee22c04be698536694d08a5dd2.pdf

The Asiatic Cheetah.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_f2051e180d1b445e80504631d8d48cd7.pdf

What The Conservationists Don't Want You To Know.

https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/74da12_3613f6c81f834e59a2efcac16c21bd0e.pdf

And with no trade in Pistachios this is where many of the trees eventually end up.

EUROPE AND N. ASIA.

Pistachio Nut Pistacia vera: Grown as a cultivar, especially in California USA. where it has hijacked the world-market; seeds are eaten; **distribution of the wild tree E. Turkey, Iran to Afghanistan. An extremely important species throughout its range for local employment and combating desertification.**

Almond Prunus dulcis: Grown as a cultivar, nowhere more so than in California USA. where it has caused widespread ecological harm; nuts are eaten; **distribution of wild tree Turkey, Syria and Iran.**

Pomegranate Punica granatum: Cultivated throughout the subtropics; fruits are eaten; **distribution of the wild tree Iran.**

Olive Olea europaea: Grown as a cultivar in various parts of the world and widely cultivated as a species; fruits are eaten, and oil is used in cooking; distribution of the wild tree E. Mediterranean to W. Asia.

Quince Cydonia oblonga: Grown as a cultivar throughout the world; fruits are eaten; **distribution of the wild tree Caucasus.**

Apricot Prunus armeniaca: Grown as a cultivar throughout the world; fruits are eaten; **distribution of the wild tree Asia.**

Fig Picus carica: Grown as a cultivar; fruits are eaten; **distribution of wild tree S.E. Europe and W. Asia.**

Sumac Rhus aromatica, R. microphylla and R. trilobata: Sometimes grown as a cultivar; used as a spice or a dye; **distribution of wild tree East Asia and Africa.**

Carob Ceratonia siliqua: Fruits are eaten, and seeds are used as a gelling agent in food production (E410); **distribution E. Mediterranean.**

Cork Oak Quercus suber: Bark used in cork production; **distribution Spain, Portugal and Morocco.**

Sweet Chestnut Castanea sativa: Seeds are eaten; **distribution S. Europe to Japan.**

Stone Pine Pinus pinea; Mediterranean; Korean Pine P. koraiensis, N.E. Asia; P. gerardiana, W. Himalaya. All of these species produce pine nuts; **distribution various species occurring around the Northern Hemisphere.**

NORTH AMERICA.

Sugar Maple Acer saccharum: Trees are tapped for their sugary sap; **distribution N. USA. and Canada.**

Pecan Nut Carya illinoinensis: Nuts are eaten; **wild distribution Mexico and S. USA.**

Sumac Rhus typhina: The leaves and berries are used as herbs; **distribution N. USA. and Canada.**

As we can see there's practically nowhere in the tropical to temperate world where you can't find some kind of native tree or plant to cash in on. With low-density systems, allowing other trees and plants to coexist within each working area, together with nature reserves running along side, we really could have something that would work for the good of everything.

But most forests at the moment no-one owns them and it's a complete free-for-all. The solution, at least as I saw it, was to buy up as much as we could and to divide it up into estates. With each estate then responsible for protecting and managing of its own section of forest which would then be very well placed to safeguard as well as self-fund as described. **Throughout history, influence and power has always been determined by wealth, industry and land-ownership; and for conservation there can be no better industry for gaining wealth than forestry.** Relying on government goodwill and handouts so often with hefty price-tags that comes with it. Do as we say and don't rock the boat too much and your funds will be assured. Conservation deserves better than that and by forming our own industries instead of consorting with the cut-throats as we have been doing would put us in a far stronger all round position.

Nothing is ever written in stone, just because it's the way things are done, doesn't mean they can't be different. With piecemeal purchases, bit by bit, and then a bit more, all of it adding up into endlessness. It's the landowners who decide what's grown and the landowners who reap the profits, and just as the previous landowners felled trees and planted crops, then so too could we fell trees and plant crops. A Palm Oil or Rubber plantation in S.E. Asia could just as easily be converted to native Coconut, Rattan, Sugar Palm, Bamboo or Spices etc. In Western Central wild Africa Oil Palm and local Rubbers, and likewise, and moving around the planet a bit here, there's no reason why those parts of Amazonia, that are now under cattle or soya, couldn't be converted to Rubber and Brazil Nuts.

It's a vision, and with a bit of get out there and get on with it, it could become reality. In the meantime, the Chinese are grabbing all the land in the very parts of Africa we're talking about here. Ever since they took over we've seen an astronomical increase in rhino horn and ivory poaching, and shark finning is now occurring all around the African coast.

Commercialisation would put us onto the same level as the rest of the exploiters but our methods would create great ecological expanses and not destroy them. All of us live in the real world and with the passing of each and every decade this reality becomes more and more clear. We simply cannot expect governments to sit back and admire their forests while their economic standing in the world goes down the tube, and neither, as it is also becoming increasingly clear, can we ever imagine this was ever going to happen, at least not on any sort of mass.

For our part, we need to protect the pristine, species rich forests that are left, increase the acreage to its rightful and original land-mass, and we need to knit together all of the fragmentation that's occurred (in satellite imagery terms, it's a bit like darning socks). I am absolutely certain that making them pay is the only way to secure their long-term future, to put an end this abysmal void once and for all and to save them on the mass they undeniably deserve. The only alternative is to continue with this corporate led, government handout approach, doomed to failure from day one.

Imagine a piece of land in which there lives a species that exists nowhere else in the world. Pockets of habitat with rare species in them do still exist amongst the many remnants of remaining forest. We now own this place, which has been bought up under one of these systems, and the whole area would be turned into non-regimented, non-mono-culture, organic plantation of whatever trees, depending on whereabouts in the world you would happen to be. The results, which would be semi-natural, by the nature of everything growing there being native to the region, would serve as a perfect buffer-zone, whilst the parts in which this species lives could be given nothing short of a five star treatment, the land area could be expanded upon, the water quality assured, pools could be dug out or deepened as required, log-piles built and study areas set up, you name it.

Anyone else owning such a site, and you can just imagine what some people might have planned, the future of this species would be far less well assured. Multiply this over and over with all the other isolated populations scattered around the globe, and you can see just what potential for good these systems have to offer. Whole communities of plants and animals could be saved and corridors created. The ultimate of course might be to have Tiger corridors linking up various forest reserves in the heart of India. The limitations exist only within our own lack of imagination.

For details of other campaigns please visit http://cates1980.wixsite.com/cateswebsite **and go through the various Projects pages.**

IF FORESTS ARE TO BE SAVED ON THE MASS THEY TRULY DESERVE THEY NEED THE CHANCE TO EARN THEIR WAY OUT OF DESTRUCTION

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