
The Guyana Mangrove Restoration Project (GMRP)

In February 2010, the **Guyana Mangrove Restoration Project (GMRP)** was launched.

This project was conceived under the **European Union's Global Climate Change Alliance Programme**, linked to sustainable coastal zone management.

The **Government of Guyana** via the **Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)** has identified the **National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)** as the lead agency for the overall co-ordination of the programme, with guidance from a **Mangrove Action Committee**.

A Project Office was established at NARI, headed by a Co-ordinator and supported by project staff.

Guyana National Agricultural Research Institute

NARI Compound, Agriculture Road, Mon Repos, East Coast Demerara

Phone: 592-220-2843

Fax: 592-220-4481

E-mail:

macsecretariat@gmail.com

URL: www.mangrovesgy.org



Fact Sheet

Facts you might not know about Mangroves

- ❖ **"I'm special!"** Did you know that mangroves are **Only** found along the sea-coast and those riversides closer to the sea? Guyana currently has 80,432 hectares of mangrove forest.
- ❖ **Sometimes more is better!** Did you know that Region 1 and 2 have the most mangroves (75%) compared to other coastal areas (Region 3, 4, 5 and 6) which have an average of only 6%?
- ❖ **Let's clear the air!** Did you know that mangroves absorb about 120,000 tons (264,554,714 lbs) of carbon every year?
- ❖ **Taking one for the team!** Did you know that mangroves absorb 70-90% of wave energy generated by waves? Without mangroves to protect us from the ocean, most communities would be flooded.
- ❖ **Cheap and sweet!** Did you know that mangroves provide most of the sea defence for Guyana? Mangroves cost less and last longer. Construction and maintenance cost of man-made sea defence structures averages US\$5 million per one km of Guyana's 360 km of sea defence.
- ❖ **A little mangrove a day keeps the doctor away!** Mangroves have a variety of folklore medicinal uses. In addition, good quality, clear honey comes from Black Mangrove flowers. Honey is used for a number of ailments and to enhance good health.
- ❖ **I see land!** Older mangroves forests help to trap soil and build land. If you ask elders in the community, they might recall how the shoreline grew outwards to the sea, in locations where mangroves still exist in healthy numbers.
- ❖ **Where has the land gone?** Elders will also tell you that the shoreline is now closer to homes than ever before. Clearing of mangroves led to beach erosion and greater impact from the ocean waves.

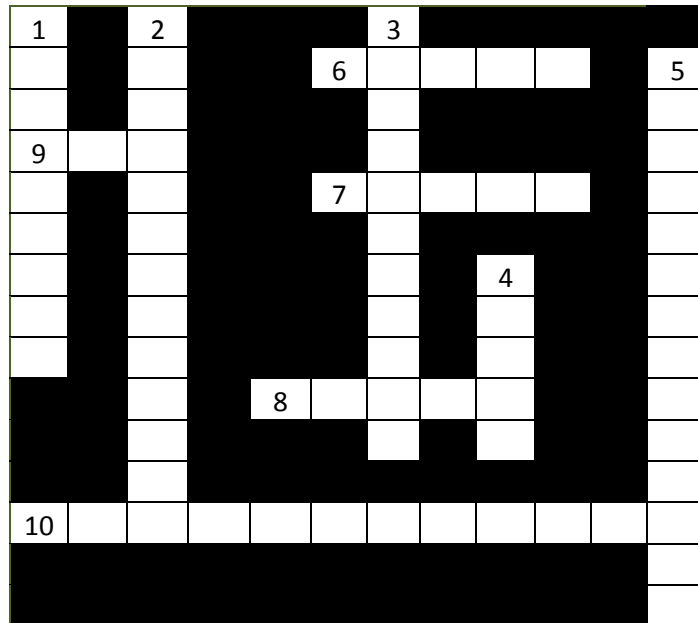


- ❖ **Miracle of life!** Mangroves produce ‘viviparous’ seeds, meaning they are able to germinate (put out shoots) while still attached to the parent plants. When they are finally shed they are able to grow very quickly in the mud.
- ❖ **Home sweet home!** Mangroves provide a safe place for several types of fish and crabs which many ‘coastlanders’ also use for food. Many types of birds, which include migratory birds and waders, form massive flocks that sleep, nest or look for food in mangrove areas.

- ❖ **Food !** Seeds of Black Mangroves are edible and can be prepared into a delicious meal – but be careful! A special recipe has to be used to take out the toxic chemicals.



Can you figure out this crossword puzzle?



- 6. Mangroves help to protect us from the _____
- 7. One of the three dominant species of mangroves found in Guyana
- 8. One of the three dominant species
- 9. Like resin. Can have medicinal properties
- 10. Roots used to take in oxygen

Down

- 1. The term given to plants that can tolerate salty environments
- 2. Mangroves help to protect us from _____
- 3. Flagship species
- 4. Sweet
- 5. Seeds that can germinate while on the tree

Across: 6-ocean; 7-black; 8-white; 9-gum; 10 - pneumatophore
 Down: 1- mangrove; 2-climate change; 3 - scarlet ibis; 4 - honey; 5- viviparous seeds