



Amazonia Reforestation

a division of

Planeta Verde Reforestación S.A.

Vichada, Colombia

Dr. Kochurani Dombro, Edmonton, Canada

Dexter B. Dombro, Bogotá, Colombia

Who are we?

- A Canadian family and people from Colombia
- Planting tropical trees in the Orinoco River basin
- We are planting a variety of tropical trees, native species and hardwoods
- We do afforestation and reforestation
- We don't do monoculture
- University of Alberta
- Omacha Foundation
- Tree-Nation



Where do we plant?



- The plantations are located in Vichada in Colombia.
- Vichada is located in the *llano* of Colombia
- The plantations are at 6° northern latitude near Orinoco river
- Climate is very hot and humid with 2400 mm of rain a year.

The Rivers



- *Plantación Amazonia El Vita* or *La Pedregosa* is located along the banks of the *Rio El Bita*.
- *Roncador Forestal* is located next to the mighty *Rio Orinoco*, South America's second largest river. Venezuela is on the other side.

Why Tropical Trees?

- Tropical Trees are huge CO² absorbers
- Tropical Trees cool the planet by 0.7° C
- A tropical tree can absorb 50 lbs or 22 kg of carbon a year
- Most are hardwoods
- They shelter numerous endangered species



In contrast

- Trees north of 20° latitude warm our planet by 0.8° C
- Northern trees hold the heat
- Northern trees absorb 1 kg of carbon a year
- Most are less dense softwood trees
- Grow only 3 months/yr



Carbon Sinks



- Tropical trees sequester carbon 365 days a year in their woody biomass
- More than 50% of a tropical trees woody biomass is carbon
- Large sequestration rate of carbon in first decade of tropical tree growth

More Carbon Sink

- Treeless land holds little carbon
- Tropical trees deposit carbon in soil from deadfall and roots
- Wood carbon remains sequestered after harvest for furniture or buildings
- Tropical tree planting means carbon removal



Carbon Release

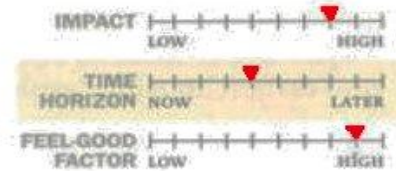


- Deforestation, fires, decomposition release CO²
- No CO² release from long term storage of wood as furniture or building materials
- Replacement tropical trees sequester more CO²

What the Media Says



IT SEEMS LIKE SIMPLE ARITHMETIC: A TREE CAN ABSORB UP TO A TON OF CARBON dioxide over its lifetime, so planting one should be an easy way to mitigate climate change. Turns out it's not so simple. Recent studies have shown that trees in temperate latitudes—including most of the U.S.—actually have a net warming effect on the climate. The heat that dark leaves absorb outweighs the carbon they soak up. —B.W.



Time Magazine - April 9, 2007

Economist.com

Average annual returns on timber, meaning managed preserves that are eventually harvested, have outstripped those from leading global stock indices, property, oil and gold for the past decade. Advocates say managed timber reserves are good for the environment too, preserving biodiversity on lands that might otherwise be logged recklessly. * *Feb 5th 2007*

Our Media

CANADA

EDMONTON JOURNAL

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2007

A5

Tropical, not Canadian, forests absorb CO₂

TOM SPEARS
Ottawa Citizen
OTTAWA

A new study of the world's forests has called one of Canada's most cherished beliefs: that our vast forests soak up and store carbon dioxide.

They don't, says a new study by U.S., Russian, Japanese, French and British scientists.

At least, they don't soak up enough to matter much in the climate picture.

Forests "are not the panacea for climate change. They're not going to save us and, for Canada, this is very important," says Kevin Gurney, associate di-

rector of Purdue University's climate research centre in Indiana.

"We still have to look at the energy system, (i.e., coal, gas and oil). It is the 800-pound gorilla in the emissions world ... and trees are not going to help us escape the tough work we're going to have to do in the energy systems."

Gurney attended the original Kyoto Protocol conference in 1997 and other meetings since, where Canada pushed hard for permission to count its forests as tools that offset its emissions. The idea was that Canada didn't have to cut back carbon emissions as much as other coun-

tries because forests did much of the work.

But the science team publishing today in the journal *Science* found that claiming forests as a major weapon won't work. It reached this conclusion by analyzing 40 years' worth of measurements from air sampling in and above forests around the world.

The basic puzzle began in the early 1990s: about 40 per cent of emissions from cars, trucks and industry is added to existing carbon dioxide in the air.

Another 30 per cent is soaked up by oceans.

But the remaining 30 per cent — billions of tonnes a year of CO₂ — was disappearing, and Canada (along with some other countries) liked to think CO₂ was being absorbed by trees.

Instead, most of it is being soaked up by tropical forests, the study finds.

Tropical forests are turning out to be an enormously powerful weapon in cleaning the air, unlike their northern cousins in Canada, the U.S. and Europe.

The team found some 40 per cent of the carbon dioxide once thought to be absorbed by northern forests is instead taken up in the tropics.

This is stunning the scientists, because huge tracts of tropical rainforests have been slashed and burned in recent years. Yet, even after losing all those trees, "the trees, for reasons that are not entirely clear, are taking up carbon" on a huge scale, Gurney said.

"(Intact tropical forests) are helping to offset industrial carbon emissions and the atmospheric impacts of clearing land more than we realized," said Britt Stephens, the lead author of the study.

Stephens works at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colo.

CanWest News Service

What are we doing?



- We are planting tropical trees on treeless land in Vichada, Colombia
- We start from seed with nurseries, and plant in mid-rainy season
- We start with trees that fix nitrogen in the soil and with native flood resistant hardwoods



What are some trees?

- *Acacia mangium* has a 10 year cycle and fixes nitrogen in the soil.
- It produces high protein seeds and honey.
- *Eucalyptus pellita* has a 10 year cycle and is sold as red mahogany.
- It produces Eucalyptus oil, honey and kino.



What can you do?

- You can buy 10 trees for only \$100
- Every purchase includes 10 years of care and maintenance, from seed to harvest
- In 10 years' time we will pay you \$34 for each purchased tree
- Purchases of \$400 and up earn bonus trees worth \$24 each in 10 years' time
- A \$400 purchase pays \$1,600 in 10 years
- Or buy \$4,000 worth of trees and in 10 years make **\$16,000 !!!**

Refer a friend and receive one free tree for every \$100 they purchase!

What do you get?

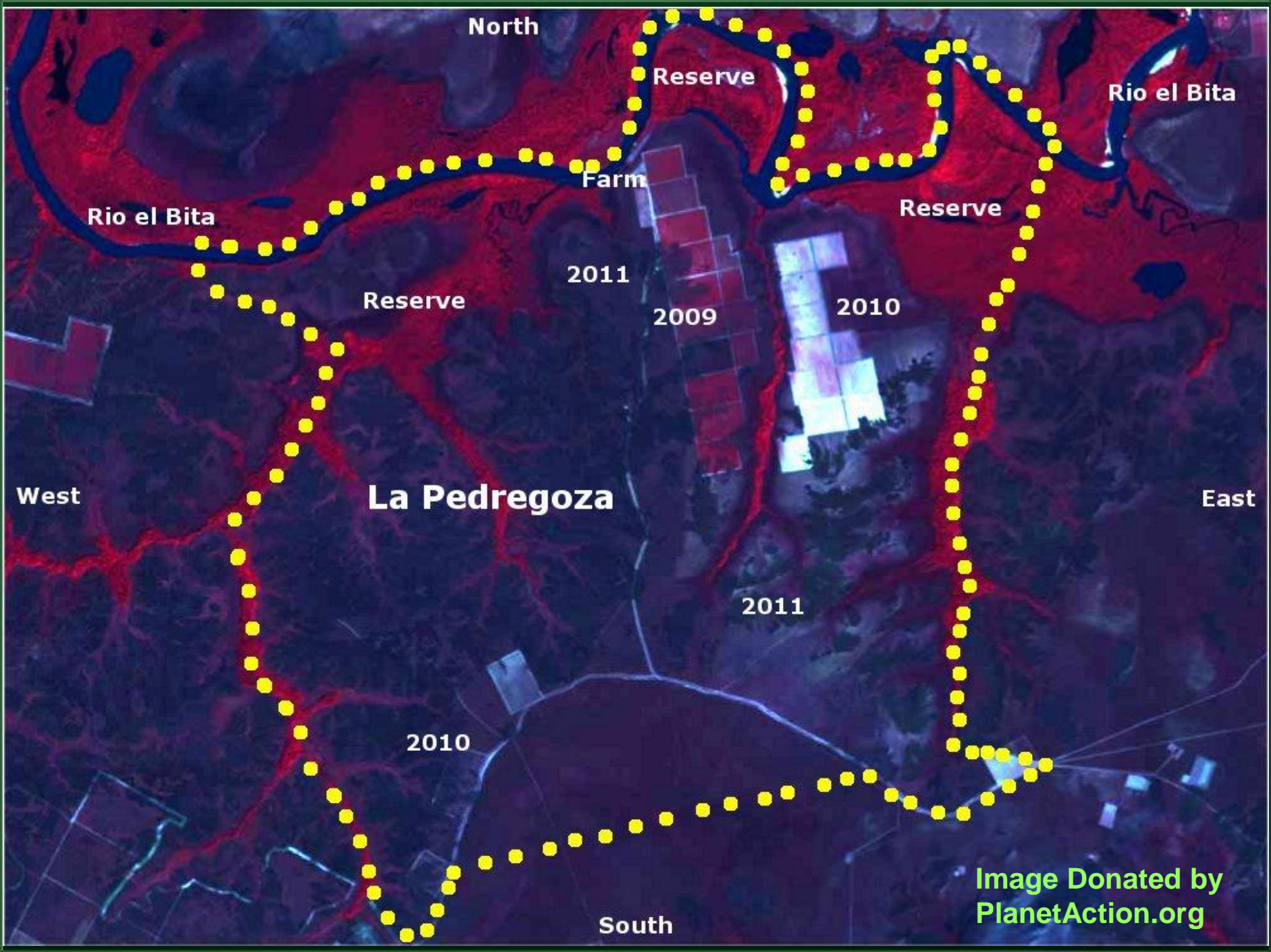


- You receive a Tree Ownership Certificate
- Every 40 trees remove 1 ton of CO² a year
- A smaller carbon footprint
- Fresh bonus oxygen
- You help endangered wildlife with habitat
- And you make a profit and help the planet



Some Pictures





Rio el Bita

North

Reserve

Rio el Bita

Farm

Reserve

Reserve

2011

2009

2010

West

La Pedregoza

East

2011

2010

South

Image Donated by PlanetAction.org

MyReforestation.com

- Thank you for your time and attention.
- Please help us root out global warming.
- And come to Colombia to hug your trees!

