



Heritage Plants

Native Trees and Plants for Birds and People
in the Caribbean



Planting for Birds in the Caribbean

If you're a bird lover yearning for a brighter, busier backyard, native plants are your best bet. The Caribbean's native trees, shrubs and flowers are great for birds and other wildlife, and they're also a part of the region's unique natural heritage. There's no better way to celebrate the beauty, culture and birds of the Caribbean than helping some native plants get their roots down.



The Habitat Around You

Habitat restoration sounds like something that is done by governments in national parks, but in reality it can take many forms. Native plants can turn backyards and neighborhood parks into natural habitats that attract and sustain birds and other wildlife.

In the Caribbean, land is precious—particularly the coastal areas where so many of us live. Restoring native habitat within our neighborhoods allows us to share the land with native plants and animals. Of course, it doesn't just benefit the birds. Native landscaping makes neighborhoods more beautiful and keeps us in touch with Caribbean traditions.



Why Native Plants?

Many plants can help birds and beautify neighborhoods, but native plants really stand out. Our native plants and animals have developed over millions of years to live in harmony: pigeons eat fruits and then disperse seeds, hummingbirds pollinate flowers while sipping nectar. While many plants can benefit birds, native plants almost always do so best due to the partnerships they have developed over the ages.

In addition to helping birds, native plants are themselves worthy of celebration. They have been part of the local landscape since long before we arrived and provided us with shade, food, wood, bush teas and traditional remedies throughout the years. Many of these wonderful plants and trees were cleared for plantations and displaced by introduced species and could use our help today.

Native plants are often the best for us, too. They may be easier to grow and maintain because they are already adapted to the local climate and the local ecosystem. Native plants may need less water and be less susceptible to insect pests. Many native Caribbean plants are also salt-tolerant and adapted to sandy soils.



Getting Started

There's no wrong way to bring native plants into your backyard gardening or neighborhood landscaping, but there are a few things you can do to make the most of your native plants.

Planting a variety of plants helps recreate a varied ecosystem and can attract a wider variety of birds and animals. Creating different types of landscape—from tall trees to open spaces—also increases the impact of your native garden. Avoiding any sort of chemical pest or weed control is also a must, to ensure a healthy environment for plants, animals and humans.

Water enhances any bird-friendly backyard. Most birds drink water every day and many enjoy bathing, to clean their feathers and get rid of parasites. For bathing and drinking, a shallow saucer birds can wade in is best. Remember to keep it filled with clean water. If you have the space, building a small pond is even better. Shady spots are best for ponds and birdbaths—the water evaporates more slowly and birds feel safer with vegetation to hide in.

The best way to feed birds in your backyard is to plant a variety of native trees and plants so birds will be able to find nectar, fruit, seeds and insects to eat. If you want to add birdseed or a hummingbird feeder, we recommend being consistent in what you provide. After a hurricane, feeders can help hummingbirds and other vulnerable species survive until natural food sources area available again.



Pick Your Plants

Below are a number of native plant recommendations, with descriptions of the benefits they provide and key relationships with Caribbean birds. As you read about these wonderful West Indian plants, you'll notice the variety of names we have for them in English, Spanish, French and Creole. Many of these plants have been an important part of Caribbean culture for centuries. What better way to sustain our traditions than having heritage growing in our own backyards?



Sea Grape

COCCOLOBA UVIFERA

Names: Sea Grape, Baygrape, Seaside-grape, Cocoloba, Uva de Playa, Jamaican Kino

Native Range: Throughout tropical America

Bird Buddies: White-crowned Pigeon, Scaly-naped Pigeon, parrots, woodpeckers, mockingbirds, thrashers, catbirds

The Sea Grape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), Pigeon Plum (*Coccoloba diversifolia*), and other members of the genus *Coccoloba* (family Polygynaceae) are shrub or small tree species widespread in the Bahamas and Caribbean and provide abundant fruits for a wide variety of frugivores (fruit-eating birds).

As the name suggests, sea grapes grow on beachfronts and near the sea throughout the region where they provide cover for nesting birds as well as fruit consumed by a diversity of bird species. Sea grapes can be pruned or trimmed to fit in different locations in gardens.

A variety of other *Coccoloba*, which also provide fruits for birds, are found throughout the region and gardeners should consult the internet or inquire with their local nursery for the names of species specific to their island.

The Sea Grape is a familiar tree found on beaches throughout the Caribbean. Each tree will only produce male or female flowers, but not both. Top: the large round leaves of a Sea Grape with unripe fruit. Bottom left: male Sea Grape flowers. Bottom right: female Sea Grape flowers. Only female Sea Grape trees produce fruit. (Photos by Mark Yokoyama)



Pigeon Plum

COCCOLOBA DIVERSIFOLIA

Names: Dove Plum, Pigeon Seagrape, Tietongue, Uva De Paloma, Uvilla

Native Range: The Bahamas, Caribbean and Central America

Bird Buddies: White-crowned Pigeon, Scaly-naped Pigeon, parrots, woodpeckers, mockingbirds, thrashers, catbirds

The Pigeon Plum is a close relative of the Sea Grape and the two trees share many similarities. Like the Sea Grape, there are male and female trees and the bark of this tree peels in plates as it gets large, leaving a mottled appearance. The leaves of the Pigeon Plum are elongated compared to those of the Sea Grape. The fruit of the two trees are similar, although Pigeon Plum clusters typically have fewer fruit.

Pigeon Plums are found in the Bahamas and Greater Antilles and can be grown on poor soils in dry locations where only the female plants produce fruits and therefore it is important to have both male and female of the species.

The Pigeon Plum is a great source of fruit for birds and a versatile native tree for landscaping in dry or sandy areas. Top: Elongated leaves and smaller fruit clusters help differentiate this tree from the Sea Grape. Bottom Left and Right: Clusters of Pigeon Plum fruit. (Photos by Forest and Kim Starr)



Cocoplum

CHRYSOBALANUS ICACO

Names: Cocoplum or Paradise Plum, Icacó, Icaque Ponne, Pork-fat-apple, Zicate

Native Range: Throughout tropical America and tropical Africa

Bird Buddies: Pigeons, doves, parrots, woodpeckers, mockingbirds, thrashers

Cocoplum is a native shrub that can grow to 4 – 6 meters in height and is found in coastal areas of the Bahamas and Caribbean.

This is a salt tolerant species that can be trimmed to serve as low ground cover, a hedge or a single shrub which provides cover for nesting birds.

The smaller fruits are consumed by White-crowned Pigeons and by other pigeons and doves, as well as parrots. The larger fruits can be consumed by smaller birds that bite off and ingest the pulp in pieces.

Because it can be readily trimmed and is salt tolerant the Cocoplum is an excellent shrub for small gardens, especially near the coast.

Fruits and flowers of the Cocoplum. Top: A Cocoplum with fruits of various sizes. (Photo: Jenny Evans) Bottom left: Cocoplum flowers. (Photo by Malcom Manners) Bottom right: Cocoplum fruit. (Photo by Jenny Evans)



Gumbo-limbo

BURSERA SIMARUBA

Names: Turpentine Tree, Tourist Tree, Gum-elemi, Copperwood, West Indian Birch, Gammalamme, Chaca, Almácigo

Native Range: Most of the Caribbean and The Bahamas

Bird Buddies: Pigeons and doves, parrots, trogons, crows, kingbirds, tanagers, mockingbirds, parakeets, thrushes, finches, warblers, vireos and woodpeckers.

Gumbo-limbo is a native tree, 4-6.5 meters tall, with distinctive reddish paper-like peeling bark found in dry regions through out the Caribbean and Bahamas. It was given the nickname Tourist Tree for the red peeling bark that resembles sunburn.

The tree sheds its leaves in the dry season when it provides fruits at the end of the dry season. During this crucial time a wide diversity of birds feed on the fruits of this tree. Dead branches host beetle larvae favoured by woodpeckers, other birds feed on insects living in and on the fruit clusters.

Due to its ease of cultivation and the broad appeal of its fruit, this tree is an ideal species to plant for habitat restoration in urban areas or as a starter species in reforestation. It is one of the fastest growing native trees in the Caribbean.

It is hurricane resistant, and fallen branches with fruit are a key source of food for many birds in the immediate aftermath of a hurricane.

The Gumbo-limbo is one of the most useful and versatile trees when planting for birds. Top: The Gumbo-limbo has distinctive, peeling bark that is the source of many of its common names. Bottom left: The tree has an open crown, typically growing from several large branches and loses its leaves in the dry season. Bottom right: The fruit is a key resource for many birds. (Photos by Jenny Evans)

Lignum Vitae

GUAIACUM OFFICINALE

Names: Holywood, Tree of Life, Ironwood, Brazilwood, Gaïac, Bois de Vie, Guaiacum, Guayaco, Palo Santo

Native Range: The Caribbean and northern South America

Bird Buddies: Parrots, flycatchers, tanagers, grackles, orioles, mockingbirds

This iconic, endangered tree is known for having the hardest wood in the world—an attribute that contributed to its widespread overharvesting throughout the Caribbean. Used for everything from ship parts to billy clubs to mortars and pestles, this tree is hard to find in the wild on many islands. It is the national flower of Jamaica.

The Lignum Vitae is a slow-growing tree that is highly tolerant of drought, poor soil and salty conditions, making it an excellent choice to grow in areas where other trees would struggle. The slow growth makes this tree useful in areas where there is limited space available.

The closely-related Holywood (*Guaiacum sanctum*) is found in the Greater Antilles, Florida, The Bahamas and Central America. It is the national flower of The Bahamas.

The trade of both species is controlled under CITES Appendix II, but seeds and seedlings are not included in those restrictions and these trees are widely cultivated, primarily for their ornamental value.



Lignum Vitae is a distinctive tree that is easy to identify. Top: The dense crown remains a vibrant green, even during the dry season. Bottom left: Orange fruits are produced in vast numbers by mature trees. Bottom right: The blue flowers of the *Lignum Vitae* are a nectar source for many butterflies, bees and other insects. (Photos by Mark Yokoyama)

Shortleaf Fig

FICUS CITRIFOLIA

Names: Wild Banyan Tree, Giant Bearded Fig

Native Range: Throughout the Caribbean and Bahamas

Bird Buddies: Pigeons, doves, woodpeckers, thrushes, thrashers, mockingbirds, catbirds, kingbirds, flycatchers, vireos, some warblers

Several species of fig trees are native to the Caribbean and Bahamas, but we recommend the Shortleaf Fig as it is least likely to take over the yard with aerial roots that sprout from the branches and grow downward taking up space around the tree.

If you have ample space, figs such as the Shortleaf Fig produce an abundance of fruit consumed by a wide diversity of native and migrant birds, including many fruit eating species and even, at times, Laughing Gulls. Bats also enjoy the fruit, which is purple when ripe. Several species of birds will also readily nest in fig trees.

Consult the internet or your local nursery for recommendations of native figs for your specific island. Fig trees are fast-growing and need considerable space; they should not be planted in gardens or yards with limited space (their roots can damage foundations and invade water supplies).



The Shortleaf Fig is a beautiful tree and bountiful fruit-producer. Top: The unripe fruit and large leaves of the Shortleaf Fig. (Photo by Mauro Guanandi) Bottom left: The thick trunk and buttress roots of a Shortleaf Fig tree. (Photo by Riba) Leaves and unripe fruit of Shortleaf Fig. (Joe Wunderle)



Wild Guava

GENUS TETRAZYGIA

Names: West Indian Lilac, Clover Ash, Cordobanes

Native Range: Varies by species

Bird Buddies: Doves, thrushes, thrashers, warblers, Bananaquits, Orangequits, vireos, tanagers, finches, trogons, bullfinches, hummingbirds

Several species of *Tetrazygia* occur in the region. They may be bushes or small trees and all produce small berries that are readily eaten by a diversity of migrant and native bird species.

Tetrazygia bicolor occurs in the Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola, and Puerto Rico and occurs in both dry and moist sites.

The genus *Miconia* is another closely related genus that also produces small berries regularly consumed by a variety of birds.

Most species of *Miconia* are small to medium-sized shrubs and a diversity of *Miconia* species are found throughout the Greater and Lesser Antilles.

Gardeners should check the internet and local nursery personnel to identify the native species appropriate for their island.

Many varieties of Wild Guava are native to the Caribbean, including *Tetrazygia bicolor*, pictured here. Top: The small fruit are eaten by many birds. Bottom left: The elongated leaves have three veins running lengthwise. Bottom right: The flower clusters are beautiful and are often pollinated by hummingbirds. (Photos by Forest and Kim Starr)



Firebush

HAMELIA PATENS

Names: Hummingbird Bush, Scarletbush, Redhead, Bálsamo, Busunuvo, Pata de Pájaro, Doña Julia, Ponasí, Fleur-corail

Native Range: Throughout the Caribbean and Bahamas

Bird Buddies: Hummingbirds, bananaquits, thrashers, tanagers, finches

Firebush is a small shrub of moist to wet forests found throughout the Caribbean and Bahamas. It produces flowers throughout the year, which attract hummingbirds and Bananaquits. Fruits are consumed by birds including thrashers, tanagers, and finches.

In addition to being a valuable plant for local and migratory birds, Firebush is a very attractive ornamental plant that will brighten any yard or garden. It can reach a height of 2-4 meters.

In addition to the fruit- and nectar-eating birds it attracts, Firebush flowers attract many pollinating insects which often attract insectivorous birds.

Firebush is beautiful, native and a wonderful backyard bird bush. Top: The tubular flowers of the Firebush are produced throughout the year. Bottom left: Firebush fruit are edible and much loved by many birds. Bottom right: Firebush grows and flowers best in a sunny location. (Photos by Forest and Kim Starr)



Trema

GENUS TREMA

Names: West Indian Nettle Tree, Pain in the Back

Native Range: Varies by species

Bird Buddies: Mockingbirds, thrashers, bullfinches, grassquits, Bananaquits, warblers, vireos

Tremas are a fast growing pioneer or early successional shrubs or small trees common in disturbed sites. Two species are known from the region: West Indian Trema (*Trema lamarckianum*) found in the Bahamas and the Greater and some of the Lesser Antilles, and Guacimilla or Jamaican Nettle tree (*T. micrantha*) common in the Greater Antilles and south through the Lesser Antilles.

The small fruits and seeds of tremas are especially attractive to a variety of generalist fruit- or seed-eating native and migrant bird species.

Trema are valuable native fruit producers. Top: West Indian Trema fruit and leaves. (Photo by Sam Fraser-Smith). Bottom left: Close-up of Jamaican Nettle tree fruit. (Photo by Alex Popovkin). Bottom right: Ripe fruit on the West Indian Trema. (Photo by Lisa Sorenson)



Cacti

FAMILY CACTACEAE

A diversity of cactus species are native to the Caribbean and Bahamas and many provide fruit consumed by a variety of birds and some have flowers with nectar consumed by hummingbirds, bananaquits, and orioles, as well as bats and moths.

Prickly Pear (Genus *Opuntia*):

The fruit of this cactus are especially popular with fruit-eating birds and a diversity of prickly pears grow in the region. Prickly pear segments may attach to a passing animal or person with their spines—this is one way the cactus reproduces—earning it the name Raquette Volante or “flying racquet.”

Turk's Head (*Melocactus intortus*)

This is generally a small cactus that is widespread in the region and its flowers attract nectarivorous birds and mockingbirds, grassquits and others consume its fruits. Also known as the Turk's Cap, Barrel Cactus, Mother-in-Law's Pincushion or Tête Anglais.

Columnar Cactus (*Pilosocereus polygonus*)

These tall cacti may reach 9 meters in height and bloom mostly in the summer months when the flowers attract hummingbirds, bananaquits, orioles, and orangequits.

Cacti are very important to scrub and dry coastal areas and may often provide nourishment to birds during the dry season when it is particularly valuable. Top: Turk's Head cactus is named after the red cap or cephalium where flowers and seeds are produced. Bottom left: Species of Prickly Pear are often distinguished by their flowers. Bottom right: Columnar Cacti can reach great sizes. (Photos by Mark Yokoyama)



Palms and Palmettos

FAMILY ARECACEAE

The islands of the Caribbean and Bahamas are blessed with a variety of palm and palmetto species that produce fruits that are consumed by a diversity of bird species including parrots, pigeons, doves, woodpeckers, kingbirds, thrushes, thrashers, tanagers, etc. The larger palm or palmetto trunks are occasionally excavated by woodpeckers for nesting cavities, some of which may be used for nesting by parrots.

Another important bird friendly trait of the palms and palmettos is that they are especially resilient in terms of recovery from hurricanes. Even after hurricane winds have stripped most or all of a palm's fronds, they quickly recover producing new fronds and will provide some fruit for birds in the following year.

Royal Palm (Genus *Roystonea*)

With various similar species found throughout the region, these majestic palms are known to produce abundant fruit crops attractive to many bird species. However, Royal Palms require large garden areas and are not appropriate for small gardens in which their roots will outcompete most other plants for nutrients.

Smaller Palms and Palmettos

There are many varieties and these should be considered for planting in small gardens to attract fruit-eating birds, but plant only those species that are native to your specific island in order to maximize ecological benefits.

Royal Palms are some of the Caribbean's most iconic trees. Top: The Cuban Royal Palm or Palma Real is Cuba's national tree. Bottom left: Royal Palms produce abundant fruit. (Photos by Forest and Kim Starr) Bottom right: Palm flowers attract a wide variety of insects and birds, particularly after hurricanes when other sources of nectar are unavailable. (Photo by Mark Yokoyama)

Mangroves

The name mangrove can refer to a variety of trees that are able to live in wet, salty conditions such as those found in coastal areas and brackish wetlands. They can filter salt, obtain oxygen even when their roots are underwater and withstand tides and waves. Mangroves dominate Caribbean wetlands and offer habitat for herons, rails, shorebirds and many other species.

Mangroves are particularly important for restoration of wetland and coastal habitats, but some types, like Button Mangrove, can be planted in many areas.

Red Mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*)

This species is easily identified by its prop roots, which descend from branches to form a stable base. It is often found at the water's edge or entirely surrounded in water.

Black Mangrove (*Avicennia germinans*)

The Black Mangrove is typically found slightly inland from the Red Mangrove and is named after its dark bark. This species uses pneumatophores—which grow up from the roots—to access oxygen in the air.

White Mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*)

Typically found inland from both Red and Black Mangroves, this species also grows pneumatophores to access oxygen.

Button Mangrove (*Conocarpus erectus*)

Also known as Buttonwood, this species is widely-used in the Caribbean as an ornamental plant. It is highly tolerant of dry and salty conditions.



Mangroves are the cornerstone of Caribbean wetlands. Top: Red Mangroves, with their visible prop roots, are a preferred nesting location for egrets. Bottom left: A sandpiper forages between Black Mangrove pneumatophores. Bottom right: Silver Buttonwood is a variety of Button Mangrove that has small hairs on its leaves, giving it a silvery appearance. (Photos by Mark Yokoyama)

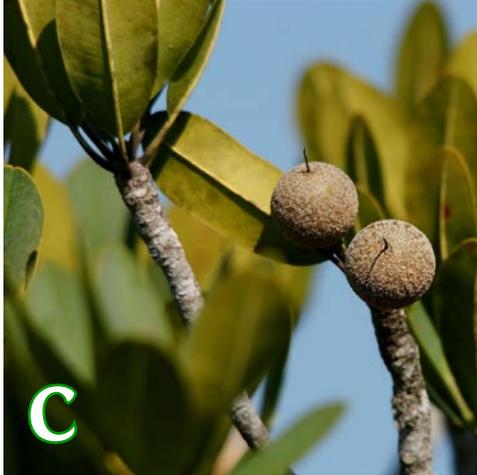
Additional Native Plants



A



B



C



D



E



F

A: Strongback (Genus *Bourreria*) – Several native Caribbean species are shrubs to small trees with white flowers followed by bright orange fruits. Fruit is favoured by mockingbirds, thrushes, and thrashers.

B: White Alling (*Bontia daphnoides*) Salt-tolerant shrub with tubular orange flowers followed by yellow berries. Flowers are favoured by hummingbirds and bananaquits and can grow in salt marshes or in close proximity to the sea. Native throughout the Caribbean, also known as Ollyush.

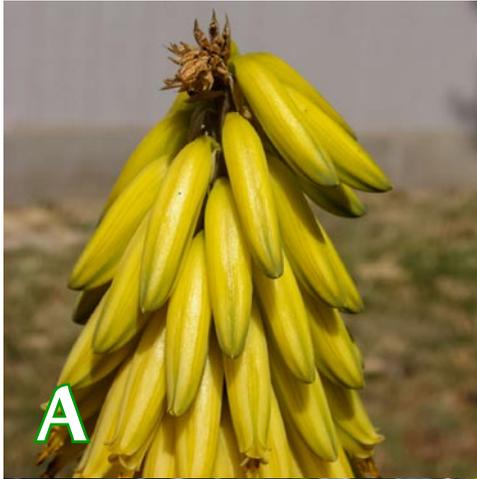
C: Wild Dilly (*Manilkara jaimiqui*) Dense shrubby evergreen tree bearing brown flowers and fruit. Flower nectar is taken by bananaquits, while fruit is favoured by a number of birds and also by bats. Native throughout the Caribbean

D: Wild Sisal (Genus *Agave*) Large herbaceous rosettes with tree-like flower stalks that bloom only once. Flowers are an important source of nectar to a number of birds. Native throughout the Caribbean.

E-F: Satinleaf (*Chrysophyllum oliviforme*) Large tree for damp areas with beautiful leaves: dark green upper side, and metallic gold satin texture below; also bears grape-like purple fruit. Larger fruit-eating birds including thrashers and pigeons favour the berries. Native throughout the Caribbean.

Photos: A: Jenny Evans, B: David Eikhoff, C: Hans Hillewaert, D: Mark Yokoyama, E, F: Jenny Evans.

Useful Exotics



A



B



C



D



E



F

A: Aloe (*Aloe vera*) – A native of Africa, aloe is often planted in gardens in the region where its flowers attract a variety of birds including hummingbirds, Bananaquits, and orioles.

B: Antigua Heather (*Russelia equisetiformis*) is a herbaceous flowering plant from Mexico and Guatemala and now commonly planted in gardens in the region. It has scarlet red tubular flowers that attract hummingbirds and butterflies throughout the year. Also known as Coral Plant, Coralblow, Firecracker Bush or Fountain Plant.

C: Hibiscus (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*) – A common ornamental shrub that is often used as a hedge throughout the region. It produces new flowers daily throughout the year attracting hummingbirds and Bananaquits to the garden.

D: Passion Flower (Genus *Passiflora*) – A variety of native species occur in the region and others are common as ornamental vines. Passion flowers attract butterflies, bees, hummingbirds and Bananaquits, while its fruits are consumed by a variety of bird species.

E-F: Bottle Brush (*Callistemon citrinus*) – A tree with flowers that resemble bottle-cleaning brushes, the flowers are used by many nectar feeders. Also known as Sauce Llorón.

Photos: A, B, C: Forest and Kim Starr; D: Mark Yokoyama, E: Jacinta Iluch Valero, F: David Edwards.



Putting it All Together

Few pleasures can compare to the joy and satisfaction of planting, raising and spending time amongst native plants. In the Caribbean, these plants made their way across the sea to turn barren rocks into vibrant tropical paradise. They have weathered hurricanes and droughts over millions of years. These plants are sons and daughters of the soil. Truly, they are parents of the soil—responsible in large part for transforming stone into the life-sustaining earth beneath us.

Native plants have developed in tandem with native animals on our islands. Species are intertwined in relationships both simple and complex. Fruit feeds birds, birds carry seeds from island to island inside them. Birds eat wasps that eat caterpillars that eat leaves. Beetles and termites eat the wood of fallen trees, returning energy and nutrients to the never-ending cycle.

Our islands are both unique and vulnerable. So much of our biodiversity is found only in the Caribbean. So many of our landscapes have been transformed by human activity.

We cannot shut down our cities and return them to nature, but we also cannot survive without the services provided by local ecosystems. For us and for our native plants and animals, the places we live must also be places we share. Start at home, and start with native plants.



Additional Resources

The University of the West Indies hosts an extensive online database of plants of the Eastern Caribbean:
<http://ecflora.cavehill.uwi.edu>

The Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve hosts information about over 100 native Bahamian and Caribbean plant species found at the reserve:
<http://www.levypreserve.org>

The University of Florida's Lee County branch has informative fact sheets about many Florida-native plants and trees that are also found in the Caribbean:
http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/GardenPubsA_Z.shtml#N

The Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History's Flora of the West Indies includes an overview of West Indian botany and island-specific lists to help you find species native to your island:
<http://botany.si.edu/antilles/WestIndies/>

Club Gaïac is a Lignum Vitae heritage tree reforestation program and includes tips on growing seedlings of this species:
<http://www.lesfruitsdemer.com/projects/club-gaiac/>

Most Caribbean islands have a department of forestry that may offer advice about what plants and trees are best to grow in your backyard or neighborhood. Some forestry departments and botanic gardens also sell seedlings of native plants. Local nurseries are also a great place to inquire about local plants and purchase seedlings.



About This Book

This book was created by BirdsCaribbean to complement the theme of International Migratory Bird Day 2015: *Restore Habitat, Restore Birds*. Information about habitat restoration, Caribbean gardening, native trees and birds that love them was provided by: Joe Wunderle, Ernesto Reyes Mourino, Andreas Oberle, Nils Navarro, Farah Mukhida, Chancy Moll, Kaderin Mills, Brian Naqqi Manco, Pericles Maillis, Natalya Lawrence, Orisha Joseph, Scott Johnson, Israel Guzman, Alieny Gonzalez, Maikel Cañizares Morera, and Carol Cramer-Burke,

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This book was synthesized by Mark Yokoyama.

BirdsCaribbean is a vibrant international network of members and partners committed to conserving Caribbean birds and their habitats. We raise awareness, promote sound science, and empower local partners to build a region where people appreciate, conserve and benefit from thriving bird populations and ecosystems. We are a non-profit (501 (c) 3) membership organization. More than 100,000 people participate in our programmes each year, making BirdsCaribbean the most broad-based conservation organization in the region. You can learn more about us, our work and how to join at <http://www.birdscaribbean.org>.



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