



August

"Nature is a wonderful teacher."- Aristophanes



Learning About Marigold Growth! For a marigold plant to thrive, it needs:

Light: Marigolds require at least 6-8 hours of direct sunlight each day.

Soil: They prefer well-drained soil rich in organic matter, with a pH close to 6.0-7.0.

Water: Marigolds need regular watering to keep the soil moist but not overly saturated. In Cyprus, watering should be done early in the morning or late in the afternoon to reduce evaporation.

Fertilization: Marigolds thrive in nutrient-rich soil to support the growth of their flowers. You can use natural fertilizers to enrich the soil.

Temperature: Marigolds grow best in temperatures between 20°C and 30°C.



QUIZ!

Marigold

Secrets of the *Tagetes* sp. and the Environment

1. How long does it take for a marigold to grow from the time it's planted?

- A) A few days.
- B) A few weeks.
- C) A few months.

2. Why is marigold important for the environment?

- A) It is the favorite plant of most insects.
- B) It helps improve soil quality with its leaves and branches.
- C) It repels harmful insects and provides shelter for small animals and insects.

3. Which part of the marigold can you use to grow a new plant?

- A) The fruit.
- B) The seed.
- C) The leaf.

4. In which season does marigold bloom in Cyprus?

- A) Winter.
- B) Spring and Summer.
- C) Autumn.

Endemic Plant of Cyprus

Asphodel (*Asphodelus aestivus*)

Information: The asphodel has large white flowers and primarily blooms in the summer.



Endemic Animal of Cyprus

Cypriot Freshwater Crab (*Potamon potamios cyprius*)

Information: The Cypriot freshwater crab lives in rivers and lakes and is a protected species.



Tip:

The forests of Cyprus are a heritage and home to many animals and plants. Protect them!

The Importance of Forests

Forests are very important for our environment. They produce the oxygen we breathe, provide habitats for many animals and plants, and help regulate the climate.

How to Protect Forests:

1. Don't litter in the forests.
2. Plant trees and care for the plants in your garden.
3. Support organizations that protect forests.

The Forests of Cyprus

Our forests are teeming with life, home to many different plants and animals. There are forests throughout Cyprus, including in the occupied territories.

Forests in Free Cyprus

Troodos Forest

Plants: In the Troodos forest, you can find pines, cypresses, plane trees, and various shrubs.

Animals: Many species live here, including the red fox, the mouflon (a type of wild sheep), and various birds such as eagles and owls.

Macheras Forest

Plants: Macheras forest is mainly home to pine trees and shrubs, like the maquis vegetation.

Animals: You can spot hares, hedgehogs, and many types of birds.

Forests in Occupied Territories

Pentadaktylos Forest

Plants: The Pentadaktylos forest includes pines, acacias, and many other trees and plants.

Animals: Wild animals like wildcats, hares, and various bird species live here.

Karpasia Forest

Plants: The Karpasia region is known for its natural beauty, featuring pines, cypresses, and numerous flowers.

Animals: Foxes, wild boars, and the Cypriot lizard inhabit this area.

What Can We See in Our Forests?

Plants:

Pines: Tall trees with sharp, needle-like leaves.

Cypresses: Trees with narrow, elongated leaves.

Wildflowers: Such as the crocus and anemone, which bloom in spring.

Animals:

Mouflon: A wild sheep that lives in the mountains.

Red Fox: A clever animal that lives in forests and fields.

Birds: Including eagles, owls, and many small songbirds.

The forests of Cyprus are precious and deserve our protection. They are our heritage and the home of many plants and animals.

Let's explore ways to care for and cherish them!

