

The amount of carbon stored by UK forests underestimated

研究顯示：英國森林碳儲量被低估

一項新研究顯示，英國森林鎖住「導致全球變暖的碳」是之前認為的兩倍，這項使用雷射和三維掃描的研究說明，古樹在應對氣候變化中發揮到的作用尤為關鍵。

Professor Kim Calders from Ghent University is **laser-scanning** what's said to be the UK's most scientifically studied forest: Wytham Wood in Oxfordshire. For their research, he and his colleagues **scanned** nearly a thousand trees, producing detailed **three-dimensional** maps from which they could work out the weight of each one.

根特大學的金·考爾德斯教授正在用雷射掃描據說是英國被研究最多的森林：牛津郡的威薩姆森林，在他們的研究中，考爾德斯教授及其同事掃描了近一千棵樹，繪製了詳細的三維地圖，從中可計算出每棵樹的重量。

This revealed that an average **patch** of UK woodland is heavier than was estimated and therefore contains much more **carbon** – almost twice as much as previously thought. The scientists say their findings show the value of **established, mature** woodland for fighting climate change has been **underestimated**.

計算得出，英國一塊普通林地的重量比估計的要重，因此碳含量更高，幾乎是之前估計的兩倍，科學家們表示，他們的發現表明，生長已久的成熟林地在對抗氣候變化方面的價值被低估了。

1. 詞彙表

laser-scanning	鐳射掃描
scanned	掃描了
three-dimensional	三維的
patch	小塊
carbon	碳
established	(植物) 生長已久的，長勢良好的
mature	成熟的
underestimated	被低估的

2. 閱讀理解：請在讀完上文後，回答下列問題。（答案見下頁）

1. According to the report, what is significant about Wytham Wood in Oxfordshire, UK?
2. How did the researchers work out the weight of each tree?
3. What were researchers able to work out from the weight of the woodland?
4. True or false? *This research concluded older woodland can help fight climate change more than was first thought.*

3. 答案

1. According to the report, what is significant about Wytham Wood in Oxfordshire, UK?

Wytham Wood is said to be the UK's most scientifically studied forest.

2. How did the researchers work out the weight of each tree?

Researchers scanned nearly a thousand trees, producing detailed three-dimensional maps from which they could work out the weight of each one.

3. What were researchers able to work out from the weight of the woodland?

By calculating the weight of a patch of woodland, they could work out how much carbon it contains.

4. True or false? *This research concluded older woodland can help fight climate change more than was first thought.*

True. The scientists say their findings show the value of established, mature woodland for fighting climate change has been underestimated.