Understanding the Pune Tree Census 2015

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The Tree Census was first conducted in 2015, and enumerated data on 3.2 million trees spread across the Municipal limits of Pune city. According to T.V. Ramachandran from the IISc, a ratio of 1 tree per person is required for a healthy urban environment. Given that the 2011 census indicated a human population of 3.12 million, we can consider this to be a healthy coverage.

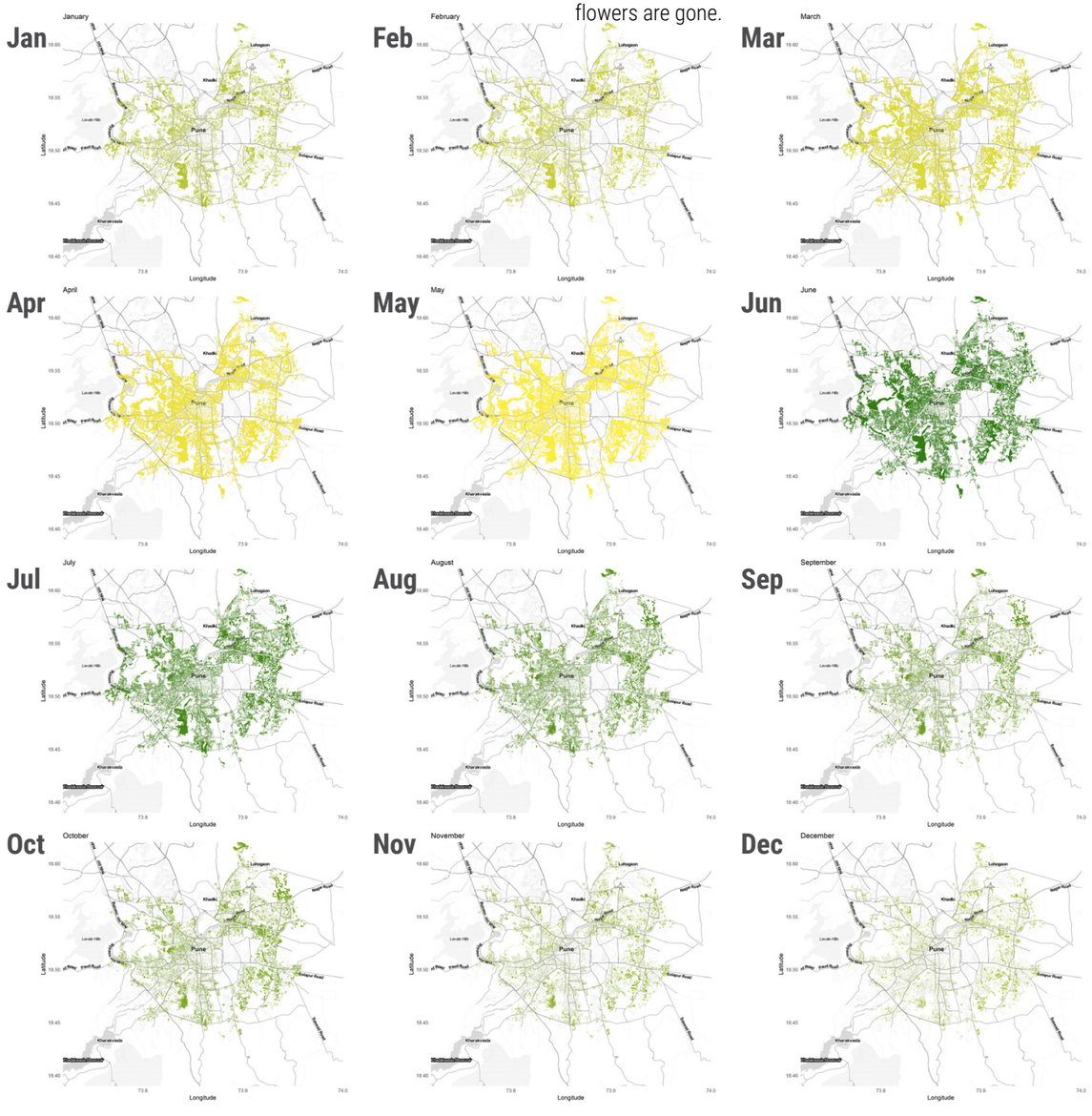
However we can also see a large imbalance in the location of these trees, with some areas having a greater density.

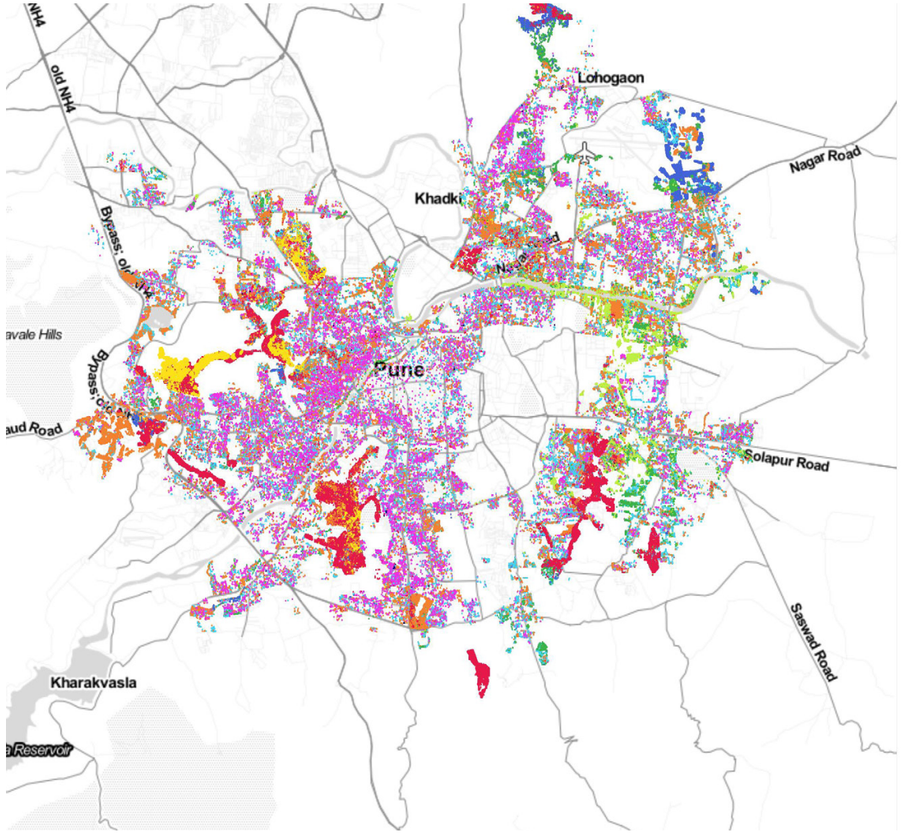
Monthly Flowering Pattern:

Despite being in the Tropics, vegetation in Pune shows a moderately large seasonal variation in both foliage and flowers.

These series of maps show which areas in the city flowers bloom by season or month. Flowering season peaks in the Summer from March to May.

In June with the advent of the monsoon, trees are green again, with flowering decreasing steadily through the winter months, until it's summer again. By December, almost all the flowers are gone.





Tree Diversity:

There are 489 different species of trees recorded in the Tree Census.

The 10 highest occuring species however account for 2,004,257 counts, which is approximately two-thirds of the total census. Therefore it would be interesting to see how they are spread across the city.

10 Highest Occuring Trees:

Giripushpa	784,115
Subabul	585,401
African Blackwood	277,586
Mesquite	82,980
Babul	78,025
Neem	72,187
Gum Arabic Tree	69,326
Ashoka (D)	63,662
Mango	53,164
Bauhinia purpurea	49,488

Seasonal Pattern:

We see a large number of trees start blooming between March and May and end blooming in June. This is the summer in Pune, just before the monsoon. There is relatively low blooming in the rest of the year.

There is also significant blooming which begins in July and ends in January. This is the **Subabul Tree**, or botanically called **Leucaena leucocephala**. There are **585,401 Subabul trees** in Pune, which account for around 18% of the total tree count.