NATURE

Climate change could be good news for plants due to increased atmospheric

Carbon dioxide, which encourages photosynthesis. But it could also lead to

higher temperatures and dried-out soil conditions that hinder plant growth.

The degree to which climate change helps or hurts plants depends in part on

whether forests can acclimate to shifting conditions. Researchers focused are

abundant types such as birch, spruce, aspen, poplar, and pine. In some of the

simulations, the team enabled forests too acclimate to climate change by

balancing their density and tree growth with the constraints of reduced

water and increased heat. In other scenarios, these characteristics remained

the same, representing an inability to adapt to a shifting climate.

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