

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Conocarpus tree:

1. It is an invasive mangrove species.
2. It is very adaptive and could grow even in areas with extreme salinity.
3. It absorbs less water from soil than other species and is not a threat to groundwater.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Conocarpus tree is a flowering plant belonging to the family of Combretaceae.
- It is an invasive mangrove species.
- Trees of this species flower in winter and spread pollen in nearby areas.
- It has been used by various public authorities in India as landscaping for road medians, along roads, and in public gardens.
- Countries in the Arabian Peninsula have used the plant to block sand from desert storms and to control pollution.
- This tree is famous for its dark green leaves color throughout the year and withstands harsh environmental conditions such as high and low temperatures.
- It is very adaptive and could grow even in areas with extreme salinity.
- It absorbs more water from soil than other species and is a threat to groundwater.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Angiostrongylus cantonensis:

1. This worm does not impact human being.
2. This is commonly known as the rat lungworm that infects rodents, particularly rats.
3. It is typically found in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, including Hawaii.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: b

Explanation:

- Angiostrongylus cantonensis, commonly known as the rat lungworm, is a parasitic nematode (roundworm) that infects rodents, particularly rats.
- It is typically found in Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands, including Hawaii.
- While rats serve as the primary hosts for this parasite, humans and other animals, including snails and slugs, can become infected as incidental hosts.
- It is spread through rat faeces and can infect humans and other animals through produce or other food items.
- Once inside a human, the worm could cause a rare brain infection known as eosinophilic meningitis.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Manis Mystera:

1. It is a newly discovered Pangolin species.
2. This new species is believed to have diverged from its Philippine and Malaya.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2

d) None of the above

Ans: c

Explanation:

- Manis Mysteria is a newly discovered Pangolin species.
- The newly identified pangolin species emerged from a detailed study of scales seized in China's Yunnan province in 2015 and 2019.
- This new species is believed to have diverged from its Philippine and Malayan relatives approximately five million years ago.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Fish Mint:

1. It is an herbal plant full of medicinal properties and grown on the ground with wide leaves.
2. It not a member of the mint family.
3. It thrives in wet locations and can even grow partially submerged in water.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 and 2
- b) 2 and 3
- c) 1 and 3
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: d

Explanation:

- Fish Mint is an herbal plant full of medicinal properties and grown on the ground with wide leaves.
- It has many names, such as Bishop's Weed, Chinese Lizard Tail, Fish Wort, Fish Leaf, Rainbow Plant and Chameleon Plant.
- Despite being called "fish mint", it's not a member of the mint family. It does, however, spread aggressively like mint.
- Its native range extends from the Himalayan foothills through Southeast Asia, China, Korea and Japan.
- It thrives in wet locations and can even grow partially submerged in water.

Q: Consider the following statement regarding Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC):

1. It is primarily involved in introducing Indian gem and jewellery products to the international market and promotes their exports.
2. It is an apex body of the Gem and Jewellery industry in India, sponsored by the Ministry of Finance.

Choose the correct option from the codes given below:

- a) 1 Only
- b) 2 Only
- c) 1 and 2
- d) None of the above

Ans: a

Explanation:

- Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) is an apex body of the Gem and Jewellery industry in India, sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.
- It is primarily involved in introducing Indian gem and jewellery products to the international market and promotes their exports.
- To achieve this, the Council provides market information to its members regarding foreign trade inquiries, trade and tariff regulations, rates of import duties, and information about Jewellery fairs and exhibitions.