

DISPERSED ORCHARDS

Dispersed orchards are pockets of fruit trees located around a local area. These trees can include a variety of species as well as nut trees. These are planted in community spaces or in the gardens of locals which creates pockets of green space



The main benefit of this scheme is that it provides food for people and for animals via the flowers (which are used by pollinators) and by uncollected fruit (used by birds). The trees create habitats for animals and can be used to create wildlife corridors in a local area to join up green spaces for the aforementioned pollinators. Other benefits related to this project includes the provision of shade in hot weather and the carbon sequestration ability of trees (each tree planted accounts for an average of 25 kilograms of CO₂ absorbed per annum).

The main limitation of this scheme is the need for community buy in in order to maximise the effect/ coverage of the orchard. Depending on the stage the plants are obtained at (e.g. how big they are) there may be limitations on where they can be grown/ the initial yield of produce from them. Native plants should be sourced for these projects in order to maximise the benefits for biodiversity. Permission from local authorities may be needed to complete this type of project



Links

[Monaghan's 'Dispersed Urban Orchard' for Pollinators » All-Ireland Pollinator Plan](#)

[How much CO₂ does a tree absorb? Let's get carbon curious! \(ecotree.green\)](#)

[#UrbanOrchards | Wild About Navan](#)

[Orchard biodiversity tips - People's Trust for Endangered Species \(ptes.org\)](#)