



DEC 14 2021 | 4:00-5:00 PM IST (11:30-12:30 PM CET)

Global Ethnobotany Research Webinar Series - Guest Lecture No: 9 Are 19th century botanical collections relevant to 21st century problems?



**Speaker: Professor Mark Nesbitt
Senior Research Leader, Interdisciplinary Research
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom**

Organised by: Centre for Conservation of Natural Resources (CCNR), The University of Trans-Disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU), India & Tropical Botany and Ethnobiology Lab (TRIBE), Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences (FTA), Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU), Czech Republic

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About

Program Convenors: Dr. M. Abdul Kareem, Head, CCNR, TDU & Dr Zbyněk Polesný, Head, TRIBE, FTA, CZU

Moderator: Nishanth Gurav, PhD Candidate, TRIBE, FTA, CZU

Language: English

Speaker: Mark Nesbitt is curator of the Economic Botany Collection and Senior Research Leader for Interdisciplinary Research at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. He is a Visiting Professor in the Geography Department, Royal Holloway, University of London. His research interests centre on people-plant relations through time as represented in collections, with current projects on nineteenth century ethnobotanical collections by Richard Spruce in the Brazilian Amazon, and historic materia medica from South Asia. He also works with colleagues to develop arts and humanities research across Kew. He is the author of over 100 publications including *Just the Tonic: a Natural History of Tonic Water* (with Kim Walker, 2019). In this talk he will ask whether collections made for colonial and commercial purposes in the Victorian era can be repurposed to address contemporary issues. Case studies from Kew and elsewhere will illustrate the opportunities and methodological challenges of collaborative research with source communities. [Click here to visit his website](#)

Centre for Conservation of Natural Resources (CCNR) is one of the core centers of TDU. Its resources include a state-of-the-art National Herbarium and Raw Drug Repository. Over the years, the centre has been at the forefront in demonstrating the Medicinal Plants Conservation Program. It has taken a lead role in the world by demonstrating this program through implementation of *insitu* and *exsitu* conservation projects across India. It has developed inventories of medicinal plants for more than 12 states through consultation of floristic, ethnobotanical and botanical surveys. For more details visit the website [click here](#)

Tropical Botany and Ethnobiology Lab (TRIBE) studies dynamic relationships among peoples, plants, and environment with the aim to preserve plant species diversity and related traditional knowledge in natural ecosystems and agricultural landscapes. Studies of traditional knowledge of indigenous people and small-scale farmers on use patterns, management and ecology of the most culturally important as well as neglected and underutilized plant species as sources of food, medicine and materials are of TRIBE's special interest. For more details visit the website [click here](#)

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