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The wild torreya community is unique in Hunan and is hidden in the deep forest, few people know– Today’s attention– Hunan Online

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In addition to viewing and building, its fruits can be eaten, used as medicine, and made into cosmetics. The wild torreya community is unique to Hunan.

It is the city tree of Ningxiang City; **this kind of wild ancient tree community can only be found in Hunan**; the fruit is edible, oil can be extracted and can also be used to make cosmetics; the wood is compact, it is a good material for shipbuilding and construction... Torreya fragrans, known as the “magic oil” in the tree, is as beautiful and precious as it, and few people know that it **hides in the depths of the forest**.

On October 30, we visited the unique wild ancient torreya community in Hunan and listened to their stories.

■All media reporter Tian Tian, trainee reporter Zeng Guanlin

At the end of October, Hunan ushered in a rare rainy day. Walking into the torreya tree community in Yueshan Village, Huangcai Town, Ningxiang City, the wet and cold air instantly enveloped the whole body. Yueshan Village occupies more than 68% of the forest land,

and more than 2,800 wild Torreya trees are hidden in the depths of the forest. The forest is quiet, and when I look up, my eyes are full of green, and the crisp green fruits are adorned on the branches of the torreya, swaying gently in the wind.

“You didn’t come at a good time, and you didn’t see the beauty of the flowers and fruits of the Torreya tree. Torreya is the most ornamental around May every year.” Yu Saifen, the first secretary of Yueshan Village in the village, introduced that the flowering and fruiting period of ordinary trees is clearly demarcated. Different, torreya grows and matures for 3 years. In May of the first year, it will bloom and bear fruit; in May of the second year, another batch of flowers will bloom and bear a batch of fruits; after flowering and bearing in the third year, the fruit of the first year will ripen in the summer. This has also led to several generations of fruits growing and developing on the tree at the same time, and the spectacle of three generations on the same branch, flowers and fruits on the same branch.

“When the Torreya tree is at its peak, the yellow flowers and green fruits are crowded and the branches are bent.” Yu Saifen said, in addition to being ornamental, the Torreya tree is compact in texture and golden in color. It is a good material for shipbuilding and construction. from this.

“Wild torreya communities are found nationwide and can only be found in Hunan. They were discovered by the forestry department for the first time around 1990.” Yu Saifen led the reporter along the path in the forest, and a more spectacular scene

appeared in front of him. **A thousand-year-old Torreya tree** came into view, as if all emotions were dispelled by the grandeur.

The reporter took a few steps back before he could see the canopy that was stretched out like a giant umbrella. The diameter of the trunk was so thick that it took six adults to hold hands to surround it. In the passage of time, it has stood quietly here for more than a thousand years.

“In 2021, the Torreya tree will be recognized as the city tree of Ningxiang City. Now the Torreya Park has been built, and the wild Torreya tree has been better protected here.” Speaking of Torreya, Yu Saifen couldn’t hide his love.

Torreya is a rare economic tree species native to China. It is a national second-class protected wild plant and has a wide range of uses. In addition to ornamental and architectural purposes, the fruits of the Torreya tree are also used for many purposes. After drying and frying, they can be eaten as nuts, and can also be used as medicine. In addition, the fruit of the Torreya tree is rich in oil, and the aromatic oil extracted from it can be made into cosmetics.

“Although it is full of treasures, few people understand it.” Yu Saifen said that **the torreya tree likes a humid, low-light and cool climate, and the mountainside with less direct sunlight is the best habitat.** The wild ancient torreya community is located in the mountain forest at an altitude of 200 to 500 meters in Yueshan Village, and **the villagers living in the surrounding area are not familiar with it.** “Even if the fruit of the torreya tree falls and rots in the ground, no one collects it, which is a pity. !”

In recent years, more and more people have come to visit the ancient torreya tree community in the surrounding area. In order to further protect the ancient torreya community and promote the development of tourism, in 2020, the government invested in the renovation and hardening of the rural roads entering and leaving the ancient torreya base, and built trails and tourist attractions. supporting facilities. The beauty of torreya has been appreciated by more and more people, and many photography enthusiasts will come to take pictures of the beauty of flowers and fruits in May.

“We will also work hard to promote the Torreya tree to more places and let more people know it.” Yu Saifen said.

[The article is in Chinese](#)