GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAND & FISHERIES
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MEDIA RELEASE

MALF's Forestry Division commemorates World Environment Day with "Poui" Tree Planting Exercise

June 06, 2020:- In commemoration of World Environment Day (WED) which was celebrated on June 5th (yesterday), members of staff of the Forestry Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries (MALF) undertook a Tree Planting Exercise at the Caura Recreation Site. In keeping with the Theme for 2020… "*It's Time for Nature",* Forestry employees planted the Apamate, "Pink Poui" (*Tabebuia rosea*) along the banks of the river bed, as this would bring long term benefits on the environment and also assist with the following:

- Replacement of dead/burnt and fallen trees.
- Increase the air we breathe/water quality/release terminal velocity.
- Increasing aesthetics of the area (stress relief).
- Soil retention (reduce erosion).
- Promote "inbound tourist" when stage six (6) of the COVID-19 Regulations is lifted.
- Provision of habitat/food for wildlife (birds, bees, squirrels).

The Apamate Tree, which is one of the most aesthetic species that can be seen along the Hillside of the Northern Range with its large pinkish flowers, belongs to the Bignoniaceae family, whilst *Tabebuia* is the Genus and *rosea*, the species from the French vernacular. It is a large introduced deciduous tree very similar to Yellow Poui, easily distinguished during the dry season by its pinkish, large flowers.

Click and see image of the Pink Poui via the link below:

https://landscapeplants.aub.edu.lb/Plants/GetPDF/bae39478-cfaa-4ae4-b958-0b0e726085a1

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