

Plant respiration, larger source of carbon emissions

REVELATION

Carbon released by plant respiration may be around 30 per cent higher than previously predicted, a new study claims. The study, published in the journal *Nature Communications*, suggests that as the mean global temperature increases, respiration will increase significantly. Such increases may lower the future ability of global vegetation to offset carbon dioxide emissions caused by burning fossil fuels. Plants both capture carbon dioxide and then release it by respiration. Changes to either of these processes in response to climate change have profound implications, said researchers.

