



mistleGO!

A citizen science app to record mistletoe abundance

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What is the future of mistletoe?

European mistletoe (*Viscum album*) is:

- a **parasitic plant** native to the British Isles¹
- ecologically **important** – may reduce growth and reproduction of host trees, including apples¹
- provides food for winter birds and promotes nutrient cycling²
- thought to be spreading in the British Isles, but **drivers and extent are unknown**³

To predict mistletoe's future, we need **local abundance data**, which has never been collected nationally.



Try submitting a record for this tree!

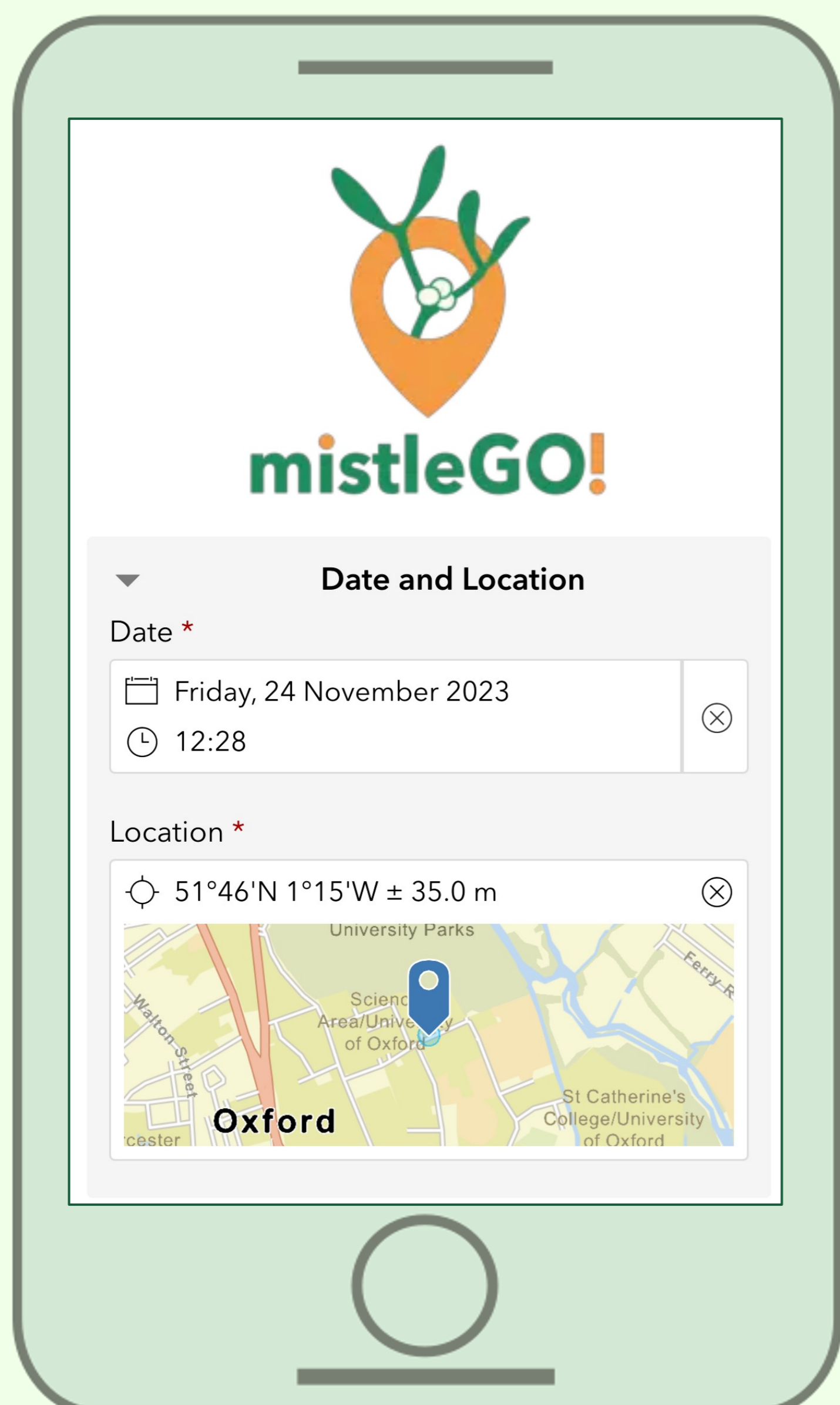
Photo: Jonathan Briggs

The solution:

mistleGO!

Collect local abundance data using a new **app-based citizen science survey, mistleGO!**

Record **location, mistletoe count, habitat** and extra observations (e.g., host ID, berries)

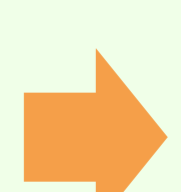


How will we predict the future?

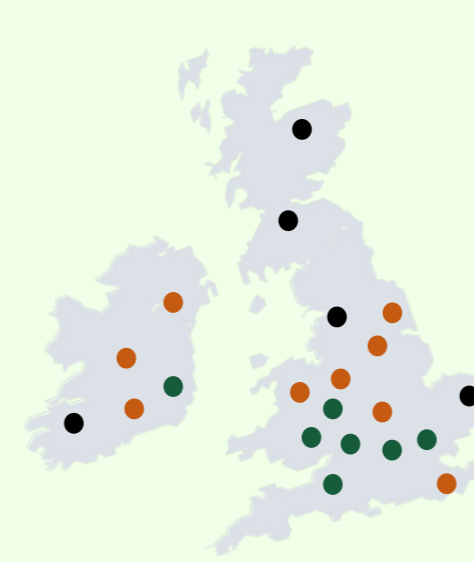
Citizen science records



Species Distribution Models



Future distribution scenarios



Inform mistletoe management

Get involved NOW!

1. Download **Survey123** on App Store or via the QR code
2. Download the **mistleGO! survey** via the QR code (or use the web version)
3. Photograph your tree, count the mistletoe and **submit your record!**



Powered by ArcGIS Survey123



¹Thomas, P. A., et al. (2022). "Biological Flora of Britain and Ireland: *Viscum album*." *Journal of Ecology* 111(3): 701-739.

²Hódar, J. A., et al. (2018). "Beneath the mistletoe: parasitized trees host a more diverse herbaceous vegetation and are more visited by rabbits." *Annals of Forest Science* 75(3): 1-8.

³Briggs, J. (2021). "Mistletoe, *Viscum album* (Santalaceae), in Britain and Ireland; a discussion and review of current status and trends." *British & Irish Botany* 3(4).

