

US artist 'creates' tree which grows 40 different fruits

Washington: An artist in the US has created a tree which grows over 40 different types of stone fruit including peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines and cherries. The Tree of 40 Fruit, is a project by Sam Van Aken, associate professor in Syracuse University's art department, in which a single tree is modified to bear over 40 different types of stone fruit.

The artist had recently completed a project called Eden in which he grafted vegetables and flowers together and was offered the opportunity to design an orchard. When funding for this orchard fell through, Van Aken wanted to continue with the project and he decided to graft the entire orchard onto one tree. The grafting process includes collecting scions (young shoots or cuttings) from trees. These sections are

In 'The Tree of 40 Fruit' project, a US artist has grafted the entire orchard onto one tree.

Among the fruits are peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines and cherries

then worked into similar sized cuts on the new tree and are bandaged. The cutting then "heals" into tree and is able to draw water and nutrients from the tree in the same way as any other branch.

Among the fruits that Van Aken uses to create his trees are peaches, plums, apricots, nectarines and cherries. The trees blossom in variegated tones of pink, crimson and white in spring, and in summer bear a multitude of fruit. P11