

Invasive species.

Dr. Zachary Long, Bio and Marine Bio, UNCW



Invasive species.

- What is an invasive species?
- What are the consequences of invasive species?
- Why have some species become invasive and why are they increasing?
- What can we do?

Executive Order 13112 - 1999

- "**Alien species**" means, with respect to a particular ecosystem, any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem.
- "**Invasive species**" means an alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

4. *Of such Plants as have sprung up since the English
Planted and kept Cattle in New-England.*¹

*Couch Grass.*²
*Shepherds Purse.*³
*Dandelion.*⁴
*Groundsel.*⁵
*Sow Thistle.*⁶

¹ The importance of this list has been already spoken of. Its value depends on its having been drawn up by a person of familiarity with some of the botanical writers of his day, as part of a botanical treatise; and the (in this case) not unfair presumption that the names cited are *meant* to be accurate. Mr. A. De Candolle (*Geogr. Botanique*, vol. ii. p. 746) appears to be unacquainted with any authority for the naturalized plants of the Northern States earlier than the first edition of the *Florula* of Dr. Bigelow, in 1814. The treatise of Cutler extends this limit to 1785; and that of Josselyn, so far as it goes, to 1672.

² Doubtful. Gerard's couch-grass, p. 23, appears to be *Holcus mollis*, L.,—"the true couch-grass of sandy soils" in England; and English agricultural writers reckon yet other grasses of this name, beside the well-known *Triticum repens*, L.

³ Gerard, p. 276, — *Capsella Bursa Pastoris* (L.), Moench. "Cornfields, and about barns," — Cutler (1785), *l. c.* Naturalized.

⁴ Gerard, p. 290, — *Taraxacum Dens Leonis*, Desf.; looked, to our author, like a new-comer. Dr. Gray (Man., p. 239; and comp. Torr. and Gray, Fl., vol. ii. p. 494) regards it as "probably indigenous in the north," but only naturalized in other regions. "Grass land," — Cutler (1785), *l. c.*

⁵ Gerard, p. 278, — *Senecio vulgaris*, L.; one of the *adventive* naturalized plants, as defined by Mr. De Candolle (*l. c.*, vol. ii. p. 688; and Gray, Man. Bot., pref., p. viii.), according to the evidence of Dr. Darlington (Fl. Cestr., p. 152), and Gray, *l. c.* It has long been a common weed in eastern New England.

⁶ *Sonchus*, L. *S. oleraceus*, L., as understood by Linnaeus, was no doubt intended: but this is now taken to include two species, both recognized in this country (Gray, *l. c.*, p. 241); between which there is no evidence to authorize a decision.

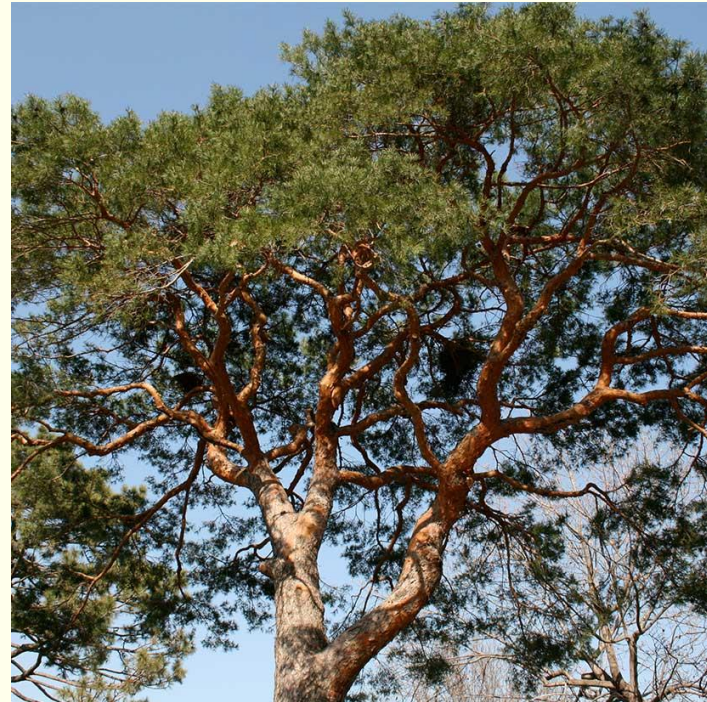
Invasive species are not a recent issue.

ARKive
www.arkive.org



Invasive species are not a recent issue.





This tree

- Can be used as either a windbreak or single specimen.
- Adapts to nearly all climates.
- Is widely used as a Christmas tree because of its excellent form and ability to hold its needles.
- Is a good choice for reclamation sites because of its reseeding capabilities.

NC Invasives



<https://cnr.ncsu.edu/news/2020/02/invasive-species-how-exotic-plants-animals-and-insects-impact-north-carolina/>

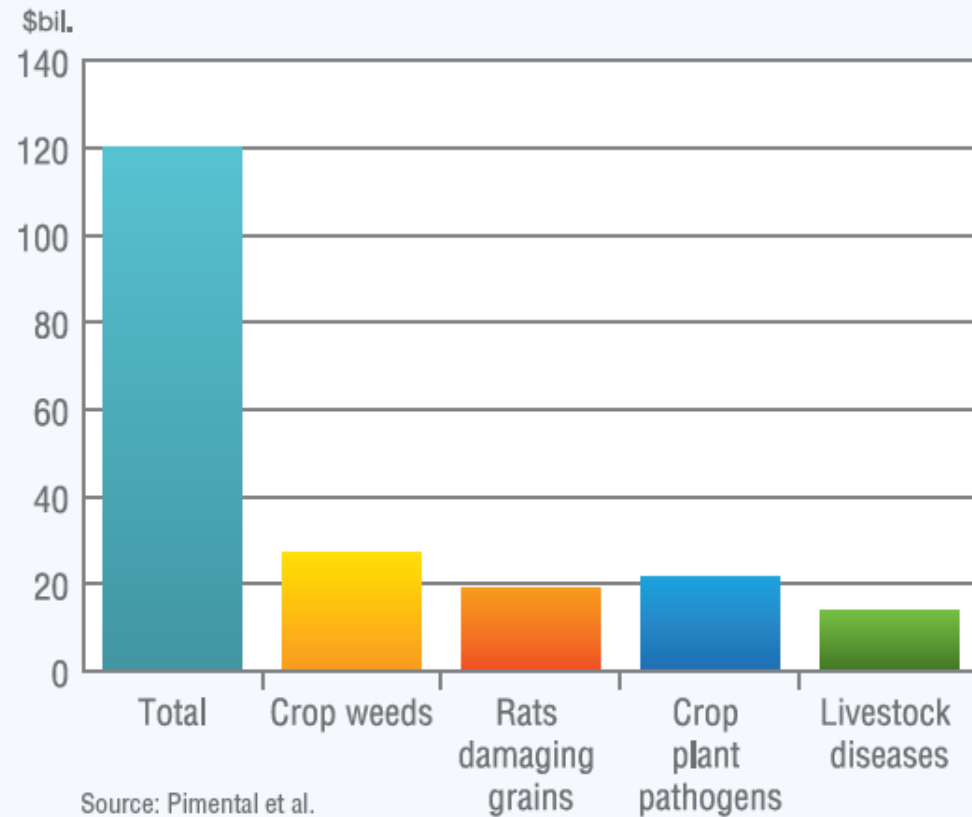
Invasive species.

- What is an invasive species?
- What are the consequences of invasive species?
- Why are or have some species become invasive?
- What can we do?

In the US, invasives cost \$120 billion annually.

Estimated Annual Costs of Some Invasive Species to the U.S. Economy, with Key Agricultural Components

According to a 2005 study, the damage caused by key invasive species was at least \$120 billion annually to the U.S. economy. Losses to the crop sector from invasive species of weeds, pathogens, and rodents account for more than 55 percent of the total.



Economic impact of invasive species

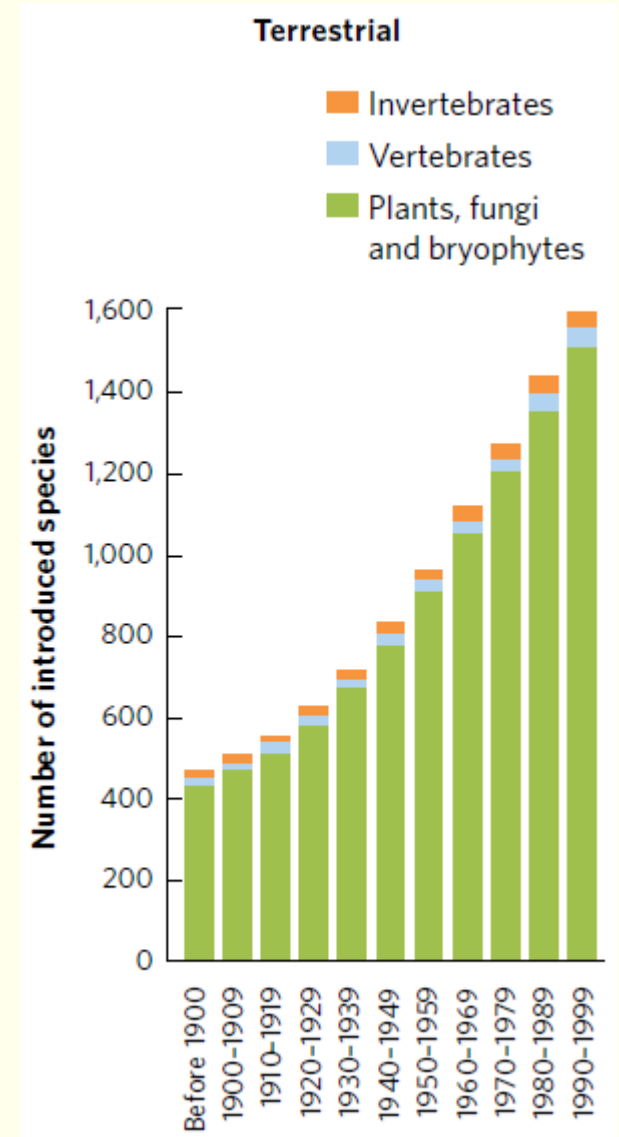
Micro-organisms (20,000 species introduced into USA)	Losses and damage (US\$ millions)	Cost of control (US\$ millions)	Total (US\$ millions)
Crop diseases	21,000	500	21,500
Diseases of ornamental, garden and golf course plants	–	2,000	2,000
Forest pathogens	2,100	–	2,100
Livestock diseases	9,000	–	9,000
Human diseases	–	6,500	6,500



Invasive species.

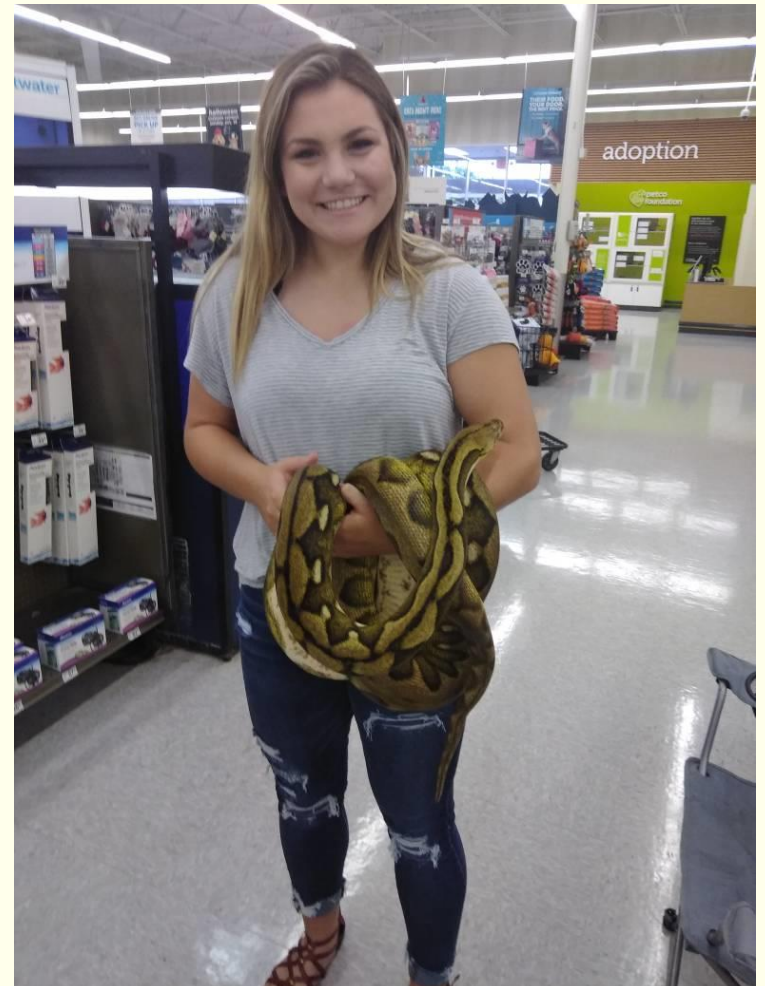
- What is an invasive species?
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- Why have some species become invasive and why are they increasing?
- What can we do?

The number of invasive species is increasing.

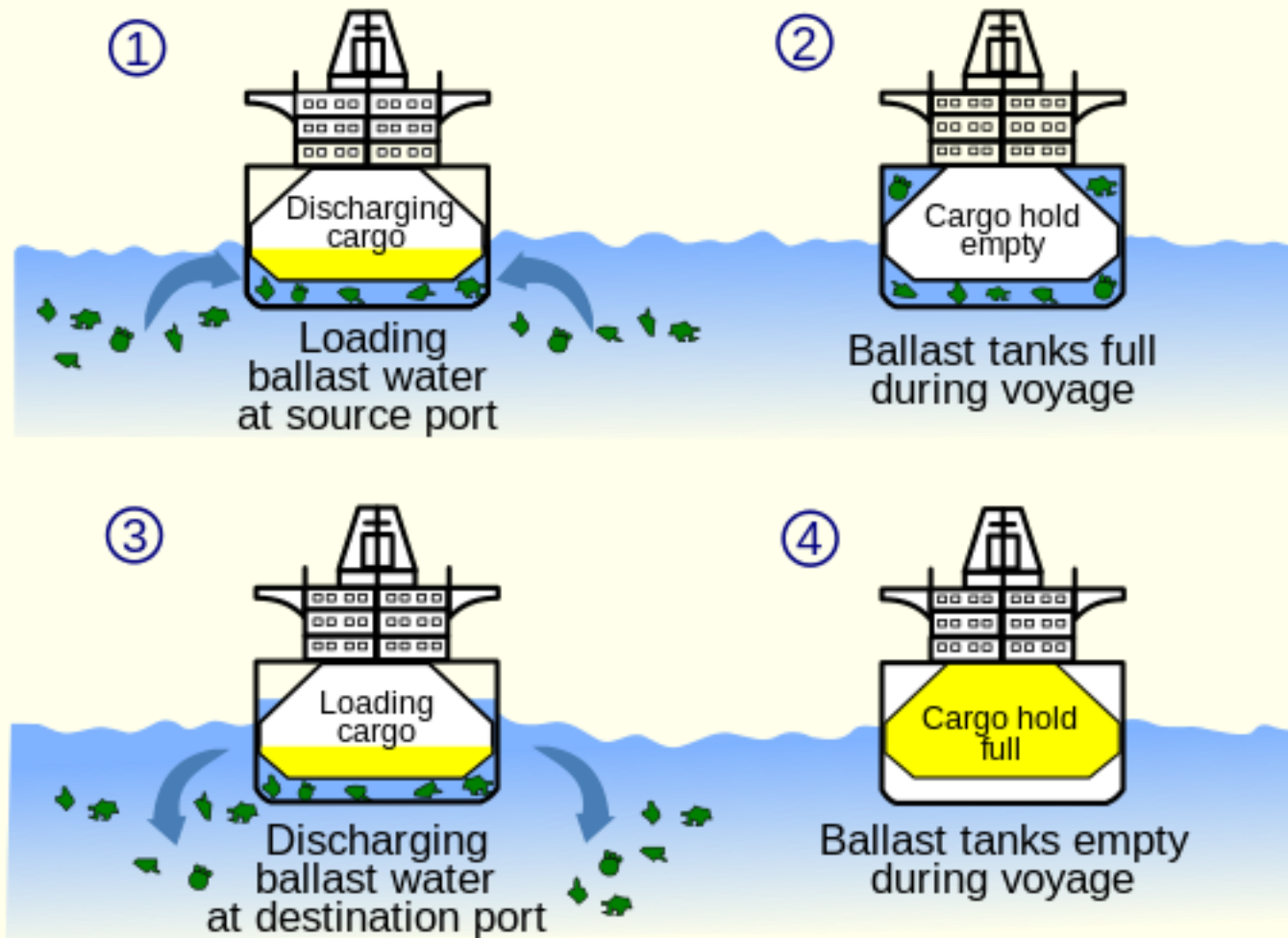


3. Why?

Accidental and intentional introductions

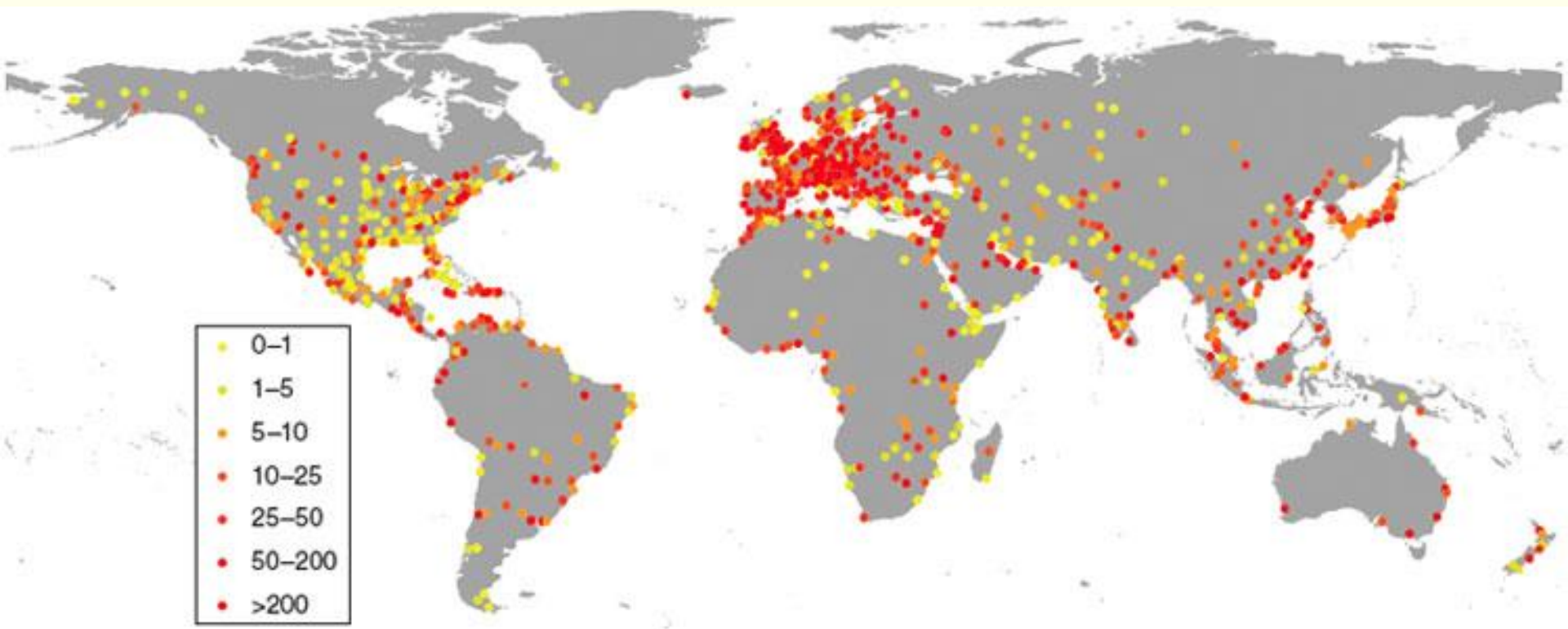


Why? Ship ballast





Air travel:

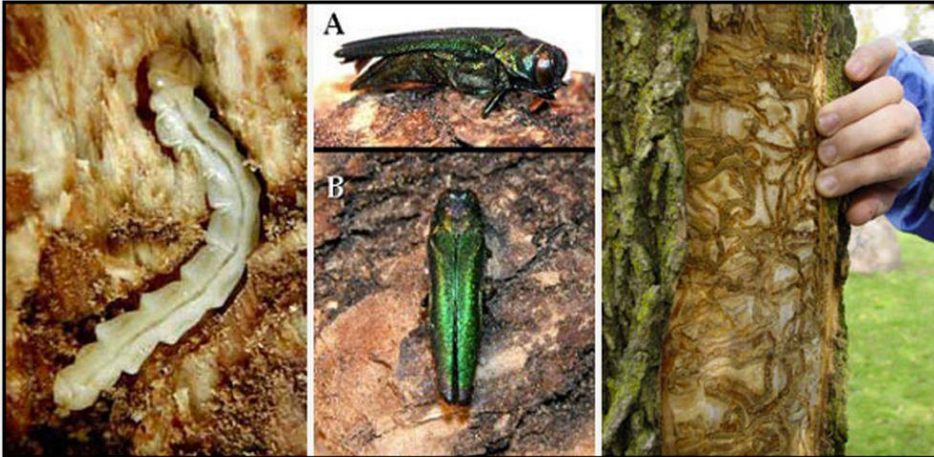


Snakes on a plane:



Unintentional dispersal

Emerald Ash Borer



EAB larva

EAB

EAB tunnels

Nebraska Department of Agriculture Photos



HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE PESTS & DISEASES.

Our forests are threatened by nonnative insects and diseases that can kill large numbers of trees. Goldspotted oak borer, Sudden Oak Death, pitch canker, Emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle can be transported long distances in firewood. Once transported into new areas, these insects and diseases can become established and kill local trees.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Leave firewood at home - do not transport it to campgrounds or parks.
- Use firewood from local sources.
- Burn all firewood before leaving your campsite if leaving the local area.

BUY IT WHERE YOU BURN IT.



**DON'T MOVE
FIREWOOD.org**

firewood.ca.gov



Produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, which is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.

Pests:

[Asian Gypsy Moth](#)

[Asian Longhorned Beetle](#)

[Balsam Woolly Adelgid](#)

[Banded Elm Bark Beetle](#)

[Bromeliad Weevil](#)

[Brown Spruce Longhorned Beetle](#)

[Cactus Moth](#)

[Chestnut Gall Wasp](#)

[Citrus Longhorned Beetle](#)

[Common Pine Shoot Beetle](#)

[Cycad Aulacaspis Scale](#)

[Emerald Ash Borer](#)

[Erythrina Gall Wasp](#)

[Eurasian Nun Moth](#)

[European Gypsy Moth](#)

[European Oak Bark Beetle](#)

[European Spruce Beetle](#)

[Golden Haired Pine Bark Beetle](#)

[Goldspotted oak borer](#)

[Harrisia cactus mealybug](#)

[Hemlock Woolly Adelgid](#)

[Kuroshio Shot Hole Borer](#)

Intentional introductions.







Supporting Spartina: Interdisciplinary perspective shows Spartina as a distinct solid genus

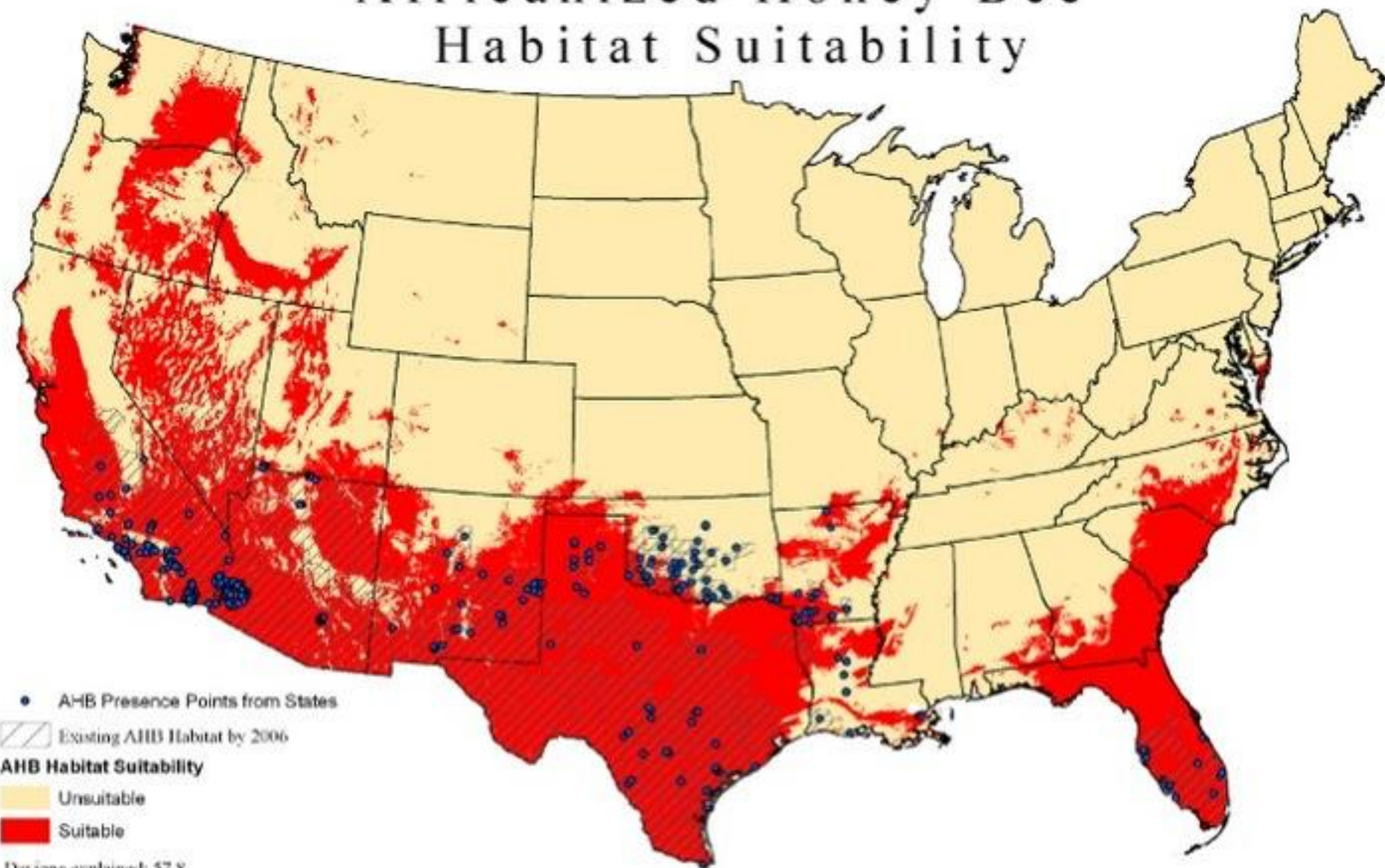
ALEJANDRO BORTOLUS, 1,39 PAUL ADAM, 2 JANINE B. ADAMS, 3 MALIKA L. AINOUCHE, 4 DEBRA AYRES, 5 MARK D. BERTNESS, 6 TJEERD J. BOUMA, 7,8 JOHN F. BRUNO, 9 ISABEL CACADOR, 10 JAMES T. CARLTON, 11 JESUS M. CASTILLO, 12 CESAR S. B. COSTA, 13 ANTHONY J. DAVY, 14 LINDA DEEGAN, 15 BERNARDO DUARTE, 10 ENRIQUE FIGUEROA, 12 JOEL GERWEIN, 16 ALAN J. GRAY, 17 EDWIN D. GROSHOLZ, 18 SALLY D. HACKER, 19 A. RANDALL HUGHES, 20 ENRIQUE MATEOS-NARANJO, 12 IRVING A. MENDELSSOHN, 21 JAMES T. MORRIS, 22 ADOLFO F. MUNOZ ~ -RODRIGUEZ, 23 FRANCISCO J. J. NIEVA, 24 LISA A. LEVIN, 24 BO LI, 25 WENWEN LIU, 26 STEVEN C. PENNINGS, 27 ANDREA PICKART, 28 SUSANA REDONDO-GOMEZ , 12 DAVID M. RICHARDSON, 29 ARMEL SALMON, 4 EVANGELINA SCHWINDT, 30 BRIAN R. SILLIMAN, 31 ERIK E. SOTKA, 32 CLIVE STACE, 33 MARK SYTSMA, 34 STIJN TEMMERMAN, 35 R. EUGENE TURNER, 21 IVAN VALIELA, 36 MICHAEL P. WEINSTEIN, 37 AND JUDITH S. WEIS38

Escape from "captivity"



Escape

Africanized Honey Bee Habitat Suitability



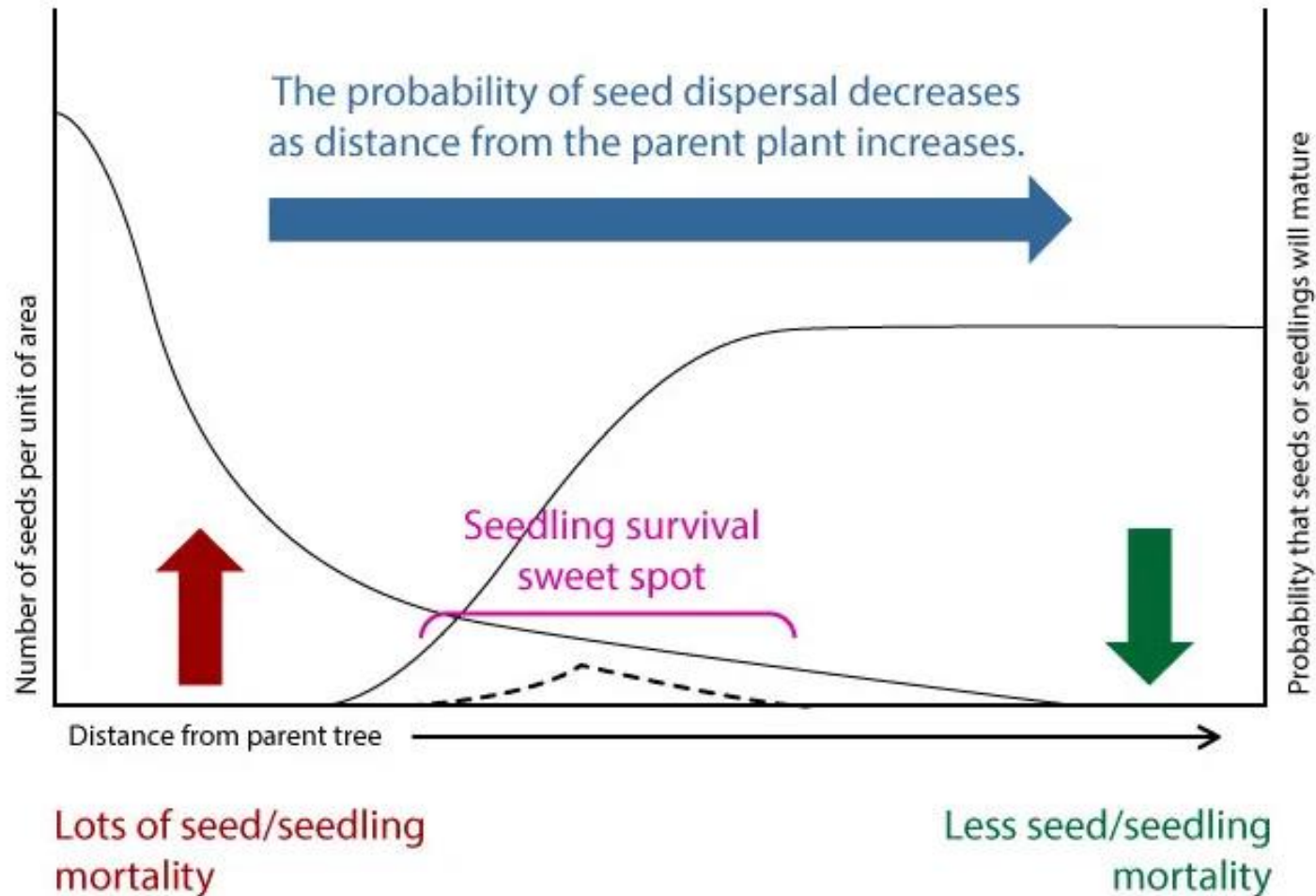
Deviance explained: 57.8

AUC: 94.7

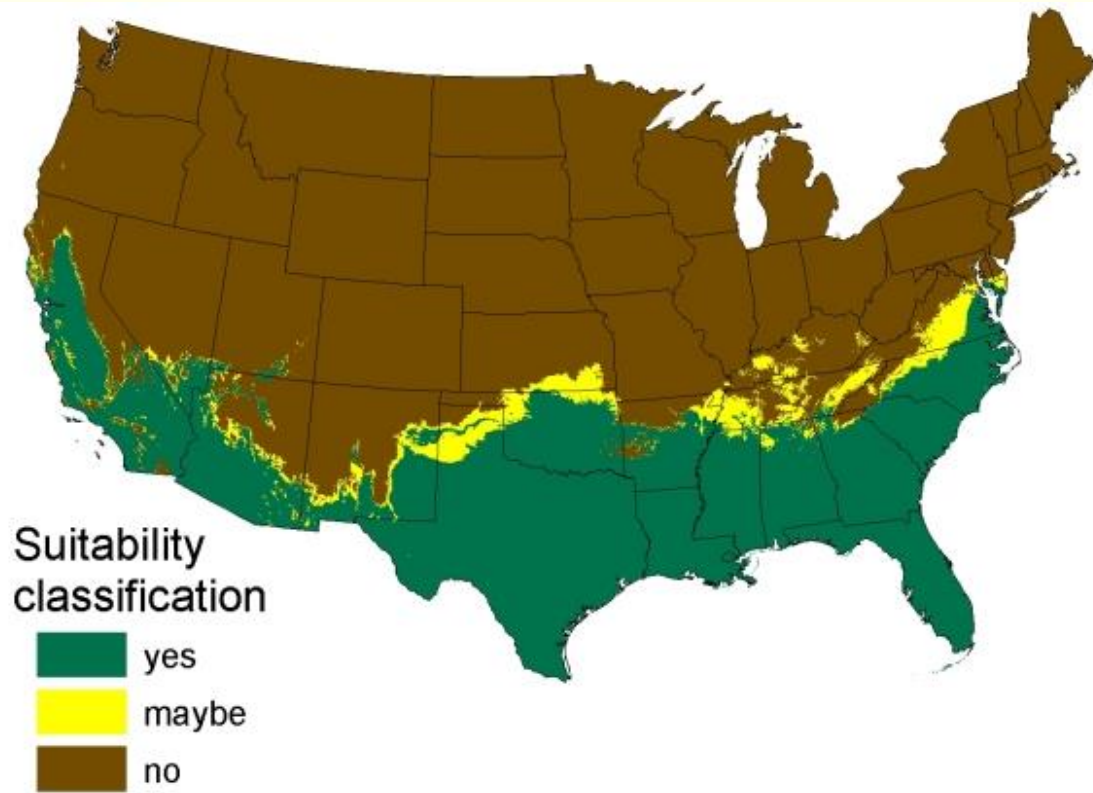
Suitability: >0.412

Escape from disease and predators can help invasive plants

Janzen-Connell Hypothesis



Why?
Climate change.



[http://bp0.blogger.com/_JaDVFdQMdwc/R8ON3m3Jxml/AAAAA
AAAFzQ/bbGYE_1I2ks/s400/burmese-python-florida.jpg](http://bp0.blogger.com/_JaDVFdQMdwc/R8ON3m3Jxml/AAAAA
AAAFzQ/bbGYE_1I2ks/s400/burmese-python-florida.jpg)





Range expansions



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Biodiversity influences ecosystem functioning

Biodiversity and ecosystem stability in a decade-long grassland experiment

David Tilman¹, Peter B. Reich² & Johannes M. H. Knops³



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More plants = less invasives



Biodiversity influences ecosystem functioning

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More plants = less problems



More plants = less problems

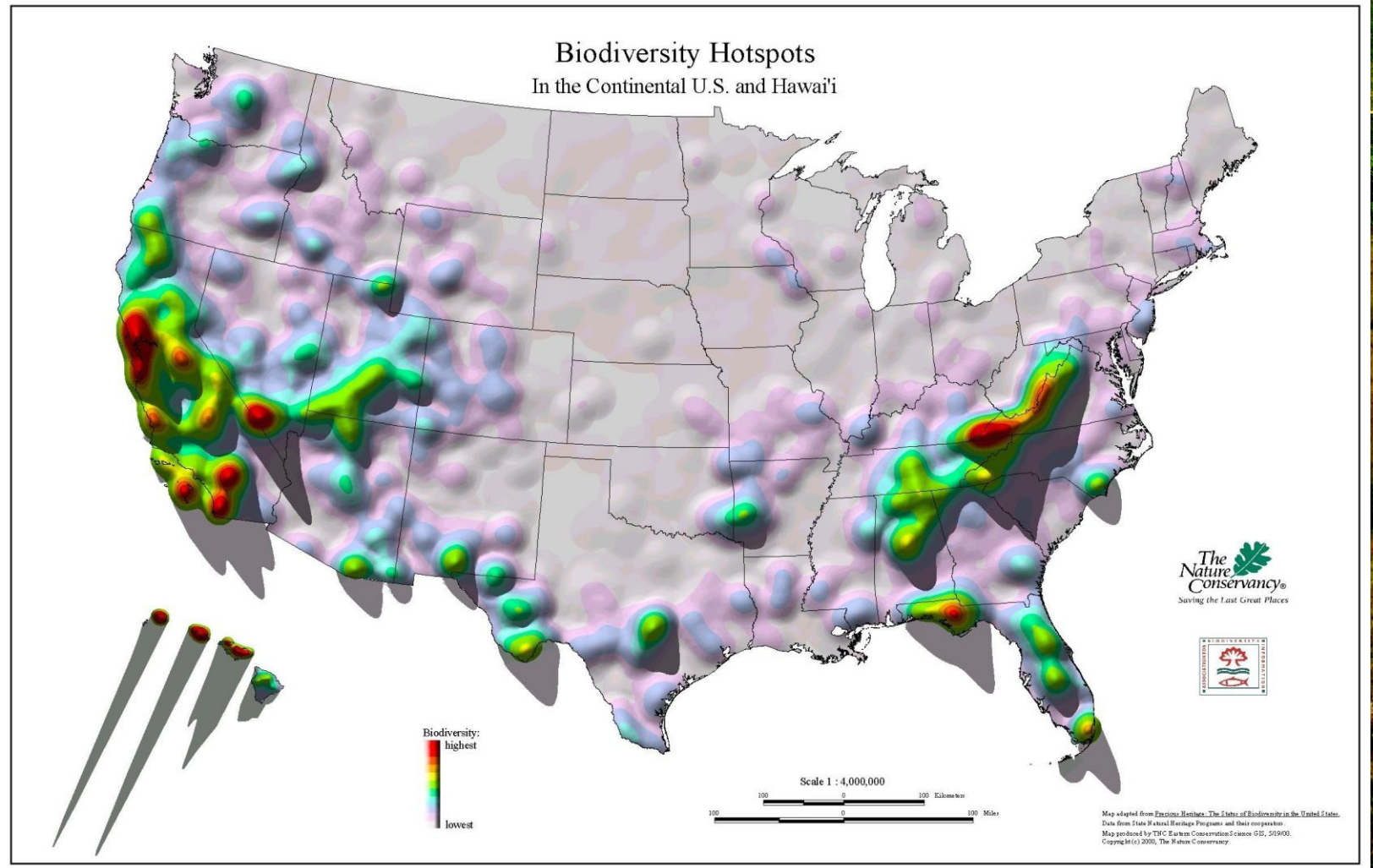
Unless it's the wrong plant.



Biodiversity hotspots

Biodiversity and ecosystem stability in a decade-long grassland experiment

David Tilman¹, Peter B. Reich² & Johannes M. H. Knops³



Evolutionary inevitability?

Invasive plant species have a greater probability of originating from areas with high diversity

Inevitable that natives will be “beaten and supplanted by the naturalized productions from another land”





A forester engages in efforts to eradicate the velvet tree *Miconia calvescens* in Hawaii.

Don't judge species on their origins

Conservationists should assess organisms on environmental impact rather than on whether they are natives, argue **Mark Davis** and 18 other ecologists.

*If the bee disappears from the surface of the earth,
man would have no more than four years to live.*
-Einstein (well, probably not Einstein).



Asiatic sand sedge

*Ammophila
breviligulata*
(AB)



*Ammophila
breviligulata*
(AB)



*Carex
kobomugi*
(CK)



*Carex
kobomugi*
(CK)



National Invasive Species Council Management Plan

1. Prevention (keep invasive species from entering a new ecosystem);

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2. Eradication (remove the entire population of a non-native species);

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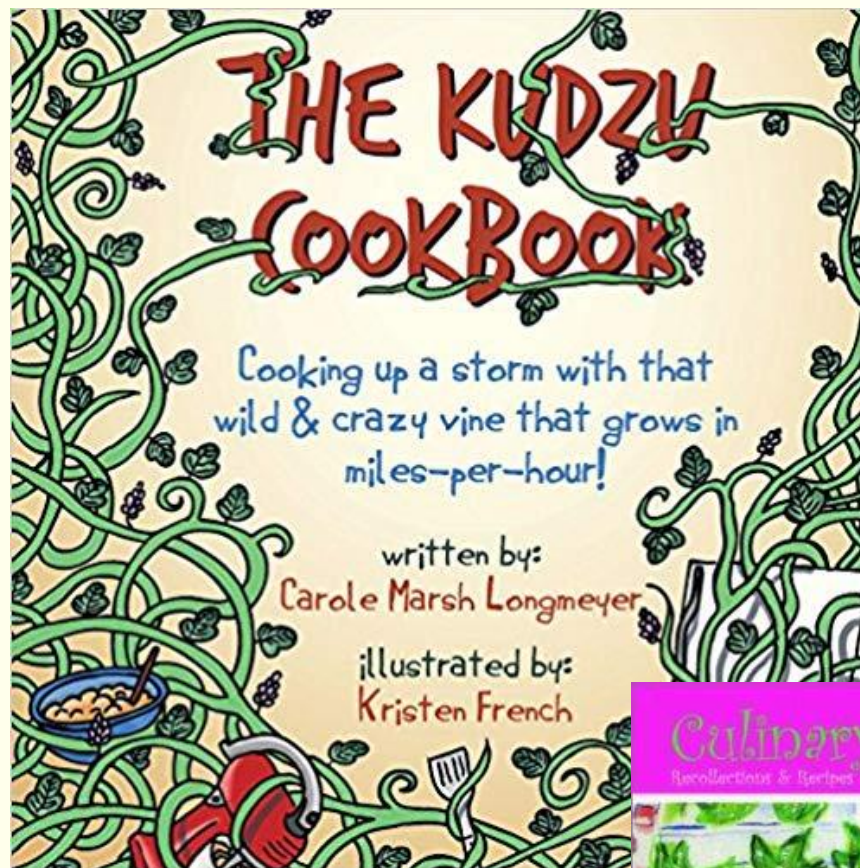
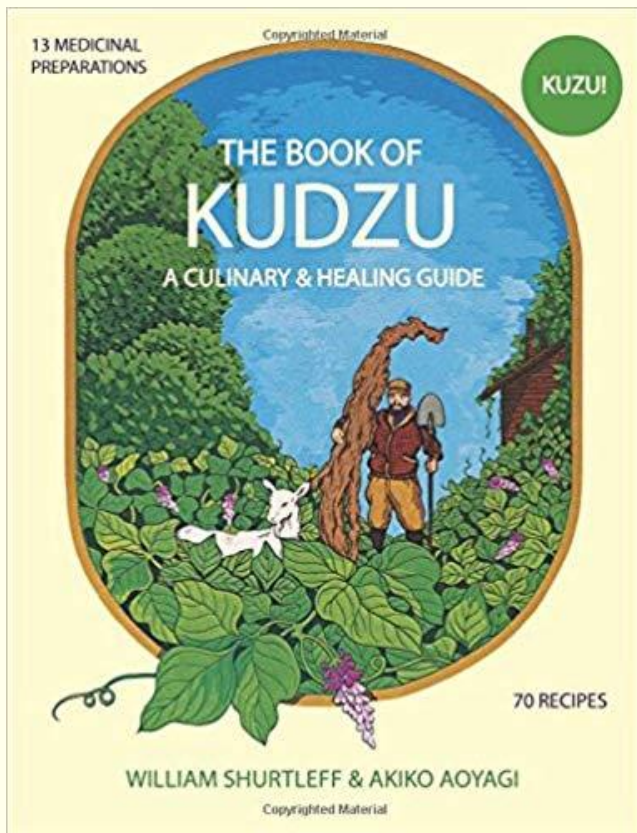
1. Prevention (keep invasive species from entering a new ecosystem);
2. Eradication (remove the entire population of a non-native species);
3. Control (contain or otherwise manage the population of an invasive species so as to minimize spread and impacts);

Exotic pet trade



http://www.amnh.org/education/resources/rfl/web/oceanguide/images/lionfish_lg.jpg





National Invasive Species Council Management Plan

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2. Eradication (remove the entire population of a non-native species);
3. Control (contain or otherwise manage the population of an invasive species so as to minimize spread and impacts);
4. Ecosystem restoration (recovering native species and ecosystems post-removal of invasive species in order to build resistance and resilience to future introductions of non-native species).



Questions?

- Thank you!