

**NEW INVASIVE SPECIES
ADDED TO EUROPE'S
LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR
COORDINATED ACTION**

2025

BLACK WATTLE

Acacia mearnsii

NATIVE RANGE

Australia



Photo © José Luis Camaño

CHARACTERISTICS

- Fire-resistant and resprouts after a blaze
- Dense, shading stands formed by its large crown and numerous seeds

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

CRESTED MYNA

Acridotheres cristatellus

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © Frank Lin

CHARACTERISTICS

- Causes significant crop damage
- Competes with native species for food and nesting sites

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

NORTH PACIFIC SEA STAR

Asterias amurensis

NATIVE RANGE

China, North and South Korea, far eastern Russia, Japan, the Aleutian Islands, Alaska and Canada (British Columbia)



Photo © Lycoo

CHARACTERISTICS

- Rapidly multiplies
- Its presence in Europe has been linked to the decline of the spotted handfish

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

SHOVEL-HEADED GARDEN WORM

Bipalium kewense

NATIVE RANGE

South East Asia



Photo © Martin LaBar

CHARACTERISTICS

- Preys on earthworms, which are vital for healthy soil ecosystems
- Carry parasitic nematodes and may irritate domestic animals

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ASIAN NEEDLE ANT

Brachyponera chinensis

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © Jane Waters

CHARACTERISTICS

- Highly adaptive and competitive.
- Its introduction can lead to it outcompeting local native ant species

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PAPER MULBERRY

Broussonetia papyrifera

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © dearufo

CHARACTERISTICS

- Swift coloniser of disturbed areas, including forests
- Its pollen is highly allergenic

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AMERICAN BEAVER

Castor canadensis

NATIVE RANGE

North America



Photo © Nathaniel Sharp

CHARACTERISTICS

- It directly competes with the native European beaver
- With its higher reproduction rate, it increases the risk of extinction for the native beaver species

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SIKA DEER

Cervus nippon

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © stproc

CHARACTERISTICS

- Causes substantial environmental and economic damage, especially to crops
- Quite aggressive, directly competing and sometimes hybridising with native red deer

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COMMON YABBY

Cherax destructor

NATIVE RANGE

Australia



Photo © David Sinnott

CHARACTERISTICS

- An omnivore outcompetes other crayfish
- Its burrowing activities can even cause damage to riverbanks and infrastructure

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CHINESE MYSTERY SNAIL

Cipangopaludina chinensis

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © L.J. Lamera

CHARACTERISTICS

- It outcompetes many native snails and acts as a potential parasite host
- It may clog water pipes and attack fish eggs

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NEW ZEALAND PYGMYWEED

Crassula helmsii

NATIVE RANGE

Australia and New Zealand



Photo © A Emmerson

CHARACTERISTICS

- It rapidly overgrows ponds
- It outcompetes other plants for light and resources, potentially lowering water oxygenation

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CAPE-IVY

Delairea odorata

NATIVE RANGE

South Africa



Photo © Pedro Beja

CHARACTERISTICS

- It can grow vigorously, covering shrubs and trees, impeding the germination and growth of native seeds.
- It is toxic to animals and fish

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CALICO CRAYFISH

Faxonius immunis

NATIVE RANGE

North America



Photo © Daniel Folds

CHARACTERISTICS

- It may impact aquatic invertebrate communities and outcompete native species
- It is a carrier of pathogens

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GIANT RAMSHORN SNAIL

Marisa cornuarietis

NATIVE RANGE

South America



Photo © H. Zell

CHARACTERISTICS

- It is an aggressive scavenger
- It can reproduce rapidly, contributing to its significant impact

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

ORIENTAL WEATHERFISH

Misgurnus anguillicaudatus

NATIVE RANGE

East Asia



Photo © Tommy Hui

CHARACTERISTICS

- It has the unusual ability to reproduce clonally
- It can also reduce aquatic insect biodiversity

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

NORTHERN WEATHERFISH

Misgurnus bipartitus

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © Isabel Lambeens & Johan Auwerx

CHARACTERISTICS

- It directly competes with the native protected species *M. fossilis* in the EU
- It is a carrier of pathogens

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

DWARF SURFCLAM

Mulinia lateralis

NATIVE RANGE

Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea



Photo © Fabio Moretzsohn

CHARACTERISTICS

- It has high fecundity
- It has the potential to alter benthic communities and influence the food web

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JAPANESE EELGRASS

Nanozostera japonica

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © John D Reynolds

CHARACTERISTICS

- It displaces native seagrass
- Its faster decomposition rate alters the decomposer community

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

AMERICAN MINK

Neogale vison

NATIVE RANGE

North America, encompassing most of the United States



Photo © Marc Faucher

CHARACTERISTICS

- It is a direct competitor with many native EU species
- It is also known to be a carrier of pathogens

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

OBAMA FLATWORM

Obama nungara

NATIVE RANGE

South America



Photo © RAP

CHARACTERISTICS

- It is a predator that kills and consumes native earthworms and land snails
- Its introduction leads to drastic alterations in soil dynamics

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

NEW GUINEA FLATWORM

Platydemus manokwari

NATIVE RANGE

New Guinea



Photo © Andrew Wee Kien Han

CHARACTERISTICS

- It is a versatile and adaptive predator
- It feeds on a variety of invertebrates and land snails

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

RED-WHISKERED BULBUL

Pycnonotus jocosus

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © Chuangzao

CHARACTERISTICS

- It may hybridise with native species and directly compete with native birds for resources
- It may facilitate the spread of invasive plants

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JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Reynoutria japonica

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © Mefisher

CHARACTERISTICS

- It is a rapid clonal spreader
- Its clonal expansion via roots (rhizomes) makes it difficult to eradicate

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

GIANT KNOTWEED

Reynoutria sachalinensis

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © R. Ziebarth

CHARACTERISTICS

- Like the the *R. japonica*, it also spreads via rhizomes
- It outcompetes and overshadows other species

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

BOHEMIAN KNOTWEED

Reynoutria × bohemica

NATIVE RANGE

Native hybrid of Japan



Photo © Sergey Mayorov

CHARACTERISTICS

- It is a hybrid between the Japanese and Giant knotweed
- Its aggressive spread outcompetes native species

#InvasiveAlienSpecies

ASIAN GIANT HORNET

Vespa mandarinia

NATIVE RANGE

Asia



Photo © Yasunori Koide

CHARACTERISTICS

- It preys on native bee species, negatively impacting agriculture and other insect species
- It can also carry pathogens

#InvasiveAlienSpecies