

Distribution of some invasive alien plant species in Hungary

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Semi-natural and valuable treeless habitats are endangered by the spreading of invasive woody plants. In woody associations the expansion of invasive species canopy, shrub layer, and the big biomass quantity of its roots has strong allelopathy and competitive effect on other plants. Invasive woody species transform efficiently the ecology of habitats than the invasive herbaceous plants. We used the Central European Mapping System (Niklfeld 1971), based on geographical longitude and latitude degrees, to construct the distribution maps. The species were represented in grid units of five geographical longitude degree minutes and three geographical latitude degree minutes. These quadrants are the basic unit of floristic mapping in Hungary. The distribution maps were made with the aid of the geoinformatic program Digiterra (v. 3.0). The maps show their distribution at a completion rate of data processing approximately 80%. The processing of data is incomplete in some regions, such as southern part of Kiskunság (in South Hungary between the river Tisza and Danube), and Northern part of Tiszántúl (in North-East Hungary). Analyzing the current distribution of invasive alien plants by the Mapping of the Hungarian Flora Programme we mapped some species has already spread in large areas. It can be assessed from these maps which region(s) are endangered in the close future by these invasive.

Keywords: invasive alien species, distribution map, Hungarian Flora Programme

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