

Invasive Species Management

Invasive species can be defined as any species that is non-native or “alien” to an ecosystem and that tends to spread to a degree believed to cause damage to the environment, **human** economy or **human** health.

Consider the following scenario:

An invasive plant species was originally brought in as a decorative plant in a garden on a farm in Northern Saskatchewan. However, recently the plant had been found in endangered grasslands of Saskatchewan that support a fragile ecosystem. You are an ecologist tasked with stopping the spread of this plant as well as preventing further cases of invasion.

1. How would you prevent people from bringing in invasive species?
2. What would you do to stop the invasive species from growing out of control and damaging an ecosystem?
3. One way that scientists have used to control invasive species is to import insect species that feed on the invasive plants. Come up with one way that this method could go wrong.