



*insects*



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## Impact of Introduced Plants on Insects

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Evidence that insects are in rapid decline within human-dominated landscapes in North America and Europe is accumulating rapidly. Despite E.O. Wilson's 1987 warnings about the many ecological consequences of losing local insect populations, factors leading to insect declines have been understudied for decades. One in particular is the collapse of insect-based food webs through the loss of the plants that support them. Widescale use of introduced ornamentals, competitive exclusion of native plant communities by invasive plants, and the replacement of millions of acres of diverse forest plant communities with monocultures of introduced forest trees, such as Eucalyptus, teak, and Australian pine, are all taking their toll on the specialized relationships that define most plant/insect interactions. It is surprising that much of this is still under the radar of many restoration and forestry practitioners and even many ecologists globally. In this Special Issue we hope to turn a spotlight on the many ways introduced plants impact insects by inviting the submission of high-quality, original research papers and mini-reviews covering all aspects of this critical ecological challenge.



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# Special Issue