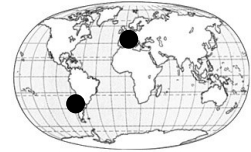


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RECONSTRUCTING THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE SPECIES USING HERBARIUM DATA - A CASE STUDY FROM CHILE

Reconstructing the spread of invasive species using herbarium data - a case study from Chile
Herbarium data are an important source of information not only for taxonomy but also for biogeography and ecology. In most of the collections invasive species are included. This information can help to reconstruct the spread of alien species and to describe spatial and temporal pattern within larger areas. The temporal and spatial distribution of herbarium specimens of vascular plants are examined basing on the herbarium data from the Concepcion University Herbarium (CONC). The distribution of alien species within Chile basing on the herbarium data is reconstructed and compared with distribution data from other sources. This comparison helped to check the importance of sampling effects for the results. The relation between native and alien species is evaluated and additional methodological problems using herbarium data are discussed.

keywords: herbarium data, invasive plant species, flora of Chile, spatial and temporal pattern