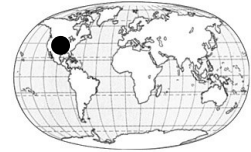


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INVASIVE.ORG: PROVIDING INVASIVE SPECIES INFORMATION AND IMAGES AT A GLOBAL LEVEL

Proper identification of invasive species and associated organisms are important for adequate monitoring and detection activities, as well as to support proper management decisions. Invasive.org (www.invasive.org) is a web-accessible archive of high quality images driven by a fully-searchable taxonomic database built-around the successful ForestryImages (www.forestryimages.org) framework. Images in the system can be downloaded in the desired resolution, format and file size needed by the user and can be used with no royalties and no fees for all educational applications. Images in these systems are TOOLS that are available for use in users' applications!

The system was developed as a portal to high resolution images with links to species-based information. Invasive.org is one of fifteen (15) websites maintained by the Bugwood Network (www.bugwood.org) on a broad range of topics, including invasive species, forestry and forest health, and entomology dealing with both natural systems and more directly managed systems. Invasive.org and the associated ForestryImages system make over 25,000 images taken by over 650 photographers on 4,000+ subjects available to users. During the period of Oct 1, 2003 through September 30, 2004 (US Federal Fiscal Year), the Bugwood Image systems received over 33 million hits and served nearly 14 million pages of information to 2.3 million users. The systems are being used.

The initial focus was North America, but the scope and content of both images and information is much broader than North America. The Bugwood Network is cooperating with a wide array of US and Non-US-based agencies, individuals and organizations with significant collaborations across Europe. The content of the systems and the user base continues to expand. We invite you to visit, utilize and contribute to these sites.

keywords: images, checklists, database, internet, outreach