

Submitted Abstract

ID IMC22-FSAbstr- 435

First Author First Name Last Name	Lucia Antonietta Santoianni
Submitting Author First Name Last Name	Lucia Antonietta Santoianni
Correspondence	l.santoianni@studenti.unimol.it
Co-Authors >> E-Mails will be not listed	Innangi, Michele; Carranza, Maria Laura; Stanisci, Angela
Organisations	Department of Biosciences and Territory, University of Molise, Via Duca degli Abruzzi, 67, 86039 Termoli, CB, Italy
Country	Italy
Region	Western Europe
Title	Invasive Alien Plants Across The Mediterranean Mountain Ecosystems: An Overview.
Keywords	Alien Plants, Mediterranean Region, Mountain Ecosystem, Overview
Type	List Of Focus Session
Focus Session ID	45

Abstract

The Mediterranean region is characterized by high levels of plant diversity along with a relevant endemism rate and it has been designated as one of “biodiversity hotspot” of the world. Across the Mediterranean region, several mountain ranges represent a “hotspot within the hotspot” due to their geological and climatic history. Yet, these mountains are experiencing significant changes in biodiversity for their sensitivity to land-use changes and are threatened by the on-going climate change.

On a world-wide scale, invasive alien plants (IAPs) are a growing threat to biodiversity, causing significant ecological and economic losses. Although there is a great number of published researches dealing with invasive alien plants across different ecosystems, a systematic review of IAPs occurrence and invasiveness on Mediterranean-climate mountain region is still lacking.

In this work, we provide an overview of the published ecological studies dealing with invasive alien plants across the Mediterranean mountain ecosystems of the last 10 years. This review sets out a checklist of invasive alien plants recorded in these mountain areas, analyzing taxonomic families and life-forms composition, geographic distribution and habitat preference. Our work contributes to increasing knowledge on this topic, creating a database which could be used to develop further research and appropriate management and conservation strategies across Mediterranean mountain ecosystems.