Meeting the CBD and other targets – alerts and reporting

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Targets

Prevent the introduction and establishment of priority species 1, 2, 4

Reduce the rate of introduction and establishment of INNS by 50% 1, 2, 5

Identify and manage INNS pathways 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Eradicate, control or contain key INNS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Prevent the establishment of INNS that benefit from climate change 1, 3, 4

(1) GB INNS Strategy

(2) Conference of the Parties 15
Importance of good data

Good data is key for targets - particularly preventing new establishments
NNSIP (GB Non-native Species Information Portal)

- Main repository for NNS data in GB

- Provides:
  - Coordination
  - Stats and trends
  - Alert system
Numbers of new species establishing in GB
Numbers of new species establishing in GB

20+ year lag in establishment data
Not just GB data

Seebens *et al.* (2017)
Numbers of new species establishing in GB

Mean establishments per annum

- 5 pa
- 8.5 pa
- 14 pa
Numbers of new species establishing in GB

Only 5.5pa since 2000
Cumulative increase over time
Detecting new species

- Specified alert species
- Other new species
Alert species

- Focussed list of 19 species to try to improve detection and reporting

https://www.nonnativespecies.org/non-native-species/species-alerts/
Asian hornet alerts

![Graph showing the number of Asian hornet alerts from 2011 to 2021. The number of alerts increased significantly from 2011 to 2019, reaching a peak in 2019, and then declined sharply in 2021. The graph also highlights the years 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2021 with red stars indicating significant events or milestones.](image-url)
Asian hornet alerts

- High levels of awareness (inc. bee keepers)
- Clear how and where to report
- Result = good levels of detection and response

... so far
Other ‘alert’ species

- Some successes
- However …
Other ‘alert’ species

Reports between 2021 and 2022

- Asian hornet
- All other alert species

Need to raise awareness of the other alert species

<1% of records for the other 18 species
New species

- New arrivals that require consideration and potential response.
New species

New species reported in the wild since 2015

We are missing plants

Only 3 plants since 2015
New species

Detection and reporting by the alert system

Alert system detected only 2/3 of new species the other 1/3 were incidentally noted by officials.

We are missing other species.
New species

Response to new species

Decisions were taken for about 36 species, leading to removal in the field in 6 cases.

Active decisions only taken for minority of species
How are we doing?

- Good in some areas:
  - Historical data and trends
  - Asian hornet

- But ... not collecting the data we need in the time we need it
  - Low levels of awareness and slow data flow for recent arrivals
What are we doing about it?

- Improvements in the pipeline:
  - Clarity over what species to record and how to record them
  - Improved protocol for handling alerts and passing to officials
  - Active decision making and logging

- Many challenges remain:
  - Slow initial detection and reporting
  - Should we have ‘Asian hornet levels of awareness’ for alert and new species – among schemes, societies, general public, etc
Thanks
Conclusions

- Despite some good progress - we are failing to record data needed to measure targets.

- Need greater awareness of alert species and the need to report new species.

- Working on some challenges (coordination and decision making) but need all to work on data flow.
Alert reporting in GB

- **What species?**
  - Specific ‘alert species’
  - Any new non-native species detected in the wild

- **Used to support:**
  - Rapid response / eradication
  - Monitoring progress towards targets (e.g. 50% reduction in establishments by 2030)
New species

Detection and reporting by the alert system

Most new species are not being reported to officials

Only 9% of reports detected by NNSIP reported to officials
New species

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Numbers of new species establishing in GB

No establishment = drop to 0

No establishment = flatline