

会议报道: 北京生物入侵国际研讨会: 2004年6月6日-11日

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摘要 Scientists and policy-makers are now well aware of the ecological and societal problems associated with the introduction of species by humans across natural barriers to dispersal. Some introduced species spread abundantly in their new habitats and have negative effects on existing species, both agricultural and natural. Such introduced, invasive species can alter fire, nutrient, and hydrological regimes and have large economic costs. In many parts of the world, this awareness has come rather late: commerce and travel have already carried large numbers of plants, animals, and microbes between many regions. In contrast, China's relative self-remove from global trade during much of the second half of the 20th century may have earned it a partial reprieve from invasions from abroad and reduced the number of invasions from China to elsewhere. If so, there could be a new wave of species invasions between China and North America impending. China's trade with the U.S. increased by 460% from 1992 to 2002, according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. This may be the critical moment to apply the lessons learned from invasions across other oceans and forestall new invasions across the Pacific. We need to match growth in trade with growth in the science and policy needed to prevent and control introductions. To this end, some 100 scientists and representatives of governmental and non-governmental organisations from eight countries gathered on June 6-11 for the Beijing International Symposium on Biological Invasions, subtitled "Species Exchanges Between Eastern Asia and North America: Threats to Environment and Economy". The Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Sino-Ecologists Club Overseas organized the meeting, under the leadership of Xinguo Han and Ming Dong for the Institute and Shili Miao for the Club. The National Science Foundation of China, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Asian Ecology Section of the Ecological Society of America provided additional support. Shili Miao and Jianhui Huang coordinated the program and logistics, and the Beijing Botanical Garden provided the venue, appropriately stocked with introduced plants from around the world, presumably non-invasive ones. There were two keynote addresses. Harold Mooney (Stanford, USA) highlighted the need for scientists to develop quantitative tools that managers can use to analyze the extent and the impacts of invasions. Richard Mack (Washington State, USA) noted that the phylogenetic, latitudinal, and climatic similarities between China and the U.S. may predispose introductions from one to the other to bloom into invasions. The 37 other talks and the posters focused on current patterns of invasion in eastern Asia, the theory of invasions, techniques to manage invasions, and policies to prevent them.

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