

Invasive species information issues in South Pacific

Based on information prepared by
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Invasive Species Specialist Group
(IUCN), Auckland,
for the SPREP training module on
information

Invasive species information issues in South Pacific

- Insufficient information on species biology and distributions (IAS but also NATIVE)
- Poor access to information
- Poor communication within and outside the region

(SPREP 2000)

Secretariat Pacific Community (SPC)

South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

CABI

PIER

GISP

IUCN/ISSG/Global Invasive Species Database

Listservers etc

Disclaimer: for full picture, see SPREP, SPC, taxonomy networks

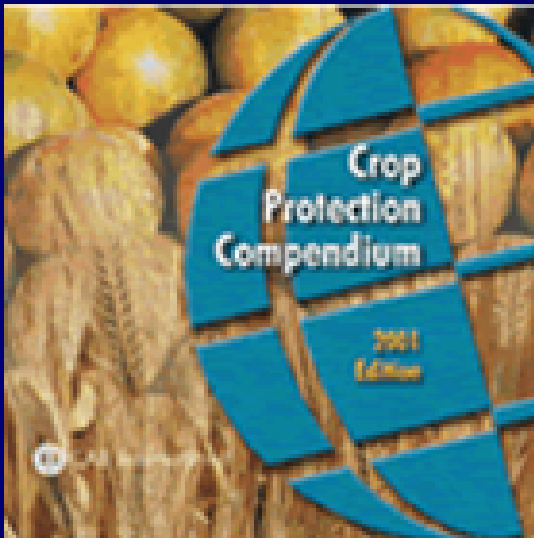
The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

- Technical advice
 - Konrad Englberger (Plant protection Micronesia) ppmicronesia@mail.fm
 - Peter Saville (Animal Health) peters@spc.int
 - Sidney Suma (Biosecurity) sidneys@spc.int
 - Warea Orapa (Weeds) wareao@spc.int
 - Jacqui Wright (Plant Diseases) Jacquiw@spc.int
- Website <http://www.spc.org>
- Training, resourcing, fact sheets, newsletter, posters etc.
- Stronger focus on agriculture

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

- The Pest List Database PLD for the Pacific
- Records pest occurrence within country – list of pests found on crop
- List of hosts for pest
- Can be used for keeping record of interceptions at ports/airports

CABI Crop Protection Compendium



- Information on crops, countries, pests, diseases and weeds and their natural enemies
- Global coverage, agricultural focus
- CD or internet versions
- Variable pricing



SPREP

- Range of general services:
 - Library and information services
 - Legal advice
 - Training support
 - Education programmes and publication advice
 - Website and newsletter
- Series of specific programmes and projects
- Ph +685 21929 Fax +685 20231



Pacific Invasives Network... coming soon

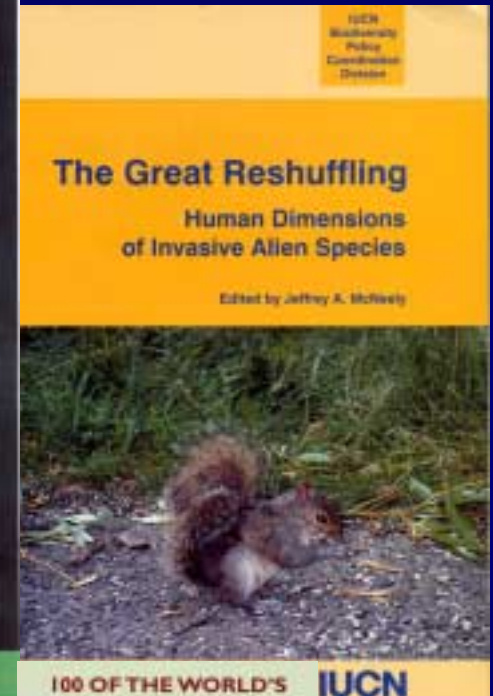
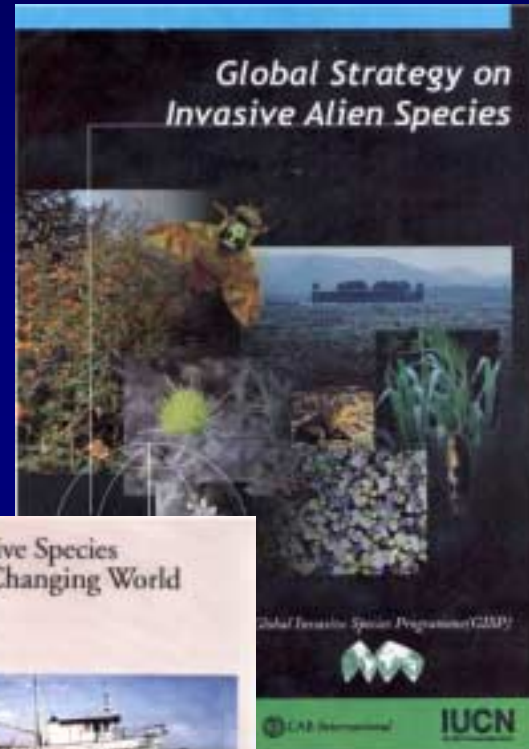
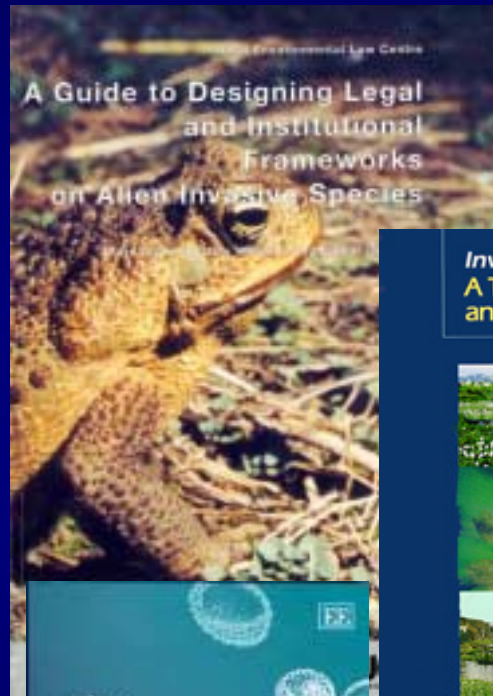
- Monthly bulletin by email list server or fax as suits
- Connecting people working on invasives of environmental concern in the Pacific
- Within country and between countries
- Ask for help from the network
- Share experience and information
- News and updates on resources and findings
- SPREP will refer issues to the global advice from PestNet or Aliens-L if you can't access them

Pacific Island Ecosystems at risk (PIER) project

- Information on invasive plants that threaten Pacific ecosystems
- CD-ROM & internet versions
- Freely available
- URL: <http://www.hear.org/pier/>
- Survey report for Niue at:
<http://www.hear.org/pier/niuereport.htm>

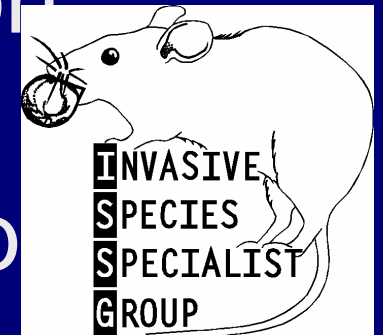


GISP Publications



IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

- An IUCN/SSC specialist group
- Global - 140+ experts from 42 countries
- Cooperative Initiative on IAS on islands project
- Global Invasive Species Database
- Other as possible
- www.issg.org or issg@auckland.ac.nz



ISSG Global Invasive Species Database (GISD)

- Core information in plain English
- Biodiversity focus
- Global picture
- All taxa
- Management focus
- <http://www.issg.org/database>



TARGET USERS

Focus on those “at the coal face”

- Decisionmakers
- Land managers/practitioners
- Border control personnel
- Park Managers
- Communities



Level of “Western” education: secondary

English: often 2nd or 3^d language

Not necessarily computer literate

INTERNET ?

- Providing internet access is not enough - it disenfranchises those with slow, unreliable or NO internet access (S Pacific, Large Parts of Africa,...)



- Other delivery mechanisms : CD-ROM, printed versions,...

- Standardised & easy to use (but flexible)
- Data from countries previously invaded provides important information (ecology, impacts, methods for management....)
- Past invasiveness is key factor in identifying risk (Risk analysis prior to intentional introduction, prioritising action based on survey results, risks posed by unintentional introductions)
- Contribution to Early Warning and prioritising

Also makes accessible information that can not be “linked” electronically

Books, reports , e.g. SPREP technical review IAS



Reports and case studies in “obscure places”



Unpublished expertise (in people’s heads e.g.)



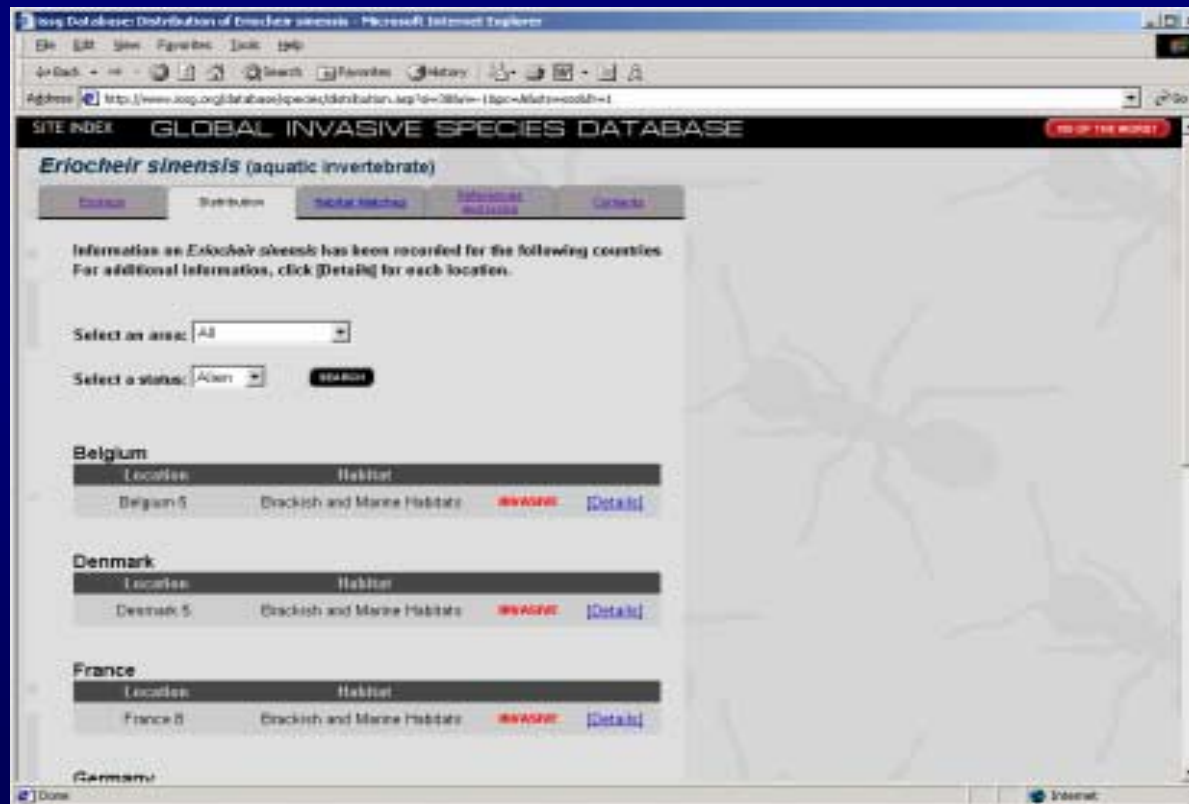
User



DBs, distributed networks

Distribution page

- Distribution, biostatus (native, alien, invasive). Details for specific locations.



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE' page for *Eriocheir sinensis* (aquatic invertebrate). The page includes a navigation menu with tabs for 'Introduction', 'Systematics', 'Global Ranking', 'Informational Resources', and 'Contact'. Below the navigation, there is a section titled 'Information on *Eriocheir sinensis* has been recorded for the following countries. For additional information, click [Details] for each location.' This section contains a search interface with 'Select an area:' (set to 'All') and 'Select a status:' (set to 'Alien'), followed by a 'SEARCH' button. The search results are organized by country: Belgium, Denmark, and France. Each country has a table with columns for 'Location' and 'Habitat'. For Belgium, Denmark, and France, the location is 'Country S' and the habitat is 'Brackish and Marine Habitats'. Each entry includes a red 'INVASIVE' label and a blue '[Details]' link. A large, faint image of an ant is visible in the background on the right side of the page.

Country	Location	Habitat	Biostatus	Action
Belgium	Belgium S	Brackish and Marine Habitats	INVASIVE	[Details]
Denmark	Denmark S	Brackish and Marine Habitats	INVASIVE	[Details]
France	France S	Brackish and Marine Habitats	INVASIVE	[Details]

Management Information page

(Available near future). Pulls together information that is generic as well as location specific

Time consuming, but very important.

Needs Resourcing

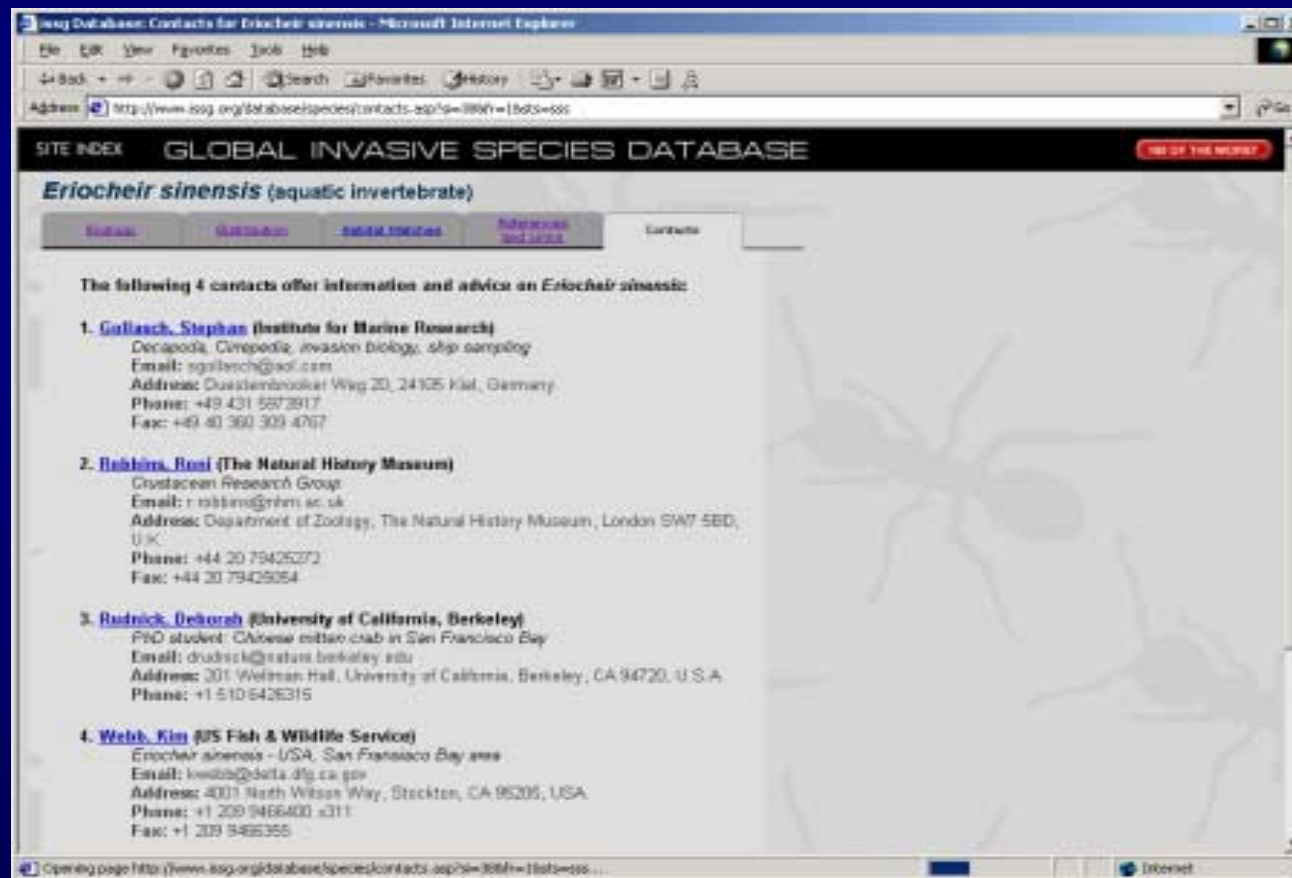
References/Links page

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the 'References and Links' page for *Eriocheir sinensis* in the Global Invasive Species Database. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <http://www.issg.org/database/species/references.asp?si=366f=1&st=ess>. The page header includes 'SITE INDEX', 'GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE', and a 'TOP OF THE WORST' button. The species name *Eriocheir sinensis* (aquatic invertebrate) is prominently displayed. Below the name are navigation tabs for 'Ecology', 'Distribution', 'Control Methods', 'References and Links', and 'Contacts'. The 'References and Links' tab is active, showing a list of 5 references found for *Eriocheir sinensis*. The references are categorized into 'Management information' and 'General references'. The 'Management information' section includes two references: 1. Gollasch, S. 1999. *Eriocheir sinensis* (Milne-Edwards, 1854), the Chinese Mitten Crab. in: Gollasch, S., Minchin, D., Rosenthal, H. and Voigt, M. (eds): *Exotics Across the Ocean. Case histories on introduced species: their general biology, distribution, range expansion and impact*: 55-60. 2. Panning, A. 1936. The Chinese Mitten Crab. *Smithsonian Rep.*: 361-375. The 'General references' section includes three references: 3. Lappakoski, E. 1991. Introduced species - Resource or threat in brackish-water seas? Examples from the Baltic and the Black Sea. *Mar. Poll. Bull.* (23): 219-223. 4. [Natural History Museum. Chinese mitten crab webpage.](#) **Summary:** Describes the species and documents its invasion of Britain and elsewhere. 5. [Clark, P. F., Rainbow, P. S., Robbins, R. S., Smith, B., Yeomans, W. E., Thomas, M. and Dabson, G. 1958. The alien Chinese mitten crab, Eriocheir sinensis \(Crustacea: Decapoda: Brachyura\), in the Thames catchment. *J. Mar. Biol. Ass. U.K.* 28: 1215-1221.](#)

Results Page: 1

Contacts page

access to expert advise or assistance



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Global Invasive Species Database' page for *Eriocheir sinensis*. The page title is 'Eriocheir sinensis (aquatic invertebrate)'. Below the title, there are navigation tabs for 'Home', 'Introduction', 'Global Distribution', 'Substrate Preference', and 'Contacts'. The 'Contacts' tab is selected. The page lists four contacts offering information and advice on *Eriocheir sinensis*:

- 1. Gollasch, Stephan (Institute for Marine Research)**
Decapoda, Crustacea, invasion biology, ship sampling
Email: sgollasch@aol.com
Address: Duesenbrooker Weg 20, 24105 Kiel, Germany
Phone: +49 431 5873917
Fax: +49 40 360 303 4767
- 2. Robbins, Russ (The Natural History Museum)**
Crustacean Research Group
Email: r.robbins@nhm.ac.uk
Address: Department of Zoology, The Natural History Museum, London SW7 5BD, U.K.
Phone: +44 20 79425272
Fax: +44 20 79425054
- 3. Rudnick, Deborah (University of California, Berkeley)**
PhD student: Chinese mitten crab in San Francisco Bay
Email: drudnick@nature.berkeley.edu
Address: 201 Welman Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, U.S.A.
Phone: +1 510 5426315
- 4. Welch, Kim (US Fish & Wildlife Service)**
Eriocheir sinensis - USA, San Francisco Bay area
Email: kwelch@deltaplus.dfg.ca.gov
Address: 4001 Nath Wilson Way, Stockton, CA 95205, USA
Phone: +1 209 9466400 x311
Fax: +1 209 9466355

Current Partners

- The World Conservation Union (IUCN)
- National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) USA
- The University of Auckland
- Manaaki Whenua-Landcare Research Limited (NZ)
- USDA Forest Service, Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk Project (PIER)
- Developed as part of GISP Phase I

Species information is supplied or reviewed by a global network of invasive alien species experts

The future

- Ongoing population of the database
- Globally source management information (including “obscure” and not yet published, lessons learned from success and failure)
- CD-ROM version
- Printed species’ factsheets
- Display in non-English languages
- A repository for storing locally generated data

Aliens-L

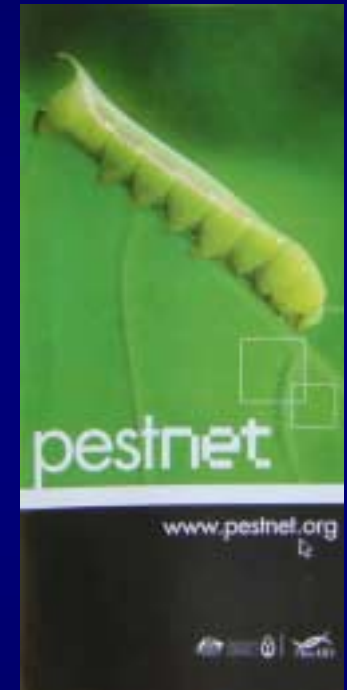
- Dedicated to IAS information and related issues
- Focus on environmental invasive species
- 600 subscribers
- You can make use of Alien-L without subscribing to it
- Searchable archive:
<http://cain.nbii.gov/cgi-bin/aliens-l.cgi>

Aliens-L

- **To subscribe**, send an email without a subject header to:
Aliens-L-join@indaba.iucn.org OR
listadmin@indaba.iucn.org with the message: subscribe to Aliens-L
- **To send a message** to all other members of Aliens-L, address an email to:
aliens-l@indaba.iucn.org

Pestnet

- Moderated listserver, 390 members
- Goal: plant protection in the Pacific Island countries
- Information on pests, diseases and weeds and their control
- Alerts on new incursions
- Species identification
- Coverage: Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia



Pestnet

- **To post message:**

pestnet@yahoogroups.com

- **To subscribe:**

pestnet-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

- **To unsubscribe:**

pestnet-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com