

Terms and definitions

Following are key the terms and their definitions that are to be used by the authors contributing to the book on the topic of ‘Introduced tree species in European forests: challenges and opportunities’ that is being prepared as a part of the project *In-Tree* (www.in-tree.org).

Term	Definition	Source
Introduction	A process (or an action) that enables a species (or its propagule) to overcome, through a human agency, a major geographical barrier.	Amended from Richardson <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Introduced species (non-native, alien, non-indigenous, exotic)	A species in a given area whose presence there is due to intentional or accidental introduction as a result of human activity.	Gassmann and Weber (2006)
Invasion	A process whereby a species must overcome a series of barriers to be able to spread into novel areas in which it becomes dominant.	Amended from Valéry <i>et al.</i> (2008)
Invasive species	A species that has overcome a series of barriers to be able to spread into novel areas in which it becomes dominant.	
Naturalisation	Process whereby the species establishes new self-perpetuating populations, undergoes widespread dispersal and becomes incorporated within the resident flora.	Richardson <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Native species	Species that have evolved in a given area or that arrived there by natural means without the intentional or accidental intervention of humans from an area where they are (or had been) native.	Amended from Pyšek <i>et al.</i> (2004)
Invasiveness	The features of an organism (e.g. life history traits and modes of reproduction) that define their capacity to overcome various barriers to invasion.	Amended from Richardson <i>et al.</i> (2000)
Invasibility	The properties of a community, habitat or ecosystem that determine its inherent vulnerability to invasion.	Lonsdale (1999)

References

- Gassmann, A. and Weber, E. 2006. Plants – Planta. In: Invasive alien species in Switzerland. An inventory of alien species and their threat to biodiversity and economy in Switzerland. Federal Office for the Environment. Switzerland.
- Lonsdale, M. 1999. Global patterns of plant invasions and the concept of invasibility. *Ecology*. 80: 1522–1536.
- Pyšek, P., Richardson, D.M., Rejmánek, M., Webster, G.L., Williamson, M. and Kirschner, J. 2004. Alien plants in checklists and floras: towards better communication between taxonomists and ecologists. *Taxon*. 53: 131–143.
- Richardson, D.M., Pyšek, P., Rejmánek, M., Barbour, M.G., Panetta, D.F. and West, C.J. 2000. Naturalization and invasion of alien plants: concepts and definitions. *Diversity and Distributions*. 6: 93–107.
- Valéry, L., Fritz, H., Lefeuvre, J.-C. and Simberloff, D. 2008. In search of a real definition of the biological invasion phenomenon itself. *Biological Invasions*. 10: 1345–1351.