Annotated Bibliography of Papers about Invasives: Plants and Bees

Well, maybe. Intensive experimental design but over a very short time period. Lots of possible confounding factors especially related to impacts of honey bees on native bees not addressed. Good referenced info and great potential for further study.

See next.

Two companion studies clearly illustrating the negative effects that invasive species can have on native congeners indirectly through mutualisms (pollination). Solid studies and solid evidence.

Very interesting “Perspectives” paper on the impacts of non-native plants on insect/plant interactions. Focuses on flower phenology and insect foraging behavior. Not much referenced evidence but a good imagination “sparker.”

Comparative study of honey bee and native bee pollination of a native plant. Basic study design. Semi-anecdotal evidence of negative impacts of honey bees on foraging behavior of native bees.

Nice study design. Proposes anthropogenic disturbance as an important factor in honey bee impacts on native bee populations. Another island study… is it applicable to other systems?

A must read! An in-depth discussion of pollinator conservation issues. Extensive references.

As the title suggests.

Studied the pollination networks (plant x pollinator matrix) on two islands to determine the relationship between native, endemic and non-native plants and pollinators. Also compared their findings to other similar studies on other islands. Found lower interaction levels between introduced species than would be expected by chance, thus, no evidence of invader complexes.
Good discussion of invasive plant ecology and mutualisms. Good study design. No discussion of specific pollinators; a purely plant perspective analysis.

If you read one paper on this topic, this should be it. Discusses most plant / “other organism” mutualisms. Extensive references.

An attempt at formalizing and synthesizing the terminology of plant invasion discussions. Great background info and definitions. Analysis of the terminology of most prior invasives literature. The proposed framework seems useful. A must read for discussions sake.

Not a research article. Good info on life history of two invaders. Good section on the ecological implications of these two species as invaders.

The ideal long term study of bee populations. Found no long term effects of honey bees on native bee abundances. A great study to replicate if you’ve got 17 years!

Study on how flower phenology of a non-native plant can impact the local pollinator community. Nice study.


Studied the pollination of an invasive leguminous shrub by non-native bees, Apis mellifera and Bombus terrestris. Found both bee species to be provide adequate pollination services and that native pollinators are infrequent visitors. A good study but no major conclusions drawn.

In-depth comparison of plant guilds in long term plots. Good discussion on environmental (primarily abiotic) factors of invasibility. No discussion of pollination mutualisms.

Notes: The literature on this topic seems to be growing exponentially. This is obviously a short representative list of what is out there. Many of the authors of these papers have published multiple papers on this topic. The terminology used is historically a bit ambiguous and arbitrary so here is a list of terms that should be used when doing literature searches: alien, non-native, non-indigenous, invasive, invader, naturalized, weed, pest, exotic, introduced, foreign, feral