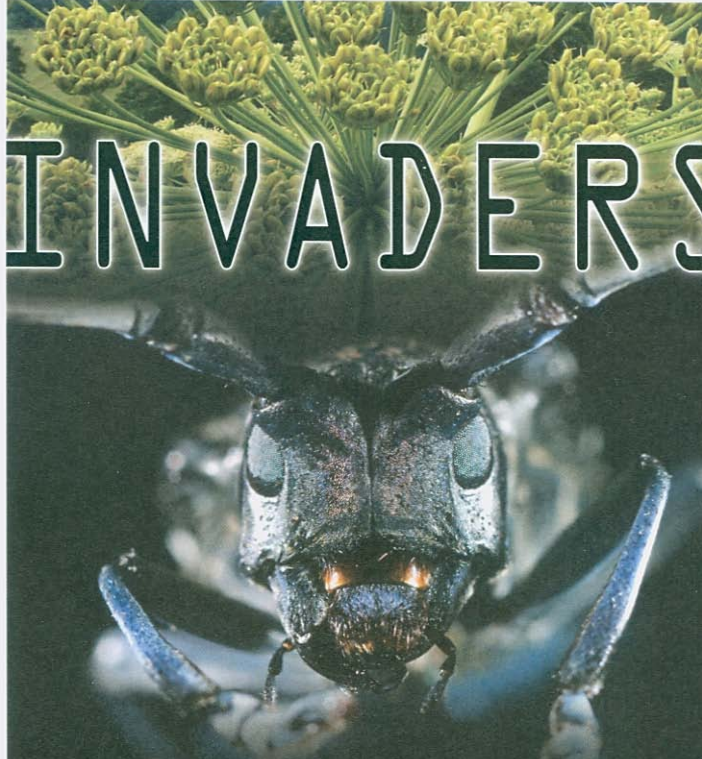




INVADERS

NEW YORK STATE MUSEUM

April 15, 2008 – March 15, 2009

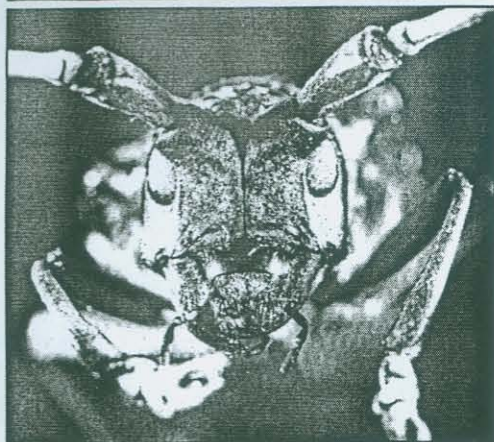
The New York State Museum is a program of
The University of the State of New York/The State Education Department

Giant Hogweed photo by Jan Samanek, State Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org

Asian Long-horned Bee



PROGRAMS ARE AT 7PM IN THE MUSEUM THEATER | FREE



Confronting Biological Invasions: A Growing Environmental Problem

Wednesday, May 7 · 7 PM

Biological Invasions: How Mild Species Go Wild

Wednesday, May 14 · 7 PM

Worm Invasions: Predatory Planarians, Earthworms, and Novel Ecologies

Wednesday, May 21 · 7 PM

Detecting Invasive Species: The NYS Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Program

Wednesday, May 28 · 7 PM

INVADERS

Sponsored by the

New York State Biodiversity Research Institute

Species that are deliberately or accidentally introduced to new environments cause billions of dollars in economic damages and endanger native species worldwide. In New York, introduced invasive species have transformed most of our ecosystems and more problematic species are on the way. **Dr. David Strayer**, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, reviews the history and impact of a few prominent invaders, the extent and causes of these introductions, and proposed elements of a solution to this growing problem.

Invasive species owe their aggressiveness and influence to inherent traits combined with other factors. Scientists are developing ways to predict the potential for a newly introduced organism to become a problem species. **Dr. George Robinson**, Department of Biological Sciences, State University of New York at Albany, discusses case studies that illustrate potential "rules" for reducing risky introductions. Our ability to predict invasiveness is still limited, however, due to evolutionary "wild cards."

Dr. Peter K. Ducey, Department of Biological Sciences, State University of New York at Cortland, discusses terrestrial planarians from Asia, as well as earthworms presumably from Europe and Asia that are now widely distributed in the United States. These earthworms and predatory flatworms could negatively affect a variety of environments by altering physical and biological components. The extent of the effects may depend on ecological interactions among invaders and interactions between invasive and native species.

The early detection of introduced species that could damage agricultural crops is the primary mission of the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. **Kennoth L. Carnes**, State Survey Coordinator, addresses survey technologies, presents trapping protocols, and provides handouts of the 2008 NY-CAPS targets. Learn more about early detection of invasive species and how you can become involved.

FREE Event Parking Next to the Museum

About the exhibit...

The New York State Biodiversity Research Institute partnered with the Museum and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets to produce this exhibit on invasive species in New York State. This exhibition will introduce the public to non-native invasive species and tell why it is such an important topic in New York State and worldwide. It aims to connect visitors to the New York State Museum to this issue and inspire a sense of responsibility that they can take actions toward its resolution. The exhibit will display up-to-date information on the status of invasive species in the state, relate how historical actions by humans and land use patterns have enabled these invasions to occur, and what steps can be taken in the future to address some of these problems.

Hundreds of species of non-native plants, animals, and viruses live here in New York State. Most of these newcomers have little or no effect on the biological balance of our state. Some, however, have a negative and dramatic effect on the ecosystems in which they settle. These invasive species come from all over the world on boats, in crates and planting containers, even in or on the bodies of other animals. Some you may have heard of, such as zebra mussels or West Nile Virus. Others may surprise you and could be living right in your backyard. What are they? Where are they? What can you do about them? Learn the answers to these questions in an exhibition that no New Yorker should miss.

Additional information is available at: <http://www.nysm.nysed.gov/bri/>