

Mice vs Men: the best-laid plans often go awry

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Invasive weed and pest species are one of the most significant threats to global biodiversity alongside climate change, overexploitation, pollution, deforestation and habitat loss. The importance of monitoring and controlling invasive species is critical to prevent the habitat destruction, competition and predation caused by these species that threatens the survival of many Australian native plants and animals. The complex array of all species and their interactions makes up what is known as biodiversity.

Each of us has an obligation to protect Australia's unique biodiversity, and invasive species control is part of that protection. Unfortunately, the control methods that are used carry their own risks to biodiversity. This talk aims to outline the risks involved with invasive species management and the importance of developing our practices with biodiversity as the central focus.

Bio

I am a current Master of Science student studying at the University of Melbourne. My area of study concerns the dispersal of invasive weed species on a global scale and potential methods to isolate their origins within their native range. I take particular interest in environmental sustainability and how this concept can be applied to the control of invasive weeds and pests; two of the biggest threats to global biodiversity.