The current status of invasive alien insect species in South Korea

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Abstract

We investigated the identity and distribution of the invasive alien insect species inhabiting Korean ecosystems, targeting 3,249 locations in nine regions between 2015 and 2018. In natural ecosystems, we identified 63 species in 43 families and nine orders of invasive alien insect species, respectively. We observed that the order Hemiptera exhibited the highest species diversity with 20 species. Gyeonggi-do was where the highest number of invasive alien insect species were identified (45 species). Species richness analysis revealed that Jeju-do showed the highest Dominance Index (0.8), whereas Gyeongbuk had the highest Diversity Index (2.8). Corythucha marmorata (Hemiptera: Tingidae), Lycorma delicatula (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae), Ophraella communa (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), Metcalfa pruinosa (Hemiptera: Flatidae) and Pochazia shantungensis (Hemiptera: Ricaniidae) were distributed in more than 300 locations of the country. Invasive alien insect species inhabited the roadsides (31.3%), farmlands (18.3%) and parks (16.6%). In this study, we list the invasive alien insect species in Korean ecosystems and provide a basis for selecting primary management target species.

Keywords

ecosystem-disturbing species, nationwide survey, natural ecosystem

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**Introduction**

Increasing cross-border exchanges and international trade are contributing to the rapid introduction of invasive alien species (IAS) globally (Hulme 2021), which, together with the destruction of natural habitats, have been suggested to be one of the most important factors that threaten biodiversity. At the 10th meeting for the Convention on Biological Diversity, 20 global goals (i.e. the 20 Aichi targets) to be achieved by 2020 were suggested for preserving biodiversity. Amongst these, the 9th goal states that the introduction and settlement of invasive alien species should be prevented by identifying their introduction routes and destroying them.

An invaded ecosystem may not have predators or competitors that would limit the growth of the invasive alien insect species (Čuda et al. 2015). Alternatively, ecosystems disturbed by human activities may be susceptible to IAS (Venette and Hutchison 2021). Furthermore, invasive alien insect species typically reproduce and grow rapidly, migrate easily, adapt their physiology to the new environment and survive on diverse food and various environments (Čuda et al. 2015). Collectively, these characteristics favour their widespread in a certain region, damaging the ecosystem (Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity 2010).

The unintentional introduction of IAS can occur via ships or on freights (Kang et al. 2020) or even by monsoons (Gutierrez and Ponti 2014). Invasive alien insect species may cause much economic damage on agricultural products and cultural heritage, as well as transmit diseases to farm animals and humans (Chapin III et al. 2000, Andersen et al. 2004, Pimentel et al. 2005). As a result of analysing the change in temperature in Korea over the past 106 years (1912-2017), the average temperature in the last 30 years (1988-2017) increased by 1.4°C compared with the early 20th century (1912-1941) (Park and Lee 2019). This shows that we have faced direct climate change in the country, which may accelerate the introduction of invasive alien insect species by directly affecting their development, reproduction and survival. The introduction of invasive alien insect species by monsoons has particularly been affected by climate changes (Gutierrez and Ponti 2014). Invasive alien insect species introduced by monsoons or from other countries have been observed in Korea (Park et al. 2006).

A total of eight invasive alien insect species have been reported in Korea and declared as ecosystem-disturbing species. *Lycorma delicatula* (Hemiptera: Fulgoridae), *Metcalfa pruinosa* (Hemiptera: Flatidae) and *Pochazia shantungensis* (Hemiptera: Ricaniidae) are widespread in Korea, where they cause severe ecological damage to crops and trees by piercing-sucking (Han et al. 2008, Park et al. 2009, Kim and Kil 2014, Kim et al. 2015, Choi et al. 2018). *Vespa velutina nigrithorax* (Hymenoptera: Vespidae), which is also widespread in Korea, preys on honeybees, decreasing the earnings of beekeepers and it also harms humans (Choi et al. 2012, Monceau et al. 2013). The ant species *Solenopsis invicta*, *Anoplolepis gracilipes* and *Linepithema humile* (all Hymenoptera: Formicidae) are listed amongst the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) 100 most common invasive species (Lowe et al. 2000). These species were probably introduced into Korea
via ports and harbours (Jung et al. 2017b, Sung et al. 2018, Lee et al. 2020). When released into natural ecosystems, they are expected to bring severe ecological and economic damage to agriculture, forestry and human health (Pimentel et al. 2005). *Melanoplus differentialis* (Differential grasshopper) is a large insect species that competes with any native Korean insect; as it presents diverse feeding habits, it may damage agricultural or forest land (Kang et al. 2020). It is important to continuously monitor the distribution and current status of invasive alien insect species to prevent future problems. Thus, this study can be used as a basis to identify areas that require priority management, based on the nationwide distribution of invasive alien insect species that enter the country through various routes and then settle, thereby, negatively affecting the ecosystem.

**Material and methods**

**Study period and target locations**

Amongst the invasive alien insect species introduced into Korea, the investigation was conducted from March 2015 to November 2018 focusing on invasive alien insect species found in the natural ecosystem. The survey area was divided into nine regions. The survey was conducted in 67 locations in Jeju Island in 2015, in 337 locations in Chungcheongnam-do, in 311 locations in Chungcheongbuk-do, in 72 locations in Jeollanam-do and in 82 locations in Jeollabuk-do in 2016, in 521 locations in Gyeongsangnam-do and in 560 locations in Gyeongsangbuk-do in 2017 and in 853 locations in Gyeonggi-do and in 446 locations in Gangwon-do in 2018 (Fig. 1). Environmental characteristics of the survey area include grasslands, forests, reservoirs, valleys and marshes, including these environments and surrounding areas such as roadsides, parks, residences and highway rest areas were also investigated (National Institute of Ecology 2015, National Institute of Ecology 2016, National Institute of Ecology 2017, National Institute of Ecology 2018).

**Investigation methods**

Presence of insects in each site was investigated in various ways according to the characteristics of the insect classification group. Visual inspection was conducted around the survey area and additional surveys were conducted using tools. An insect net was used for sweeping, brandishing and beating and an insect aspirator was used to collect small insects. In order to collect nocturnal insects, the light traps collection method was used and insects were collected using a method such as malaise traps to catch insects that have a habit of going up when obstacles meet in a similar shape to tents.

**Species richness analysis**

We calculated the Dominance Index (DI), Diversity Index (H'), Richness Index (RI) and Evenness Index (EI) for 3,249 locations of the nine regions.
DI (McNaughton 1967) was calculated using the number of locations where the invasive alien insect species were identified. We defined the species with the highest and second highest number of habitats as dominant and subdominant species, respectively, using the following equation:

\[ DI = \frac{n_1 + n_2}{N} \]

where \( n_1 \) is the number of dominant species, \( n_2 \) is the number of subdominant species and \( N \) is the total number of individuals.

Figure 1. Study sites in Korea.
1. Jeju-do
2. Chungcheongnam-do
3. Chungcheongbuk-do
4. Jeollanam-do
5. Jeollabuk-do
6. Gyeongsangnam-do
7. Gyeongbuk-do
8. Gyeonggi-do
9. Gangwon-do
H' represents the relationship between species and the number of individuals in a population. It is a measure of species enrichment and uniformity, correlating positively with the species diversity in a population. The following Shannon-Wiener function (H'), developed by Margalef (1958) and then modified by Llyod and Ghelardi (1964), was used (Pielou 1969):

\[ H' = -\sum (i = 1)^n [(n_i/n) \ln(n_i/n)] \]

where \( n_i \) is the number of species and \( N \) is the total number of locations.

RI represents the state of a population, based on the number of species and the total number of locations. The higher RI is, the better the environment is in terms of species richness. We calculated RI using Margalef (1958)'s equation:

\[ RI = (S - 1) / (\ln(N)) \]

where \( S \) is the number of species and \( N \) is the total number of locations.

EI represents the species uniformity in a population and is the ratio of the actual index number over the maximum number of the corresponding index. If all the species' populations are found in the same number of locations, the maximum EI equals one. We calculated EI using the Pielou (1975)'s equation:

\[ EI = H'/\ln S \]

where \( H' \) is the DI and \( S \) is the total number of species.

**Coordinate analysis**

For the 17 species that inhabit the most in Korea, the distribution point is indicated on the map. Using Arc GIS (ver. 10.5), the distribution of 17 species distributed in all nine regions and appear at more than 20 locations is shown on the shapefile map of the Korean Peninsula.

**Results**

**Species composition**

Over the four years, we identified 63 species in 43 families and nine orders of invasive alien insect species inhabiting the 3,249 locations in Korea. Hemiptera exhibited the highest species diversity, with 20 species in 1,972 locations, followed by 12 species of Coleoptera in 676 locations, 12 species of Lepidoptera in 268 locations, five species of Diptera in 86 locations, five species of Blattodae in 97 locations and four species of Hymenoptera in 133 locations (Table 1).
Table 1.
Distribution of the invasive alien insect species found in Korea.

| Order      | No. of families | No. of species | % of species | No. of research Site* | % of research Site* |
|------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Blattodea  | 3               | 5              | 7.9          | 97                    | 3.0                 |
| Coleoptera | 6               | 12             | 19.1         | 676                   | 20.8                |
| Diptera    | 5               | 5              | 7.9          | 86                    | 2.7                 |
| Hemiptera  | 14              | 20             | 31.8         | 1,972                 | 60.7                |
| Hymenoptera| 3               | 4              | 6.4          | 133                   | 4.1                 |
| Lepidoptera| 9               | 12             | 19.1         | 268                   | 8.3                 |
| Odonata    | 1               | 1              | 1.6          | 1                     | 0.0                 |
| Psocodea   | 1               | 1              | 1.6          | 2                     | 0.1                 |
| Thysanoptera| 1              | 3              | 4.8          | 14                    | 0.4                 |
| 9          | 43              | 63             | 100.0        | 3,249                 | 100.0               |

*: Number of locations where the invasive alien insect species were observed.

Composition of regional taxa

In the Jeju-do region, we found seven species in six families and four orders of invasive alien insect species. Seven species were found in 67 locations. In the Chungcheongnam-do region, we identified 20 species in 14 families and six orders in 337 locations. In the Chungcheongbuk-do area, we identified 10 species in eight families and five orders in 311 locations. In the Jeollanam-do region, we identified 15 species in 13 families and six orders in 72 locations. In the Jeollabuk-do region, we identified 16 species in 11 families and six orders in 82 locations. In the Gyeongsangnam-do area, we identified 27 species in 20 families and six orders in 521 locations. In the Gyeongsangbuk-do region, we identified 28 species in 21 families and six orders in 560 locations. In the Gyeonggi-do area, we identified 45 species in 33 families and eight orders in 853 locations. In the Gangwon-do region, we identified 28 species in 19 families and seven orders in 446 locations (Table 2).

Table 2.
Regional distribution of the invasive alien insect species in Korea.

| Survey area | Order    | No. of families | No. of species | % of species | No. of research sites | % of research sites | No. of cities and counties |
|-------------|----------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Jeju-do (2015) | Blattodea | 1               | 1              | 14.3         | 4                     | 6.0                 | 2                         |
|             | Coleoptera | 2               | 3              | 42.9         | 55                    | 82.1                | 2                         |
|             | Hemiptera  | 1               | 1              | 14.3         | 1                     | 1.5                 | 1                         |
|             | Lepidoptera | 2               | 2              | 28.6         | 7                     | 10.5                | 2                         |
| Subtotal no. |          | 4               | 6              | 7            | 67                    | 100.0               |                           |
| Survey area          | Order      | No. of families | No. of species | % of species | No. of research sites | % of research sites | No. of cities and counties |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Chungcheongnam-do   | Blattodea  | 2              | 2              | 10.0         | 25                    | 7.4                 | 14                        |
|                     | Coleoptera | 2              | 6              | 30.0         | 27                    | 8.0                 | 16                        |
|                     | Diptera    | 2              | 2              | 10.0         | 2                     | 0.6                 | 2                         |
|                     | Hemiptera  | 5              | 6              | 30.0         | 249                   | 73.9                | 17                        |
|                     | Hymenoptera | 2             | 3              | 15.0         | 25                    | 7.4                 | 14                        |
|                     | Lepidoptera | 1             | 1              | 5.0          | 9                     | 2.7                 | 4                         |
| Chungcheongbuk-do   | Blattodea  | 2              | 2              | 20.0         | 11                    | 3.5                 | 11                        |
|                     | Coleoptera | 1              | 1              | 10.0         | 52                    | 16.7                | 10                        |
|                     | Hemiptera  | 4              | 5              | 50.0         | 212                   | 68.2                | 11                        |
|                     | Hymenoptera | 1            | 1              | 10.0         | 8                     | 2.6                 | 4                         |
|                     | Lepidoptera | 1            | 1              | 10.0         | 28                    | 9.0                 | 11                        |
| Jeollanam-do        | Blattodea  | 1              | 1              | 6.3          | 2                     | 2.8                 | 2                         |
|                     | Coleoptera | 2              | 4              | 25.0         | 18                    | 25.0                | 11                        |
|                     | Diptera    | 1              | 1              | 6.3          | 10                    | 13.9                | 8                         |
|                     | Hemiptera  | 6              | 6              | 37.3         | 25                    | 34.7                | 15                        |
|                     | Hymenoptera | 3            | 3              | 18.8         | 12                    | 16.7                | 11                        |
|                     | Lepidoptera | 1            | 1              | 6.3          | 5                     | 6.9                 | 5                         |
| Jeollabuk-do        | Coleoptera | 2              | 4              | 25.0         | 16                    | 19.5                | 9                         |
|                     | Diptera    | 1              | 1              | 6.3          | 3                     | 3.7                 | 3                         |
|                     | Hemiptera  | 5              | 8              | 50.0         | 48                    | 58.5                | 14                        |
|                     | Hymenoptera | 1            | 1              | 6.3          | 8                     | 9.8                 | 8                         |
|                     | Lepidoptera | 1            | 1              | 6.3          | 6                     | 7.3                 | 5                         |
|                     | Odonata    | 1              | 1              | 6.3          | 1                     | 1.2                 | 1                         |
| Gyeongsangnam-do    | Blattodea  | 2              | 2              | 7.4          | 14                    | 2.7                 | 11                        |
|                     | Coleoptera | 2              | 5              | 18.5         | 91                    | 17.5                | 17                        |
|                     | Diptera    | 1              | 1              | 3.7          | 19                    | 3.7                 | 12                        |
| Survey area       | Order       | No. of families | No. of species | % of species | No. of research sites | % of research sites | No. of cities and counties |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
|                   | Hemiptera   | 8               | 11             | 40.7         | 272                   | 52.2                | 19                        |
|                   | Hymenoptera | 2               | 2              | 7.4          | 42                    | 8.1                 | 15                        |
|                   | Lepidoptera | 5               | 6              | 22.2         | 83                    | 15.9                | 17                        |
| Subtotal no.      | 6           | 20              | 27             | 100.0        | 521                   | 100.0               |                           |
| Gyeongsangbuk-do  | Blattodea   | 2               | 2              | 7.1          | 9                     | 1.6                 | 8                         |
| (2017)            | Coleoptera  | 2               | 5              | 17.9         | 137                   | 24.5                | 20                        |
|                   | Diptera     | 1               | 1              | 3.6          | 21                    | 3.8                 | 13                        |
|                   | Hemiptera   | 7               | 9              | 32.1         | 311                   | 55.5                | 21                        |
|                   | Hymenoptera | 3               | 3              | 10.7         | 24                    | 4.3                 | 15                        |
|                   | Lepidoptera | 6               | 8              | 28.6         | 58                    | 10.4                | 16                        |
| Subtotal no.      | 6           | 21              | 28             | 100.0        | 560                   | 100.0               |                           |
| Gyeonggi-do       | Blattodea   | 3               | 4              | 8.9          | 27                    | 3.2                 | 17                        |
| (2018)            | Coleoptera  | 6               | 11             | 24.4         | 186                   | 22.0                | 31                        |
|                   | Diptera     | 4               | 4              | 8.9          | 21                    | 2.5                 | 15                        |
|                   | Hemiptera   | 10              | 13             | 28.9         | 552                   | 65.3                | 32                        |
|                   | Hymenoptera | 1               | 1              | 2.2          | 6                     | 0.7                 | 6                         |
|                   | Lepidoptera | 7               | 8              | 17.8         | 46                    | 5.4                 | 21                        |
|                   | Psocodea    | 1               | 1              | 2.2          | 2                     | 0.2                 | 1                         |
|                   | Thysanoptera| 1               | 3              | 6.7          | 6                     | 0.7                 | 3                         |
| Subtotal no.      | 8           | 33              | 45             | 100.0        | 853                   | 100.0               |                           |
| Gangwon-do        | Coleoptera  | 2               | 5              | 17.9         | 94                    | 21.0                | 18                        |
| (2018)            | Diptera     | 2               | 2              | 7.1          | 10                    | 2.2                 | 8                         |
|                   | Hemiptera   | 6               | 9              | 32.1         | 296                   | 66.2                | 18                        |
|                   | Hymenoptera | 2               | 2              | 7.1          | 8                     | 1.8                 | 7                         |
|                   | Lepidoptera | 5               | 6              | 21.4         | 26                    | 5.8                 | 9                         |
|                   | Thysanoptera| 1               | 3              | 10.7         | 8                     | 1.8                 | 6                         |
| Subtotal no.      | 7           | 19              | 28             | 100.0        | 446                   | 100.0               |                           |

**Species richness analysis**

As a result of Species richness analysis, the DI, $H'$, EI and RI showed different high indices depending on the region. The Jeju-do area showed the highest DI (0.8). As for the $H'$, the
Gyeongsan-gumnam-do region showed the highest value (2.8). As for the EI, Jeollanam-do, Chungcheongbuk-do and Gyeongsangnam-do showed values higher than (0.9). Finally, regarding RI, Gyeonggi-do showed the highest value (6.5) (Table 3).

| Survey area          | DI  | H'   | EI  | RI  |
|----------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Jeju-do              | 0.8 | 1.1  | 0.6 | 1.4 |
| Chungcheongnam-do    | 0.4 | 2.3  | 0.8 | 3.3 |
| Chungcheongbuk-do    | 0.4 | 2.1  | 0.9 | 1.6 |
| Jeollanam-do         | 0.3 | 2.5  | 0.9 | 3.3 |
| Jeollabuk-do         | 0.4 | 2.3  | 0.8 | 3.4 |
| Gyeongsangnam-do     | 0.3 | 2.8  | 0.9 | 4.2 |
| Gyeongsangbuk-do     | 0.4 | 2.6  | 0.8 | 4.3 |
| Gyeonggi-do          | 0.3 | 2.7  | 0.7 | 6.5 |
| Gangwon-do           | 0.5 | 2.3  | 0.7 | 4.4 |

**Distribution of the invasive alien insect species in Korea**

Among the 63 invasive alien insects found in Korea, 17 invasive alien insects found in more than 20 locations were indicated on the map. *Corythucha marmorata* appeared in the highest number of locations (508 locations, Fig. 2a), followed by *Lycorma delicatula* (447 locations, Fig. 2b), *Ophraella communa* (360 locations, Fig. 2c), *Metcalfa pruinosa* (356 locations, Fig. 2d), *Pochazia shantungensis* (311 locations, Fig. 2e), *Corythucha ciliata* (215 locations, Fig. 2f), *Vespa velutina nigrithorax* (117 locations, Fig. 3a), *Eurema mandarina* (117 locations, Fig. 3b) *Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus* (96 locations, Fig. 3c), *Hypera postica* (90 locations, Fig. 3d), *Hyphantria cunea* (81 locations, Fig. 3e), *Ceutorhynchus obstrictus* (78 locations, Fig. 3f), *Leptoglossus occidentalis* (74 locations, Fig. 4a), *Hermetia illucens* (71 locations, Fig. 4b), *Blattella germanica* (52 locations, Fig. 4c), *Hypera punctate* (43 locations, Fig. 4d) and *Reticulitermes speratus* (35 locations, Fig. 4e) (Figs 2, 3, 4).

17 invasive alien insect species shown on the map was classified as follows: six species of Hemiptera, five species of Coleoptera, two species of Lepidoptera, two species of Blattodea, one species of Diptera and one species of Hymenoptera.

**Types of habitat**

The habitats of the invasive alien insect species in Korea were diverse, including roadsides, farmlands, parks, forests and residential areas. Amongst these habitats, the
species were most frequently found on roadsides (31.3%), followed by farmlands (18.3%), parks (17.5%), forests (16.6%), residential areas (8.0%), orchards (1.7%), watersides (6.3%) and others (0.4%) (Fig. 5a).

Figure 2.
Distribution of the main invasive alien insect species in Korea.

a: 1. Corythucha marmorata doi
b: 2. Lycorma delicatula doi
c: 3. Ophraella communa doi
d: 4. Metcalfa pruinosa doi
e: 5. Pochazia shantungensis doi
f: 6. Corythucha ciliata doi
Figure 3.
Distribution of the main invasive alien insect species in Korea (continued).

a: 7. *Vespa velutina nigrithorax*  
    doi [link]

b: 8. *Eurema mandarina*  
    doi [link]

c: 9. *Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus*  
    doi [link]

d: 10. *Hypera postica*  
    doi [link]

e: 11. *Hyphantria cunea*  
    doi [link]

f: 12. *Ceutorhynchus obstrictus*  
    doi [link]
Figure 4.
Distribution of the main invasive alien insect species in Korea (continued).

a: 13. *Leptoglossus occidentalis*  

b: 14. *Hermetia illucens*  

c: 15. *Blattella germanica*  

d: 16. *Hydera punctata*  

e: 17. *Reticulitermes speratus*
In the forests, the habitat of invasive alien insect species was identified in the order of mixed forest (43.3%), forest roads (35.4%), mountainous districts (21.1%) and farm (0.3%). The waterside includes riversides (51.1%), wetlands (35.6%), reservoirs (11.3%) and valleys (2.1%) and the most invasive alien insect species were found on the riverside. Additionally, there are other areas (45.0%), beaches (25.0%), rest areas (20.0%) and camping sites (10.0%) (Fig. 5b).

**Conclusion**

From 2015 and 2018, we identified 63 species in 43 families and nine orders of invasive alien insect species in the Korean ecosystems. We analysed the distribution and diversity
of the invasive alien insect species from nine regions and compared the DI, H', RI and EI of the species in each region.

Park (2010) reported 102 species of invasive alien insect species in Korea between 1990 and 2012, whereas Hong et al. (2012) reported 171 species between 1996 and 2014. The number of species herein obtained differs from those reported in the two studies mentioned above, possibly because they included pests for biological control, research or pollination (which are usually excluded from facilities, horticulture and prohibited items), whereas the present study focused on the invasive species in natural Korean ecosystems.

Depending on the local temperature and geographical impact, invasive alien insect species found between regions may differ. Due to these effects, it seems that the species richness analysis results were different for each region. It seems that the regions with the highest DI, H', RI and EI values appeared differently due to the influence of urbanisation and geographical isolation. Marques et al. (2020) reported that urbanisation promotes the adaptation of alien species to the new habitats. In the case of Korea, urbanisation has progressed rapidly due to the spread of population to Gyeonggi-do and the development of urban areas due to the problem of population growth and traffic congestion in Seoul (Kim et al. 2021). This is supported by our study, as the Gyeonggi-do region (Table 2), which includes the cities Seoul and Incheon and it is the most urbanised of our study sites, had the highest number of invasive alien insects (45 species). Conversely, we identified only seven invasive alien insect species in the Jeju-do region. Its geographical isolation may have resulted in the introduction of less invasive insect species in the Jeju-do region than in the other areas. However, due to climate changes, an increase in flying pests and a revival in tourism may increase the number of invasive alien insect species in the Jeju-do region (Jung et al. 2017a).

The habitats of the invasive alien insect species introduced via various routes can be ranked in descending order as follows: roadsides, farmlands and parks. More than 83% of the invasive alien insect species were found on the roadsides, farmlands and parks. Amongst them, more than 31% of the invasive alien insect species were found on the roadside. This could be explained by the fact that invasive alien insect species are often introduced via transportation of freight and shipping containers (Thomas et al. 2017), increasing the probability of invasive alien insects spreading to roadside areas. Furthermore, the vegetation planted on the roadside feed insect species, promotes migration, serves as shelter, maintains ecological diversity and provides a suitable environment for insect species, which can be explained by the high habitat of invasive alien insects on the roadside (Muñoz et al. 2015, Marques et al. 2020).

Climate changes are increasing the overall temperature during summer and the lowest temperature during winter in Korea. As temperature directly affects the development, reproduction and survival of insect species (Bale et al. 2002), the higher temperatures in Korea are likely to increase the insect species’ probability of surviving winter, as well as their reproductive capacity and accelerate their development, leading to their explosive spread in Korea (Musolin 2007, Hong et al. 2019). In particular, the invasion and adaptation of invasive alien insect species are easier in port regions than in other locations.
Gutierrez and Ponti 2014. As temperatures in Korea increase, invasive alien insect species, such as Solenopsis invicta, Anoplolepis gracilipes, Pochazia shantungensis and Vespa velutina nigrithorax are likely to spread across the country (Kim et al. 2015, Jung et al. 2017b, Byeon et al. 2020). Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen port quarantine procedures and to promptly respond to the introduction of invasive alien insect species in Korea.

Therefore, the unintentional introduction of invasive alien insect species in Korea must be carefully monitored. Additional investigations are needed to establish standard procedures and to prevent a further spread of the invasive alien insect species in the country. Each region of Korea should also constantly remove and manage the invasive alien insect species that may disturb the ecological equilibrium.

**Appendix**

List of invasive alien insect species found in the natural ecosystem (Table 4).

| Scientific name                  | JJ | CN | CB | JN | JB | GN | GB | GG | GW | Total |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| **Order Blattodea**              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Family Blattidae                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Periplaneta japonica Karny, 1908 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Periplaneta fuliginosa (Serville, 1839) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Periplaneta americana (Linnaeus, 1758) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Ectobiidae**            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Blattella germanica (Linnaeus, 1767) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Rhinotermitidae**       |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Reticulitermes speratus Morimoto,1968 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Order Coleoptera**             |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Family Anthribidae               |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Araecerus fasciculatus (DeGeer, 1775) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Chrysomelidae**         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Callosobruchus chinensis (Linnaeus, 1758) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Ophraella communia LeSage, 1986  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Curculionidae**         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Cetorhynchus obstrictus (Marsham, 1802) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Hypera postica (Gyllenhal, 1813) |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Hypera punctata Fabricius, 1775  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |

Table 4. List of invasive alien insect species in Korea.
| Scientific name                                      | JH | CN | CB | JN | JB | GN | GB | GG | GW | Total |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
| Hypera rumicis (Linnaeus, 1758)                     | 1  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 2      |
| Lissorhoptrus oryzophilus Kuschel, 1952              | 8  | 7  | 5  | 7  | 12 | 32 | 25 |    |    | 96     |
| Listroderes costirostris Schoenherr, 1826            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1      |
| **Family Dermestidae**                              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Attagenus unicolor japonicus Reitter, 1877           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 2  | 2      |
| **Family Dryophthoridae**                           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Sitophilus oryzae (Linnaeus, 1763)                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1      |
| **Family Tenebrionidae**                             |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Tribolium castaneum (Herbst, 1797)                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1      |
| **Order Diptera**                                   |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| **Family Cecidomyiidae**                            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Obolodiplosis robiniae (Haldeman, 1847)              | 4  | 6  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 10     |
| **Family Drosophilidae**                            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Drosophila melanogaster Meigen, 1830                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1      |
| **Family Psychodidae**                              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Psychoda alternata Say, 1824                         |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 3  |    | 3      |
| **Family Agromyzidae**                              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Liriomyza trifoli (Burgess, 1880)                    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1      |
| **Family Stratiomyidae**                            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Hermetia illucens (Linnaeus, 1758)                   | 1  |    | 10 | 3  | 19 | 21 | 13 | 4  |    | 71     |
| **Order Hemiptera**                                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| **Family Aleyrodidae**                              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Bemisia tabaci (Gennadius, 1889)                     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 4  | 3  | 7      |
| Trialeurodes vaporariorum (Westwood, 1856)           |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1  | 1  | 3      |
| **Family Anthocoridae**                             |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Orius (Heterorius) strigicollis (Poppius, 1915)      |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 2  |    | 2      |
| **Family Aphididae**                                |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Macrosiphum euphorbiae Thomas, 1878                  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1      |
| **Family Coreidae**                                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Leptoglossus occidentalis Heidemann, 1910            |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 15 | 6  | 53     | 74     |
| **Family Delphacidae**                              |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Laodelphax striatellus (Fallén, 1826)                |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 10 | 2  | 3      | 1      | 16     |
| Nilaparvata lugens (Stål, 1854)                      | 1  |    |    |    |    |    |    | 3  |    | 4      |
| Sogatella furcifera (Horváth, 1899)                  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 8  | 3  | 7      | 2      | 20     |
| **Family Flatidae**                                 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |        |
| Metcalfa pruinosa (Say, 1830)                        | 42 | 29 | 2  | 2  | 38 | 35 | 164| 44 |    | 356    |
| Scientific name | JJ | CN | CB | JN | JB | GN | GB | GG | GW | Total |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Salurnis marginella (Guérin-Méneville, 1829) | 2  | 2  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2     |
| Family Fulgoridae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Lycomara delicatula (White, 1845) | 60 | 67 | 7 | 11 | 63 | 121 | 78 | 40 | 447 |       |
| Family Phylloxeridae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Aphanostigma iaksuiense (Kishida, 1924) | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Issidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Dentalissus damnosus (Chou & Lu, 1985) | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Monophlebidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Icerya purchasi Maskell, 1878 | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Machaerotidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Hindoloides bipunctatus (Haupt, 1924) | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Ricanidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Pochazia shantungensis Chou & Lu, 1977 | 73 | 37 | 10 | 25 | 29 | 26 | 76 | 35 | 311 |       |
| Riciania speculum (Walker, 1851) | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Scutelleridae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Cantao ocellatus (Thunberg, 1784) | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Tingidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Corythucha marmorata (Uhler, 1878) | 42 | 33 | 2 | 3 | 88 | 80 | 109 | 151 | 508 |       |
| Corythucha ciliata (Say, 1832) | 1 | 31 | 47 | 2 | 3 | 16 | 37 | 60 | 18 | 215 |
| Order Hymenoptera |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Apidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Bombus terrestris (Linnaeus, 1758) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 7 |  |  |  |       |
| Family Formicidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Formica yessensis Wheeler, 1913 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 |  |  |  |  |       |
| Monomorium pharaonis (Linnaeus, 1758) | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Vespidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Vespa velutina nigrithorax du Buysson, 1905 | 18 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 40 | 21 | 6 | 7 | 117 |       |
| Order Lepidoptera |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Crambidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Cnaphalocrocis medinalis Guenée, 1854 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 11 |  |  |  |  |       |
| Family Erebidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Hyphantria cunea (Drury, 1773) | 9 | 28 | 5 | 4 | 31 | 4 | 81 |  |  |       |
| Family Lycaenidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Curetis acuta Moore, 1877 | 12 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 13     |
| Lampides boeticus (Linnaeus, 1767) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 |  |  |  |       |
| Family Noctuidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |       |
| Scientific name | JJ | CN | CB | JN | JB | GN | GB | GG | GW | Total |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| *Mythimna separata* (Walker, 1865) | 1  | 1  | 1  | 2  |
| *Peridroma saucia* (Hübner, 1808) | 1  | 1  |
| *Spodoptera exigua* (Hübner, 1808) | 5  | 4  | 7  | 16 |
| **Family Papilionidae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Papilio helenus* Linnaeus, 1758 | 2  | 2  |
| **Family Pieridae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Eurema mandarina* (de l’Orza, 1869) | 5  | 5  | 6  | 53 | 43 | 5  | 117 |
| **Family Psychidae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Eumeta variegata* (Snellen, 1879) | 1  | 3  | 4  |
| **Family Pyralidae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Plodia interpunctella* Hübner, 1810 | 2  | 2  |
| **Family Tortricidae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Grapholita molesta* (Busk, 1916) | 1  | 5  | 6  | 12 |
| **Order Odonata** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Libellulidae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Brachydiplax chalybea flavovittata* Ris, 1911 | 1  | 1  |
| **Order Psocodea** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Liposcelididae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Liposcelis entomophila* (Enderlein, 1907) | 2  | 2  |
| **Order Thysanoptera** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| **Family Thripidae** |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| *Frankliniella occidentalis* (Pergande, 1895) | 3  | 5  | 8  |
| *Thrips palmi* Karny, 1925 | 2  | 1  | 3  |
| *Thrips tabaci* Lindeman, 1889 | 1  | 2  | 3  |
| **Total** | 67 | 337| 313| 71 | 82 | 521| 560| 853| 446| 3,249 |

- JJ: Jeju-do; CN: Chungcheongnam-do; CB: Chungcheongbuk-do; JN: Jeollanam-do; JB: Jeollabuk-do; GN: Gyeongsangnam-do; GB: Gyeongsangbuk-do; GG: Gyeonggi-do; GW: Gangwon-do

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