Mini guide to invasive alien insects of Cyprus

Metallic green and purple stripes









Ctenocephalides felis

The Dog and Cat Fleas (*Ctenocephalides canis* and *Ctenocephalides felis*) are presumably native to Africa. They are common parasites on pets and wild animals, and are vectors of pathogens causing diseases.

Rosemary Beetle Chrysolina americana

White

banded

legs

Native to Europe, but unintentionally introduced to Cyprus. It feeds on five different native or introduced species of aromatic plants such as rosemary, sage and lavender.

Silver lyre

shape



Little Fire Ant ^{*} Wasmannia auropunctata

A native of South America, unintentionally introduced in Europe and threatens native biodiversity. It may also cause anaphylactic shocks to people through its venomous sting.

Yellow Fever Mosquito Aedes aegypti White banded legs

Asian Tiger Mosquito Aedes albopictus

Silvery

dorsal

stripe

The Asian Tiger and Yellow Fever Mosquito are native to Asia and Africa, respectively, but introduced worldwide. They can transmit diseases such as Zika, yellow fever, dengue and chikungunya.

More information

This mini guide shows some examples of invasive alien insect species threatening native biodiversity, the economy or human well-being in Cyprus.

- Alien species are organisms introduced intentionally or unintentionally by people into new regions outside their native range.
- Alien species can arrive in many different ways, through release or escape, as contaminants or stowaways, or along transport corridors.
- Not all alien species are problematic, but the ones that cause problems are termed 'invasive'. Invasive alien species are estimated to cost billions of Euros per year.
- Invasive alien species threaten biodiversity, economy and society, including human health and well-being.
- There are over 1,200 alien species documented in Cyprus. Further work is required to find out how many are invasive.

If you see any of these species please let the our team know by sending a photo, location and date to **thethreemosquiteers@gmail.com**

To find out more about alien species please visit:



https://ris-ky.info/cydas



www.facebook.com/groups/ RISKYCYPRUS



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Download the iNaturalist application for free and upload your observations to the platform.

In collaboration with:









This leaflet was created by J. Demetriou, E. Koutsoukos, I. Angelidou, HE. Roy and A. Martinou.

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