NATIONAL INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT SURVEY

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Excellence in Research and Development

Project Details

- Department of Water Affairs Working for Water Programme
- A map of major IAP species infestation
- South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland (127 million ha)
- At least to a quaternary catchment level (1 947)

Approach

- Complete inventory cost, time and expertise limitations
- Current mapping costs: R0.30-R2.30/ha = R38 million and R292 million
- Random sampling per quaternary catchment, 200 sample points per catchment (95% confidence interval): R154 – R265/point = R60 million and R103 million
- Fieldworker can survey approximately 20 sampling points per day if accessible by road. One person requires 88 years to sample 20 points per day if a year consists of 220 workdays or 88 alien experts to work for one year fulltime.
- Statistically sound, cost effective, objective monitoring system.



Association between species occurrence and the natural environment

- Which environmental variables contribute the most to IAP species' occurrence at a total study area level
- Rationale: sampling orientated along an environmental variable gradient would detect the maximum variation in an area and result in sample point optimization
- Rainfall, soil depth and percentage clay in the B-horizon classified into 3 even area classes and terrain into 2 classes



Sampling simulation

*Sample %	Percentage of *infestation of a single species (PI), Coefficient of variation (CV), Standard deviation (SD) and Lower and Higher values of the infestation class (Intv) for each sample.														
	PI = 1			PI = 2			PI = 5			PI = 10			PI = 25		
	CV	SD	Intv	CV	SD	Intv	CV	SD	Intv	CV	SD	Intv	CV	SD	Intv
40	1.8			1.3			0.7			0.5			0.3		
30	2.1			1.6			0.9			0.6			0.4		
20	2.8			1.9			1.2			0.8			0.4		
<u>10</u>	4.5			2.8			1.9			1.3			0.7		
<u>5</u>	6.5			4.3			2.6			1.8			1.1		
1	12.9	0.13	0.87 1.13	9.3	0.19	1.81 2.19	6.0			4.3			2.2		
<u>0.5</u>	19.7	0.2	0.80 1.20	14.2	0.29	1.71 2.29	8.4			6.5			3.4		
<u>0.1</u>	44.2	0.46	<u>0.54</u> 1.46	30.6	0.61	1.39 2.61	20.4	1.00	4.00 6.00	13.1	1.33	8.67 11.33	7.4	1.87	23.13 26.87

* Infestation is a single tree per centroid of a hectare square and hectares are 'infested' at random before each sampling. Sample percentage is the number of hectare blocks to be selected at random.

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20	2.8			1.9			1.2			0.8			0.4		
<u>10</u>	4.5	3 143 742 R484 mil		2.8			1.9			1.3			0.7		
<u>5</u>	6.5			4.3			2.6	628 R96	748 mil	1.8			1.1		
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Sampling simulation

- Applied the latter to a wide range of the amount of sampling points (7 256, 10 918, 14 564, 18130, 21 768, 36 381, 43 574, 54 555, 61 769, 72 682, 90 856, 134 451, 181 677, 225 300).
- Observation points were assigned proportionally to tertiary catchments.
- Different sampling procedures were applied i.e. complete random, stratified evenly, stratified proportionally and regular.
- Three replications.
- Unknown NDVI.
- The optimum number of points taking budget limitations into consideration as well, is <u>72 682</u> using stratified proportional.











Field survey

- Actual infield survey procedures were determined.
- A road survey was compared with an aerial approach (fixed wing aircraft and helicopter on Agulhas Plain).
- Road survey: 20 points per day per observer at R265/point.
- Road shortages: bias towards disturbance, not random, does not cover all areas.
- Fixed wing aircraft: 46 points/hour/aircraft at R83/point (100km/h).
- Helicopter: 46 points/hour/aircraft at R212/point (100km/h).
- Estimated duration of field work:12 + 2 months (30 July 2007).
- Start in summer rainfall areas (Mapumalanga, Limpopo).







Scatterplot: Regular grid against Landscape (r=0.86)



Thank You

Report and data available at: http://sites.google.com/site/wfwplanning/assessment under Kotze et al. (2010).



Water Affairs

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