Plant invasions in the fynbos: research at the Centre for Invasion Biology with management implications

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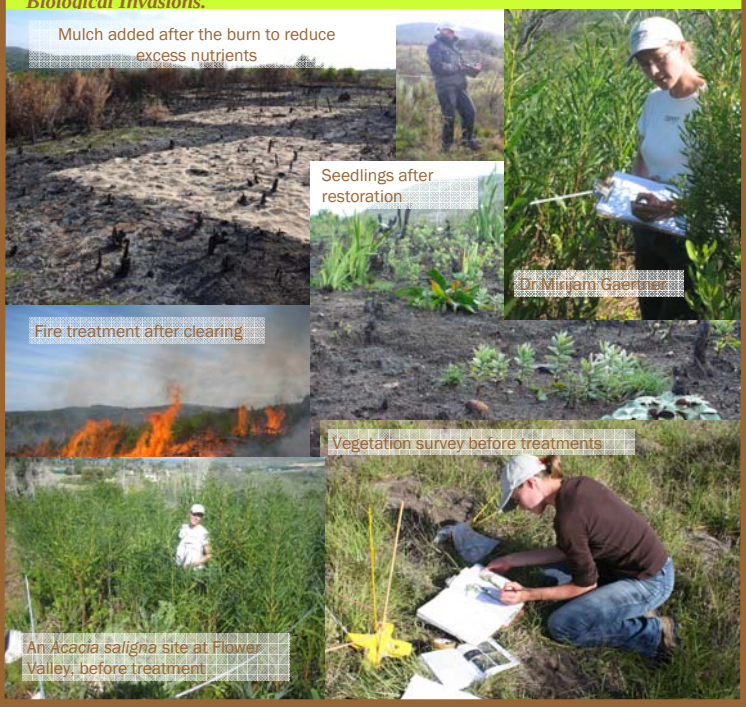
This poster gives a flavour of some recent projects at the Centre for Invasion Biology (CIB) looking at plant invasions in the fynbos. As one of the senior technical officers at the CIB, I provide technical support to researchers, students, and associates. Every year, the CIB offers studentships at a variety of levels; see www.sun.ac.za/cib for more details or talk to me. The research provide important insights into the functioning of the Cape Floristic Region (CFR), and the results are useful for management.

Restoration in the Agulhas Plains after invasions

Contact: Dr. Mirijam Gaertner – gaertner@sun.ac.za

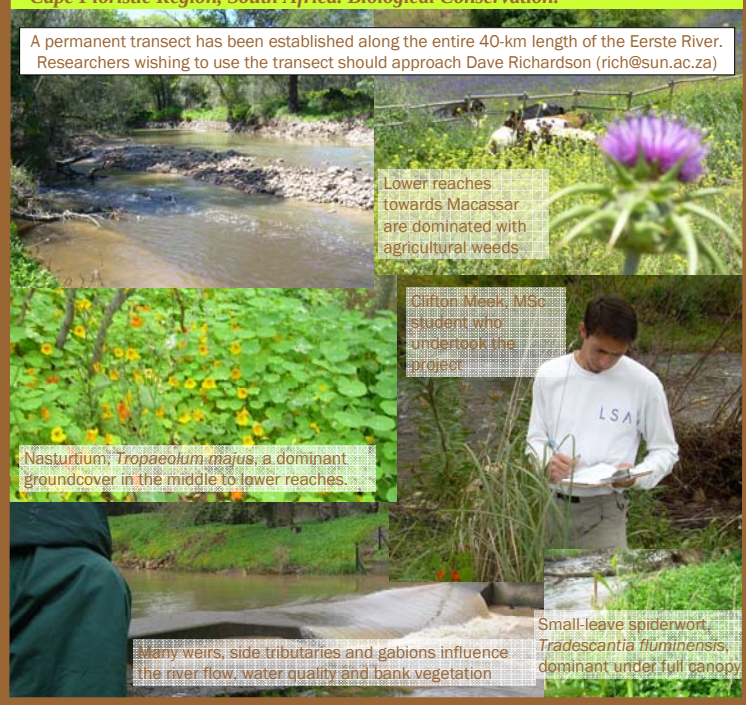
Gaertner, M. et al. (submitted) Alterations of ecosystem properties by invasive plants: Implications for restoration of fynbos in the Agulhas Plain, South Africa. Biological Invasions.



Plant invasions along the Eerste River

Contact: Prof. Dave Richardson—rich@sun.ac.za

Meek, C. S., Richardson, D. M. & Mucina, L. (in press). A river runs through it: Land use and the composition of vegetation along a riparian corridor in the Cape Floristic Region, South Africa. Biological Conservation.



Molecular ecology of alien plant invasions

Contact: Dr. Jaco le Roux—jleroux@sun.ac.za

Wilson, J. R. U. et al. (2009) Something in the way you move: dispersal pathways affect invasion success. Trends in Ecology & Evolution, 24, 136–144.

Le Roux, J. J. & Wieczorek, A. M. (2009) Molecular systematics and population genetics of biological invasions: towards a better understanding of invasive species management. Annals of Applied Biology.

Early detection and rapid response (SANBI /WfW)

Contact: Dr. John Wilson —jrwilson@sun.ac.za

Zenni, R., Wilson, J. R. U., Le Roux, J. J. & Richardson, D. M. (in press) Evaluating the invasiveness of Acacia paradoxa in South Africa. South African Journal of Botany.