

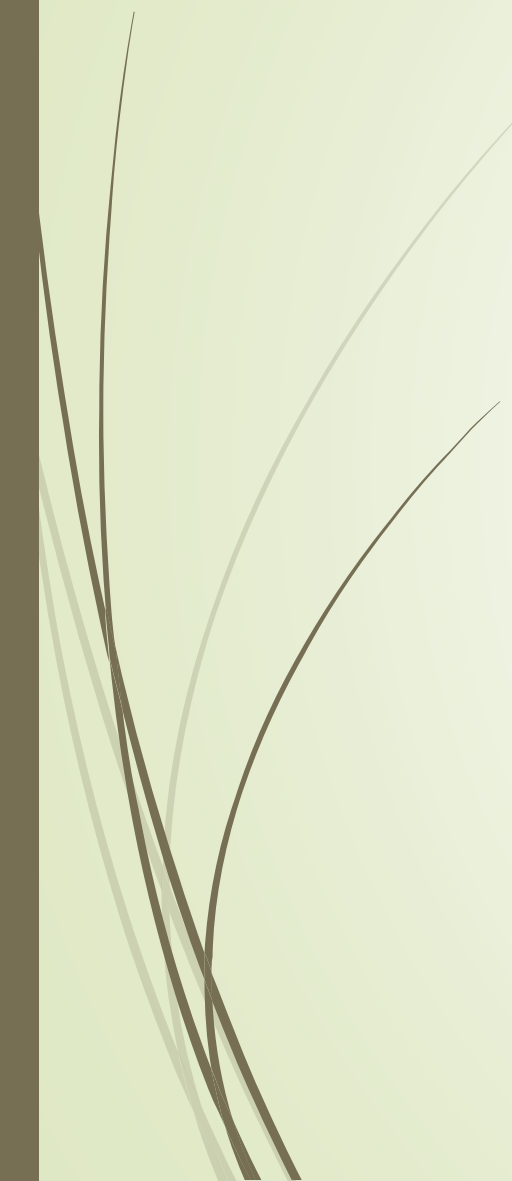


Asia Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN)



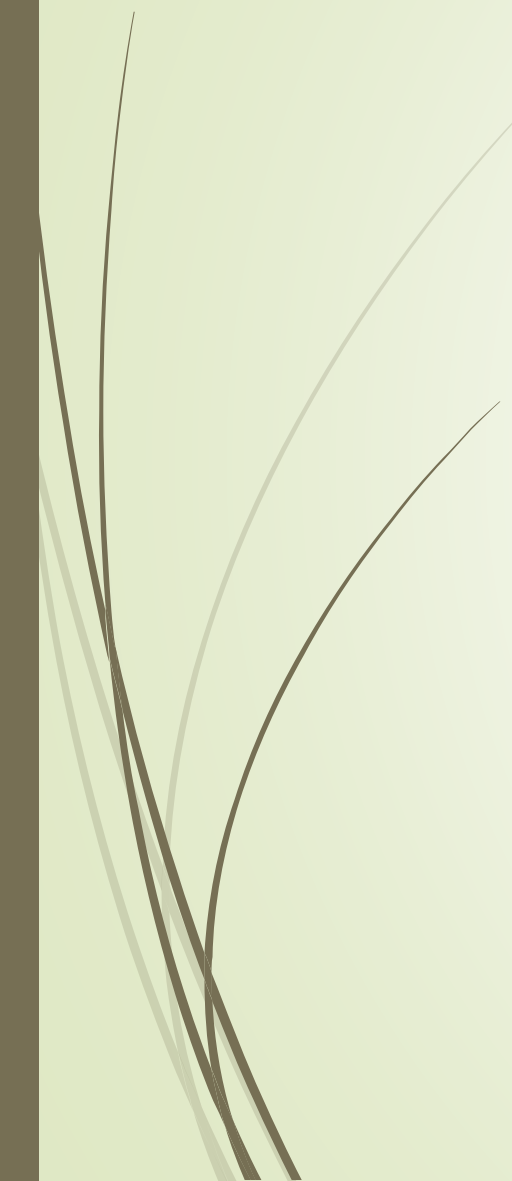


What is APFISN?

- established as a response to the costs and dangers posed by invasive species to the sustainable management of forests in the Asia-Pacific region.
 - a cooperative alliance of 32 member countries of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC). The network operates under the umbrella of APFC which is a statutory body of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations.
 - focuses on inter-country cooperation that helps to detect, prevent, monitor, eradicate and/or control forest invasive species in the Asia-Pacific region.
- 



What we do

- Raise **awareness** of FIS throughout the Asia-Pacific region
 - Exchange and **share information** on FIS among member countries
 - **Facilitate** access to technical expertise, research results and training and education opportunities
 - **Strengthen capacities** of member countries to conduct research, manage FIS and prevent new incursions
 - Develop **strategies for regional cooperation** and collaboration in combating threats posed by FIS
- 

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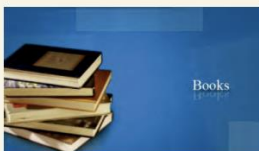
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About APFISN

The Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN) has been established as a response to the immense costs and dangers posed by invasive species to the sustainable management of forests in the Asia-Pacific region. APFISN is a cooperative alliance of the 33 member countries in the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission (APFC) - a statutory body of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The network focuses on inter-country cooperation that helps to detect, prevent, monitor, eradicate and/or control forest invasive species in the Asia-Pacific region. Specific objectives of the network are: 1) raise awareness of invasive species throughout the Asia-Pacific region; 2) define and develop organizational structures; 3) build capacity within member countries; and 4) develop and share databases and information.



Australian Pine (*Casuarina equisetifolia*)

Invasive Pest Fact Sheet

Asia - Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network



Coconut leaf beetle

Brontispa longissima

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Symptom of leaf beetle attack on coconut palm



Typical damage on young leaves

Scientific name: *Brontispa longissima* (Gestro)

Synonyms: *Brontispa castanea*, *B. froggatti*, *B. longissima* var. *javana*, *B. reicherti*, *B. longissima* var. *selebensis*, *B. simmondsi*, *Oxycephala longipennis*, *O. longissima*.

Common names: Coconut hispine beetle, Coconut leaf hispid, Coconut leaf beetle, Palm leaf beetle.

Taxonomic position: Phylum: Arthropoda
Class: Hexapoda, Order: Coleoptera
Family: Chrysomelidae

Introduction: The coconut leaf beetle (*Brontispa longissima*) is one of the most damaging pests of coconut and other palms. The larvae and adults of the beetle feed on the soft tissues of the youngest leaf in the throat of the palm. Affected leaves dry up, resulting in stunting of the palm and reduced nut production. Prolonged attacks on young palms can lead to their death.

Hosts: The beetle attacks more than 20 palm species with coconut (*Cocos nucifera*) being the most favored host. Other hosts include Royal palm (*Roystonea* sp.), Alexandra palm (*Archontophoenix alexandrae*), Sago palm (*Metroxylon sagu*), California fan palm (*Washingtonia filifera*), Mexican fan palm (*W. robusta*), Bottle palm (*Hyophorbe lagenicaulis*), Chinese fan palm (*Livistonia chinensis*), Madagascar palm (*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*) and Areca nut palm (*Areca catechu*).

Distribution: The leaf beetle is a native of Indonesia (i.e., Aru Islands, Maluku Province, Papua Province) and Papua New Guinea, including the Bismarck Archipelago. It is currently distributed in Australia (Darwin, Broome, Moa Island, Cooktown, Cairns, Innisfail, Marcoola and Townsville), many Pacific Islands, Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, the Maldives, Philippines, Myanmar and China (Hainan, Guangdong and Taiwan provinces, with Hainan Islands, the worst affected).

Biology of the beetle: The adult coconut leaf beetle is 7.5 -10 mm long and 1.5 - 2 mm wide, with a flat body that is black in color and an orange head and shoulders. The adult male is generally smaller than the female. The larvae and adults are nocturnal in habit and remain in the unopened leaflets, moving outside only to infest nearby palms or for mating. The beetle is capable of only short flights - often only a few hundred meters - so its natural spread is slow. The eggs are brown and flat (1.4 mm long and 0.5 mm wide), commonly laid in longitudinal rows (surrounded by debris and excrement) in the unopened leaflets of both young and mature palms. They hatch in 3 - 7 days to form larvae that are white with two pincer-like spines at the rear end of the body.



Coconut leaf beetle- adult

This fact sheet is compiled and edited by Dr. K.V. Sankaran, APFISN Coordinator, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Kerala, India (sankaran@kfri.org), on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network. For more information on APFISN and its activities, please contact your national focal point or the APFISN Coordinator or Mr. Patrick Durst, Senior Forestry Officer, FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, 39 Phra Atit Road, Bangkok. E-mail: patrick.durst@fao.org. The fact sheet is supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and USDA Forest Service.





APFISN Workshop on Economic and Ecological Impacts on Invasive Alien Species, 21st - 23rd February 2018 at ISI Kolkata.



Welcome to APFISN

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Upcoming Events

APFISN Training Workshop Announcement - Developing Skills in Forest Protection: An Integrated Approach, 23 - 27 October 2018, Beijing, China.

This training course is targeted at recent forestry graduates and practitioners who plan to/will be involved in aspects of forest health and management, monitoring, silviculture, tree breeding, pest and disease management and control. The target number of trainees is 30 participants, the number of participants from Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission member countries outside China depending on the available budget.

Workshop Announcement

APFISN Mini-training Workshop Announcement - Improving capacity of forest pest and disease experts in the Southeast Asia Region, 24 - 29 September 2018, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Since pests and diseases in the planted forests of SEA countries are increasing both in number and severity, cooperation and collaboration between researchers and managers among SEA countries is essential to mitigate their impacts. The number and expertise level of forest pathologists in SEA is limited, so improving their capability through capacity building and forming an informal group of SEA expertise is desirable.

Mini-Training Vietnam Brochure

APFISN Mini-Training Application Form

Invasive Species Country Reports

- Forest Invasive Species: Country Report- P.R. China
- A Report on the Stocktaking of National Forest Invasive Species (FIS) Activities in the Philippines
- Status of Forest Invasive Species in Sri Lanka
- Managing alien invasive species in Malaysia
- Status Of Forest Invasive Species In Myanmar
- Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (Apfisin)-Newzealand Report

all reports

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Related Sites



<http://www.apfisin.net>

Invasive Species News

Invasive plant species spread over 10 hectares to be cleared

Invasive emerald ash borer discovered in Maine for first time

Earth Is Losing Plants And Animals At A Dangerous Rate

IPBES: Biodiversity and nature's contributions continue dangerous decline, scientists warn

National Biodiversity Authority calls for plan to manage import of exotic fish

Build barriers to protect our great lakes from invasion, our jobs are at stake

Once-abundant ash tree and antelope species face extinction - IUCN Red List

Tiny fighters in sediments determine success of invasive marine plants

Japanese tsunami transported hundreds of species to the United States and Canada, as this video reveals

Scientists call for more invasive alien species to be tackled at the EU level

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APFISN focuses on inter-country cooperation that helps to detect, prevent, monitor, eradicate and/or control forest invasive species in the Asia-Pacific region

Asia-Pacific apfisin.net

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David R. Coyle @drdavecoyle · Jul 9

What's the state of [#foresthealth](#) in U.S. forests, you ask? Well, the [@forests-service](#) answered with the annual "State of the Nation's Forests" book. Chock-full of data, figures, and maps, this thing is a must (my opinion) for anyone working in forestry.

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<https://twitter.com/APFISN>



APFISN History/Activities

- **2002** - invasive species raised as an important issue at APFC
- **2003** – Steering committee formed
- **2004** – Formal Inception of APFISN
- Initial focus on policy (partic. stocktaking of country activities in FIS) has gradually shifted to technical matters (capacity building)
- **2005** – “Development of an Asia-Pacific regional strategy for Eucalyptus rust” workshop held in Thailand in collaboration with ACIAR and FAO
- **2005** – “Developing an Asia-Pacific strategy for forest invasive species: the coconut beetle problem - bridging agriculture and forestry” workshop held in Vietnam in collaboration with USDA-FS, FAO and APAFRI



APFISN History/Activities

- **2006** – “Early warning systems for forest invasive species” held in India in collaboration with USDA-FS, KFRI and FAO.
- **2007** – “Developing Invasive Species Management Plans” workshop held in Malaysia in collaboration with USDA-FS, FAO and APAFRI.
- **2007** – Assisted with “International Workshop on Biological Control of Invasive Species of Forest” workshop held in China (10 APFISN participants).
- **2008** – “Risk-based targeted surveillance for forest invasive species” workshop held in Vietnam.
- **2009** – “Invasive Plants in the Tropics: Ecology, Management and Livelihoods” meeting held in India



APFISN History/Activities

- **2009** – “Plant Invasion and Forest Ecology: Concerns and Solutions held in Chandigarh” meeting held in India
- **2009** – “Restoration after Ice-snow Disaster and Forest Health Restoration” meeting held in China
- **2010** – “Pathways of Biological Invasions into Forests” workshop held in Bhutan
- **2011** - “Forest Health Technology and Phytosanitary Standards” held in China
- Most activities to 2012 organised by the Kerala Forest Research Institute secretariat. A second secretariat was then formed in China...