

11-11-13

Invasive Species

You will learn:

- What is an invasive species
- How do invasive species move into a new area?
- How is it invasive?
- What is the problem?

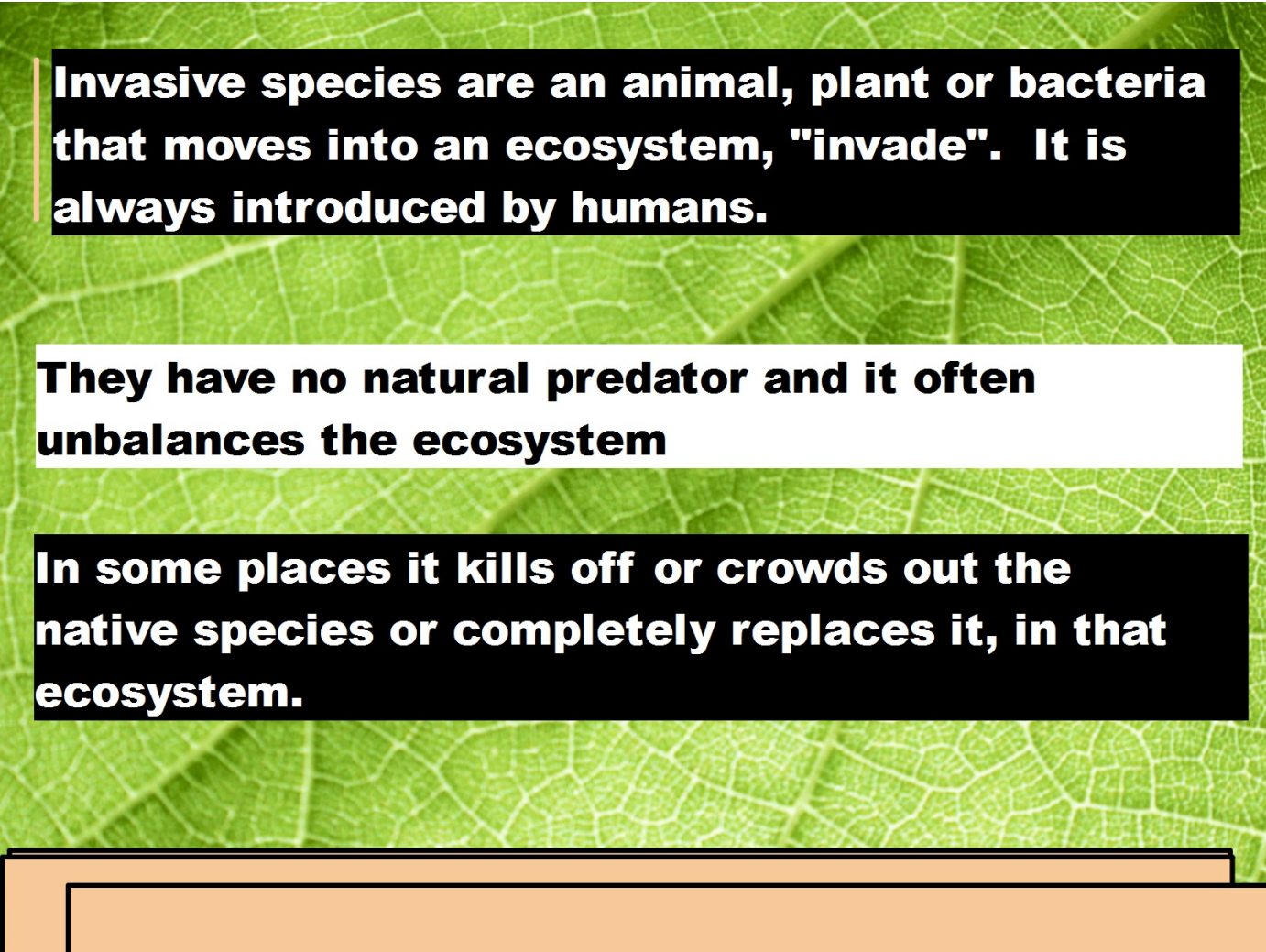
Introduced Species vs Invasive Species

All invasive species are introduced, but not all introduced species are invasive.

Introduced species: Brought to a place by humans

What makes an introduced species invasive?

Invasive species: Non-native (or alien) to the ecosystem *and* whose introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to **human health**.

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Invasive species are an animal, plant or bacteria that moves into an ecosystem, "invade". It is always introduced by humans.

The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of a green leaf, showing its intricate vein structure. A solid white rectangular box is positioned in the middle of the slide, containing black text.

They have no natural predator and it often unbalances the ecosystem

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In some places it kills off or crowds out the native species or completely replaces it, in that ecosystem.





Invasive Species in Iowa: A Quick Look

Iowa has been invaded by a number of harmful exotic plants and animals. Here is a quick look at some of the worst invaders:

Purple loosestrife

Canada thistle

Buckthorn Tree Europe

Leafy spurge

Eurasian watermilfoil

European corn borer

Zebra mussel

Common Carp

Dutch elm disease

What can happen with a new species is introduced into the ecosystem?

Can we predict how a new organism can affect ecosystem?

What are scientists concerned about when a new organism is introduced into an ecosystem?

What can you do with an unwanted exotic pet?

