INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES IN KENYA

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Introduction

- Kenya has experienced biological invasions
- Recent survey shows 32 species i.e.
  - 11 arthropods
  - 10 microorganisms
  - 7 plants
  - 4 vertebrates
- Examples
  - Larger Grain Borer (*Prostephanus truncatus*)
  - Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)
Examples of invasive alien species in Kenya

Water Hyacinth
Eichhornia crassipes

Larger Grain Borer
Prostephanus truncatus
Phytosanitary measures for Plant introductions

- Phytosanitary regulations (Plant Import Permits and Phytosanitary Certificates)
- Border control/Inspections at entry points
- Pest Risk Analysis
- Treatment/destruction of infested/infected plants or plant products.
Eradication, containment and control

- E.g.
  - Water hyacinth control
    - mechanical removal
    - biocontrol agents.
  - Larger Grain Borer
    - Monitoring
    - domestic quarantine in initial stages
Research and monitoring alien invasive species

- Required to develop an adequate knowledge base to address problem

- Spearheaded Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI)

- KEPHIS works closely with research institutions
Regional and International cooperation

**Regional:**
- Co-operation between East African states (Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda) e.g. for LGB, water hyacinth management
- Harmonisation of phytosanitary measures
- Strengthening of phytosanitary service

**International:**
- Kenya contracting party to IPPC
Capacity building

- Training of staff

- Strengthening border control
Education and public awareness

- Media
- Website (WWW.KEPHIS.ORG)
- Pamphlets, brochures, annual reports
- Public seminars
Conclusion

- Problem of managing invasive species
- Measures to mitigate impacts
- Co-operation and Capacity building required