

Status of Forest Invasive Species in Tanzania

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Introduction

- Tanzania covers an area of 939,000 sq. km of which natural forests cover about 38% of the total area.
- Industrial plantations cover over 1200 sq. km, where the main genera planted include *Eucalyptus*, *Pines* and *Tectona grandis*.

- Deforestation in Tanzania is still high and estimated to range from 150,000 ha to 500,000 ha per annum.
- Invasive species are also considered a serious threat to both natural and plantation forests

- To be classified as invasive, an introduced species must be capable of:
 - establishing self sustaining populations
 - producing significant change in terms of composition, structure or ecosystem process

Pathways and modes of introductions of IAS

- Botanic garden
- Movements and trades (shipments of food household goods)



Major Invasive species in Tz

- **Insect:** BGC- *Leptocybe invasa*, *Cinara cupresivora* and *Gonometa sp*
- **Plants:** *Clidemia hirta*, *Lantana camara*, *Maesopsis eminii*, *Acacia mearnsii*, *Senna spectabilis*, *water hyacinth*, *Cedrela odorata*
- **Diseases:** Eucalyptus cankers (*Botryosphaeria* species), Eucalyptus wilts (*Ceratocystis* species)

Blue Gum Chalcid



BGC effects on growth rate





Tanzanian priority

Blue gum Chalcid

Efforts done so far

- Mechanical removal
- Awareness creation
- PhD students working on effects of BGC on growth and wood properties

- *Maesopsis eminii* and *Cedrela odorata*
- *Cedrela odorata* introduced from SA invades lowland humid forests and displaces native spp



- Despite the negative impacts *C. odorata* has on the conservation of biodiversity, this tree species considered as an alternative source of timber for communities surrounding Eastern Arc Mountains.



ill perceived



Phytosanitary services in Tz

- The services are provided and regulated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Cooperatives.
- However, it is important at this point to forge the networking because forestry is left aside
- Among the partners of the NPPO, TAFORI and FoFNC of SUA are not included.



- The East Africa Phytosanitary Information Committee (**EAPIC**) was formed in Nairobi in April, 2006 during a Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) meeting of regulatory officials from Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. Zambia, Rwanda & Burundi joined later.

Thank you