

To Prevent the Invasion of Alien Species to Ogasawara

Secretariat of the Scientific Council,
Ogasawara Islands World Natural Heritage Site

In the Ogasawara Islands, one can see numerous endemic creatures that evolved independently on these small islands isolates by the sea and the ecosystems that have developed among them.

However, the introduction of alien species has changed the original ecosystems of the Ogasawara Islands, as alien species have preyed on endemic species or taken over their habitats.

Please take care not to bring in any creatures not native to Ogasawara.

What is the Impact of Alien Species?

1. Impact on ecosystem

Animals endemic to Ogasawara are decreasing as they are being eaten by alien species.



Endemic cicada (*Meimuna boninensis*) eaten by the alien green anole

2. Impact on human properties and livelihood

Some alien species increase drastically in the fields and cause extensive damage to the crops. Others, such as termites, cause damage to the houses.

3. Impact on human health

Bites or stings of alien species, that may possess poisons, can cause allergic reaction or sickness to the people.

How are they brought in?

Alien species can be carried to Ogasawara through various pathways.

For example, there are cases where alien species that had been brought in as ornamental plants or pets were abandoned and have become wild.

In other cases, alien species such as insects and plant seeds can be introduced unconsciously as they are attached to clothes or shoe soles or being mixed in horticultural materials such as potted plants that were purchased in other regions.



A plant seed attached to a shoe sole

An ant attached to a seedling



Please check the other side for
matters that require attention.

~ What we can do to protect the nature of Ogasawara ~



Before you go to Ogasawara...

★ Following items may act as alien species themselves or contain alien species.

1. Animals (e.g. pets)
2. Plants (e.g. seedlings, seeds, and cut flowers)
3. Other goods (especially those made of wood or others that can have soil attached to them)



★ Please try not to bring in such items to Ogasawara as much as possible.



Please check the following list to make sure no alien species are mixed in your luggage items.

◆ Aren't insects, seeds, or soil attached to following items? If so, please remove them.		
	Shoes	Please pay attention to the soil on the soles of your shoes and seeds inside the shoes.
	Bags	Small insects or seeds may be in the pockets.
	Clothes	Plant seeds may be attached to them.
◆ Are you bringing in following items? If so, please pay careful attention.		
	Pets	Pets are also alien species in Ogasawara.
	Cut flowers, fruits, vegetables, seeds, or bulbs	Small insects may be attached to them.
	Potted plants	Various alien species are contained in the soil.
	Camera tripods	Please remove the soil on legs.
	Bicycle	Please remove the soil on tires.
	Kayaks	Animals or plants may be inside.
	Wood or wooden materials	Small insects such as ants may be attached to them.



Before you go over to other islands...

★ Please make sure no alien species such as green anoles or cane toads are on or inside the ship or kayak. If you find them, please remove them.

★ Please make sure no alien species such as insects or plant seeds are attached to your luggage or clothes.



For pet owners...

★ If you are bringing in your pets, please observe manners. For example, please do not take them to the mountains where wild animals and plants live and make sure you take back their feces.



~ Thank you very much for your cooperation ~

【Contact】

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World Natural Heritage Ogasawara Islands

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