

Table 1. Theoretical multi-scale framework for assessing alien plant invasions. At each scale, a different set of processes can be evaluated and unique management strategies can be designed.

<i>Element/Scale</i>	<i>Landscape</i>	<i>Stand</i>	<i>Invader Patch</i>
Spatial dimensions	- Defined by geocological system (Over 10 ⁶ m ²)	- Area of the stand and large plots (1,000-10,000 m ²)	- Patch size and microplots (0.1-500 m ²)
Temporal scale	- Events that occur over hundreds of years	- Events occur in decades	- Events occur yearly
Key processes & structures affecting invasion	-Topography, winds -Land-use and history -Macroclimate	-Soil series -Disturbance regimes -Microclimate -Plant community types	-Microsite variation (e.g. soil disturbance, coarse woody debris) -Plant interactions -Plant-animal interactions
Spatial pattern detection	-Identify infection loci and sinks, and dispersal corridors.	- Identify patches' spatial arrangement. - Patterns of short distance dispersal.	- Individual ramets' distribution - Density patterns
Processes studied	- Long term dispersal and interactions with landscape structure (e.g. long-term patterns of spread along corridors)	- Interaction between invasion and disturbance and site characteristics.	-Population dynamics -Interaction with native plants
Monitoring	- Identify key loci of infection and detect new isolated patches.	- Monitor infilling of colonized stands - Monitor successional changes	-Monitor population characteristics -Monitor effects on native species
Conservation and management applications	- Detection and prioritization of infested areas.	- Test efficacy of control methods and their interactions with site factors - Determine invasion effects on overall native plant community	-Quantify control effects on population dynamics -Determine the effects of control in native plants