## We Share the Planet

As mentioned above, we have established an evaluation system to assess the harmfulness of invasive species. But before applying the system, we need to be aware of the reason for the invasion of the species.

In many cases, invasion is a natural process. Plants enter different ecosystems due to their natural dispersal. For example, plants may grow on the border between the two countries, and they may enter a new ecosystem due to wind direction. The plant may “invade” and dominate the ecosystem for a certain amount of time. But as time goes on, natural ecological environment can adapt itself and finally reach an equilibrium. This is a natural process for natural selection. Without intervention by human, nature can regulate by itself, thus avoiding long-term environmental harm.

In fact, much of the harm are actually caused by human intervention. One major reason for invasion is that humans illegally bring plants or seeds from other countries into the country and artificially spread them, causing them to proliferate excessively in new ecological environments. It is also human intervention caused some of the species which do not initially pose of significant threat to the society to do harm. For example, Brazilian red eared turtle is a hit in the pet market. However, some people will purchase them and release them in the wild due to their compassion. Soon they dominate the aquatic ecosystem with their tenacious vitality. *(一本中文书“物种入侵”invasive plant species)* Regardless of the intention, it is undeniable that it is human who destroy the balance of the ecosystem and pose harms to the environment.

It is human who introduce the invasive species, and it is human who should shoulder on responsibilities to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species by using Best Management Practices (BMPs). *(*[*https://www.forestasyst.org/invasive\_species.cfm*](https://www.forestasyst.org/invasive_species.cfm)*)*  For individuals, we should learn to identify invasives common in your area. For government officials, it is their role to carry out laws to limit the potential introduction and spread of invasive species in planning for activities on the property. Properly dispose of soil, seeds, plant parts or invertebrates found during inspection and cleaning is also important.

Nature is the fundamental condition for human survival and development. There is only one Earth, and there is only one home for us. As humans, we cannot artificially break the balance of nature, making some species become "invasive" and harm the environment. Cherishing the Earth and promoting harmonious coexistence between humans and nature require the joint efforts of the entire society. Only by caring for the planet will the planet care for us.