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To the editor:

I am happy to submit this manuscript, *Observations of extended lag phase of non-native invasive* Frangula alnus *may be spatial-scale dependent*, for review to The Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society. In this manuscript, I present a new method to use herbaria and other historical natural history records to examine patterns of spatial spread of species, particularly non-native species. This method allows for combining records from different sources and collections, while still providing a way to account for the effects of unequal sampling effort in space and time. I think the use of natural history records, specifically herbarium records, will be particularly relevant to the readers of The Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society.

I applied this method to study of the spread of *Frangula alnus*, a non-native invasive species that is pervasive in northeast North America. My results suggest that previous reports regarding lag phase dynamics of this species may be spatial-scale dependent. Given that lag phase dynamics remain relatively understudied and most empirical reports relate to local or regional spatial scales, this finding shows that there is a need for similar, whole-range investigations. I think this manuscript provides both an applicable method for carrying out such analyses and a template for how to apply novel methods, and will be germane to the journal’s readers. I look forward to your decision regarding the relevance of my manuscript to The Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society and any criticism that you can provide.

Sincerely,



Matthew Aiello-Lammens