2018 Leonard Cockayne Lecture Ornamental to detrimental: The invasion of New Zealand by non-native plants



Professor Philip Hulme FRSNZ Bio-Protection Research Centre Chair in Plant Biosecurity, Lincoln University

Aotearoa has more types of non-native plants than almost anywhere else in the world. It was believed that such nonnatives would never pose a risk to our native flora, but many of these introduced species are now causing significant economic and environmental costs.

Philip explores New Zealand's history of plant invasions and examines the underlying causes and potential future trends. Some of these invasive plants have been introduced as commercial crops such as pine and pasture grasses, while others arrived as ornamentals from around the world for both home and botanic gardens.

Could invasive plants and non-native weeds choke our country? What are the tools to control these current and future flora threats?

This Royal Society Te Apārangi event is sponsored by sponsored by University of Otago's Botany Department and Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research, with assistance from the Otago Institute for the Arts and Sciences. "New Zealand's environment and agricultural production are central to the economy, and biosecurity threats are a major concern for the sustainable use of these resources."

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Otago Museum, Hutton Theatre 16 Great King St

5:30pm Wed 19 September 2018

All welcome. Free Admission. No RSVP required.

More info at: royalsociety.org.nz/news/plant-invadersseeds-of-despair

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