

## **AEDES ALBOPICTUS**

**Origin:** This mosquito is native to the tropical and subtropical areas of Southeast Asia. However, in the past few decades, this species has spread to many countries through international travel.

**Consequence:** It is an important vector for the transmission of many viral pathogens, including Western Nile virus.



## **Greek Team Invasive Species**



## **LAGOCEPHALUS SCELERATUS**

**Origin:** The species is common in the tropical waters of the Indian and Pacific oceans. It is a recent Lessepsian migrant into the eastern Mediterranean Sea, which it reached through the Suez Canal.

**Consequence:** This fish is extremely poisonous if eaten because it contains tetrodotoxin. This deadly substance can kill its victims by stop breathing or induce heart failure.

## **CAULERPA TAXIFOLIA**

**Origin:** This species of seaweed is native to the Indian Ocean and it is thought that it was accidentally released into coastal waters of the Mediterranean Sea.

**Consequence:** A widespread concern developed a couple years later when the algae started to threaten to alter the entire ecosystem by crowding out native plants while being inedible to animals.





## **SOLANUM ELAEAGNIFOLIUM**

**Origins:** This plant was originally spotted in Greece in 1927 in the city of Thessaloniki. It probably emigrated from the US through cargo.

**Consequence:** The main problem is that it spreads really fast and it's hard to stop. It's also bad for the cultivated plants because it drains the water and the nutrients from the ground resulting in production decrease.

## **AILANTHUS ALTISSIMA**

**Origins:** This tree was transported for the first time from China to Europe in 1740. It grows in a fast pace, even in the most adverse conditions.

**Consequence:** It produces toxic substances which hinder the growth of other plants. It's roots are very aggressive and can create damages in underground tubing, telephone network and power supply cables as well as buildings' foundations.



## **OXALIS PES- CAPRAE**

**Origins:** This plant's origin is in South Africa and it firstly appeared in Europe at the beginning of the 19th century.

**Consequence:** It spreads fast, in every territory and it prevents other plants from growing by destroying the biodiversity of their ecosystems. It also contains oxalic acid which is very dangerous if consumed in large amounts.