

NON-INDIGENOUS FISH SPECIES IN GREECE: RESULTS OF A HYDROGRAPHIC BASIN SURVEY

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Non-indigenous fish species are considered one of the major pressures disrupting the ecological integrity and biodiversity of inland waters worldwide. Here we explore their distribution patterns in river basins throughout Greece. We explore each species' attributes relating to biogeographical patterns, origin, establishment, vector, and history of introduction.

The non-indigenous ichthyofauna of 117 river basins is catalogued for the first time. The inventory derives from unpublished sampling surveys, a recent review of all bibliography and other available information resources. Database quality control procedures strive to present only the river basins where a presumably complete knowledge of all current alien introductions exists. Geographic analyses are then applied at the national and ecoregional scale.

Non-indigenous species are divided into so-called translocated species and aliens. The recent concept of translocated is applied at the national scale to expose anthropogenic species introductions of otherwise native fish into water bodies where they are known to be non-indigenous. We review distribution patterns of 53 non-indigenous species; 27 of these are translocated species. Geographic patterns of the most widespread non-indigenous species are demonstrated. Species such as *Gambusia holbrooki*, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and *Carassius gibelio* are the most widespread aliens. It is clearly documented that during the last three decades an increase in translocations and alien introductions has occurred.