Ruditapes philippinarum

Manila clam, Japanese carpetshell

Threat scores

1. Ecological impact
    - The exploitation of the clam banks represents one of the main sources of environmental disturbance in the Venice Lagoon.
    - Known to be a host for parasite Perkinsus atlanticus in Ebro river delta (Molnar 2008).
2. Invasive potential
    - Spread via planktonic larvae. Potential to continue expansion in Mediterranean and other introduced areas.
3. Geographic extent
    - Locally pervasive
4. Management difficulty
    - No known controls in aquatic environment.

Geography and habitat

1. Origin: southeastern Asia (Indo-Pacific) - Wild populations are found in the Philippines, South and East China Seas, Yellow Sea, Sea of Japan, Sea of Okhotsk, and around Southern Kuril Islands (Molnar 2008).
2. 1930's California, early 20th century Hawaii
3. Accidentally introduced during the 1930's to the Pacific coast of North America along with Pacific cupped oyster seed. Have spread from California, USA to British Columbia, Canada
4. Marine, aquaculture, intertidal zones
5. Temperature and feeding are the two main parameters affecting gametogenesis, which can be initiated at 8-10 °C and is accelerated by rising seawater temperature. R. philippinarum inhabits muddy beach sand areas.

Invasion Pathways

1. Stocking in Open Water
    - Intentional known
    - Cause- aquaculture
    - Intentionally introduced for commercial purposes in Mediterranean
2. Natural Spread
    - Accidental probable
    - Cause- water currents
    - Planktonic larvae spread in water currents, faster in surface waters

Non native locations

1. 54- Gulf of Alaska
2. 56- Puget Trough/Georgia Basin
3. 57- OR, WA, Vancouver Coast and Shelf
4. 58- Northern California
5. 59- Southern California Bight
6. 152- Hawaiian Islands