

# Preliminary Investigation and Analysis of Alien Pests at Panjin Port

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**Abstract [Objective]** The paper was to understand the current situation of alien species at Panjin port, and provide the reference basis for the development, construction and management of Panjin port. **[Method]** The species, life forms and habitats, place of origin and invasion mode of alien pests at Panjin port were studied by the way of route survey, combined with literatures and molecular biology methods. **[Result]** A total of 137 species of weeds and insects were preliminarily identified at Panjin port. There were 84 species of weeds belonging to 25 families, 39 of which were alien species and 3 were quarantine weeds. There were 56 species of insects belonging to 30 families, all of which were native to China. (i) There were 29 species of Compositae weeds, accounting for 35.8% of the total. (ii) Weeds were mainly annual and biennial. (iii) There were 24 species of weeds native to America, accounting for 61.5% of the total; followed by those native to Europe, with a total of 12 species, accounting for 30.8%. (iv) Weeds had poor growth, so there was no invasion, and they can be eradicated once discovered. **[Conclusion]** In the newly opened grain berths at Panjin port, it is suggested that all departments strictly check the pass, strengthen supervision and monitoring, scientifically introduce seeds, strengthen public education, raise public awareness, and improve the control system of alien pests.

**Keywords** Weeds; Insects; Investigation; Analysis

Panjin City, located in the center of Liaohe River estuary delta in the south of Songliao Plain, is marine outfall in northeast China and also the intersection of "three development strategies" in Liaoning Province. As a resource-based transformation pilot city approved by the State Council, Panjin City is in the key period of "developing to the sea, strengthening the city with port and comprehensive transformation". Therefore, Panjin port and city linkage and new opening of grain berths will bring considerable economic benefits and social benefits for the development of Panjin, and Panjin port will also become the bridgehead of "north-to-south grain diversion" in northeast region. The implementation of the open policy provides development opportunities for ports, but at the same time, it also brings new situations and problems for quarantine work. Frequent material and personnel exchanges facilitate the introduction of alien species. When new species cross the natural geographical barriers and reach the invasion site, due to their biological characteristics and lack

of natural enemies, they are easy to quickly colonize and cause serious biological invasion, which will cause irreversible loss and harm to local natural ecosystem, and the economic loss caused is immeasurable. This study is the first background investigation at Panjin port, and there is no investigation on alien pests at Panjin port. In this paper, the background investigation of alien pests at Panjin port was carried out by the way of route survey. Combined with literatures and molecular biology methods, the species, life forms and habitats, place of origin and invasion modes of alien pests at Panjin port were studied, and the investigation results were further analyzed. The background investigation aimed to find out the status of pest invasion at Panjin port, provide data support for the transformation and opening of Panjin port, and provide support for the prevention and control work in the future, so as to better deal with the introduction of alien pests.

## 1 Survey Methods

**1.1 Survey scope** The survey area was

Panjin port and the surrounding area within 1 km. The main investigation points were granaries, grain transport channels, pond surroundings and peripheral roads.

### 1.2 Weed investigation and species identification

**1.2.1 Survey methods.** The investigation adopted four-factor schemes of fixed person, fixed point, fixed time and fixed method. According to the weed growth environment, the survey route was determined in Panjin port and the surrounding area within 1 km. During the investigation, weed image data were retained and geographic information was recorded. At the same time, plant specimens were collected in the investigation area.

**1.2.2 Species identification.** The weeds which were difficult to identify were examined by anatomy, microscopy and molecular biology. The collected samples were made into specimens by pressing, drying and other procedures.

### 1.3 Insect investigation and morphological identification

**1.3.1 Survey methods.** Arthropods and mollusks within the scope were investigated. Insect trap lamps were placed at fixed points by fixed person from 18:30 pm to

20:00 pm of the next day in March, May, July and September, three times each month, with a total of 12 times. Yellow sticky traps were artificially installed in March, May, July and September, three times each month, with a total of 120 traps. Sweet and sour liquids were artificially distributed in March, May, July and September, three times each month, with a total of 40 bottles. Malaise trap was artificially released in March, May, July and September, one time each month, with a total of 4 times<sup>[1]</sup>.

**1.3.2** Species identification. According to the traditional morphological characteristics of insects, the species of insects were identified by means of preliminary identification and validation.

## 2 Survey Results and Analysis

### 2.1 Survey results and analysis of weeds

**2.1.1** Species composition of weeds. In this background investigation, 84 specimens were collected, belonging to 25 families. Among them, 45 species were native to China and 39 species were alien species. The 25 families investigated were Compositae (29 species), Gramineae (7 species), Leguminosae (6 species), Chenopodiaceae (5 species), Solanaceae (4 species), Labiaceae (3 species), Boraginaceae (3 species), Amaranthaceae (3 species), Convolvulaceae (2 species), Malvaceae (2 species), Phytolaccaceae (2 species), Umbelliferae (2 species), Iridaceae (2 species), Polygonaceae (2 species), Asclepiadaceae (1 species), Rosaceae (1 species), Plantaginaceae (1 species), Oleaceae (1 species), Moraceae (1 species), Cruciferae (1 species), Tamaricaceae (1 species), Saxifragaceae (1 species), Crassulaceae (1 species), Scrophulariaceae (1 species) and Onagraceae (1 species), respectively.

Alien and local weeds at Panjin port are shown in Tables 1–2. The results showed that 29 species of weeds at Panjin port belonged to Compositae, accounting for 35.8% of the total species. This family is a worldwide family because of its crest-

ed hair and easy transmission<sup>[2]</sup>. However, Compositae still occupied a large proportion of weeds in Panjin area, which might

be related to saline-alkali soil conditions in Panjin area; followed by Gramineae (7 species), accounting for 8.6% of the to-

**Table 1** List of alien weeds at Panjin port

No.	Latin name	Family	Place of origin	Quarantine significance	Reference
1	<i>Melilotus albus</i>	Leguminosae	West Asia to South Asia	Non-quarantine	[5]
2	<i>Amaranthus viridis</i>	Amaranthaceae	South America	Non-quarantine	[5]
3	<i>Hordeum jubatum</i>	Gramineae	North America and Eurasia	Non-quarantine	[6]
4	<i>Erigeron canadensis</i>	Compositae	North America	Non-quarantine	[6]
5	<i>Lepidium virginicum</i>	Cruciferae	North America	Non-quarantine	[7]
6	<i>Medicago sativa</i>	Leguminosae	West Asia	Non-quarantine	[5]
7	<i>Pharbitis nil</i>	Convolvulaceae	South America	Non-quarantine	[5]
8	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	Compositae	America	Non-quarantine	[5,8]
9	<i>Erigeron annuus</i>	Compositae	North America	Non-quarantine	[6,8]
10	<i>Sida acuta</i>	Malvaceae	Tropical America	Non-quarantine	[5]
11	<i>Abutilon theophrasti</i>	Malvaceae	India	Non-quarantine	[5]
12	<i>Xanthium italicum</i>	Compositae	North America and South Europe	Quarantine	[5,8]
13	<i>Eclipta prostrata</i>	Compositae	America	Non-quarantine	[5]
14	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Phytolaccaceae	North America	Non-quarantine	[5]
15	<i>Chenopodium glaucum</i>	Chenopodiaceae	America	Non-quarantine	[5]
16	<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Solanaceae	Mexico	Non-quarantine	[5,8]
17	<i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i>	Amaranthaceae	America	Non-quarantine	[7]
18	<i>Solanum rostratum</i>	Solanaceae	America	Quarantine	[5]
19	<i>Ambrosia trifida</i>	Compositae	North America	Quarantine	[6]
20	<i>Xanthium mongolicum</i>	Compositae	Mexico	Non-quarantine	[5,8]
21	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Compositae	Europe	Non-quarantine	[5]
22	<i>Setaria parriflora</i>	Gramineae	Tropical America	Non-quarantine	[5]
23	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Compositae	Mexico	Non-quarantine	[5]
24	<i>Panicum dichotomiflorum</i>	Gramineae	North America	Non-quarantine	[5,8]
25	<i>Physalis minima</i>	Solanaceae	Tropical America	Non-quarantine	[5]
26	<i>Chenopodium glaucum</i>	Chenopodiaceae	America	Non-quarantine	[5]
27	<i>Chenopodium ficifolium</i>	Chenopodiaceae	Europe	Non-quarantine	[5]
28	<i>Melilotus albus</i>	Leguminosae	West Asia to South Asia	Non-quarantine	[5]
29	<i>Plantago virginica</i>	Plantaginaceae	North America	Non-quarantine	[7-8]
30	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Compositae	Europe, Mediterranean Coast	Non-quarantine	[5]
31	<i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Phytolaccaceae	North America	Non-quarantine	[5]
32	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i>	Amaranthaceae	Tropical America	Non-quarantine	[7]
33	<i>Oenothera laciniata</i>	Onagraceae	North America	Non-quarantine	[5]
34	<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Compositae	North America	Non-quarantine	[5]
35	<i>Bidens pilosa</i>	Compositae	North America	Non-quarantine	[7]
36	<i>Erigeron sumatrensis</i>	Compositae	Europe	Non-quarantine	[7]
37	<i>Crassocephalum crepidioides</i>	Compositae	Africa	Non-quarantine	[7]
38	<i>Ipomoea obscura</i>	Convolvulaceae	America	Non-quarantine	[7]
39	<i>Veronica polita</i>	Scrophulariaceae	West Asia	Non-quarantine	[7]

tal; Leguminosae (6 species), accounting for 7.4% of the total; and Chenopodiaceae (5 species), accounting for 6.2% of the total.

In this investigation, 3 quarantine organisms were found, namely *Xanthium strumarium*, *Solanum rostratum* and *Ambrosia trifida*, all of which were in the list of 41 quarantine weeds published by the Former Ministry of Agriculture and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China in May 2007. However, only one plant of three quarantine organisms was detected respectively and had been eliminated in time, so no harm was caused to agriculture and ecology temporarily.

**2.1.2** Life form and habitat. Through the investigation of Panjin port, it was found that there were less species of weeds, and most were alkali plants with saline-alkali and barren tolerance, with low coverage, and the proportion of bare soil area was

larger.

The alien weeds at Panjin port were all herbaceous plants, most of which were annual or biennial herbs, and only *Datura stramonium* was perennial plant. It can be seen that the alien weeds at Panjin port were mainly annual or biennial herbs. Panjin port has the natural condition of saline-alkali land, and herbaceous living plants are easier to invade and spread because of strong environmental adaptability and short life cycle<sup>[3]</sup>. Meanwhile, compared with perennial herbs, shrubs, trees and lianas, herbaceous plants have a large number of seeds, which are small and light, and are easier to spread by external forces such as wind and water power<sup>[4]</sup>.

The survey results demonstrated that alien weeds did not form growth advantages, and such weak alien weeds might be the result of survival and reproduction in a suitable environment after the seeds dropped by grain and oil enterprises when they entered and left the storage, but they

did not form good growth due to environmental and time factors.

**2.1.3** Analysis of place of origin. The alien weeds at Panjin port were native to America, Asia, Europe, Africa and other regions. There were 24 species of weeds from America, accounting for 61.5% of the total alien weeds. There were 12 species of weeds from Europe, accounting for 30.8% of the total alien weeds. There were 3 species of weeds from Africa, accounting for 7.7% of the total alien weeds. Therefore, the alien weeds at Panjin port were mainly from America.

**2.1.4** Analysis of invasion mode. There are three invasion modes of alien organisms: natural diffusion, artificial introduction and human activities<sup>[11]</sup>. Natural diffusion is the instinct of species, and alien species ultimately rely on their own diffusion ability to complete the invasion. However, the natural diffusion of species is often restricted by ecological stability, spatial barrier and other factors, and it is

**Table 2** List of local weeds at Panjin port

No.	Latin name	Family	Reference	No.	Latin name	Family	Reference
1	<i>Lespedeza davurica</i>	Leguminosae	[6,9]	24	<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Compositae	[6]
2	<i>Cynanchum chinense</i>	Asclepiadaceae	[6,9]	25	<i>Salvia plebeia</i>	Labiatae	[6]
3	<i>Leonurus japonicus</i>	Labiatae	[6,9]	26	<i>Thyrocarpus fulvescens</i>	Borraginaceae	[6]
4	<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>	Labiatae	[6]	27	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	Solanaceae	[6,9]
5	<i>Artemisia sylvatica</i>	Compositae	[6]	28	<i>Cnidium monnieri</i>	Umbelliferae	[6,10]
6	<i>Tamarix chinensis</i>	Tamaricaceae	[6]	29	<i>Lactuca raddeana</i>	Compositae	[6]
7	<i>Penthorum chinense</i>	Saxifragaceae	[6]	30	<i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i>	Polygonaceae	[6,9]
8	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>	Oleaceae	[6]	31	<i>Inula japonica</i>	Compositae	[6]
9	<i>Eupatorium catarium</i>	Compositae	[6]	32	<i>Iris lactea</i>	Iridaceae	[6]
10	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	Umbelliferae	[6]	33	<i>Neopallasia pectinata</i>	Compositae	[6]
11	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Gramineae	[6,10]	34	<i>Roegneria ciliaris</i>	Gramineae	[6]
12	<i>Suaeda glauca</i>	Chenopodiaceae	[6,9]	35	<i>Poa sphondylodes</i>	Gramineae	[6]
13	<i>Sonchus wightianus</i>	Compositae	[6]	36	<i>Tournefortia sibirica</i>	Borraginaceae	[6,9]
14	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	Polygonaceae	[6,9]	37	<i>Lappula myosotis</i>	Compositae	[6,10]
15	<i>Trigonotis peduncularis</i>	Borraginaceae	[6]	38	<i>Belamcanda chinensis</i>	Iridaceae	[6,10]
16	<i>Hemistepia lyrata</i>	Compositae	[6,9]	39	<i>Sedum sarmentosum</i>	Crassulaceae	[6,9]
17	<i>Artemisia lavandulifolia</i>	Compositae	[6]	40	<i>Taraxacum albiflos</i>	Compositae	[6,9]
18	<i>Potentilla supina</i>	Rosaceae	[6]	41	<i>Humulus scandens</i>	Moraceae	[6,10]
19	<i>Cirsium japonicum</i>	Compositae	[6,10]	42	<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	Chenopodiaceae	[6,10]
20	<i>Setaria viridis</i>	Gramineae	[6]	43	<i>Hibiscus trionum</i>	Malvaceae	[6,10]
21	<i>Ixeridium sonchifolium</i>	Compositae	[6]	44	<i>Artemisia scoparia</i>	Compositae	[6]
22	<i>Artemisia capillaris</i>	Compositae	[6]	45	<i>Glycine soja</i>	Leguminosae	[6,10]
23	<i>Glycyrrhiza pallidiflora</i>	Leguminosae	[6]				

difficult to achieve long-distance transmission. Therefore, artificial introduction and related human activities become the main way of species invasion<sup>[12]</sup>.

It was found that there were 39 species of alien weeds at Panjin port, but each species of weeds was not abundant and did not grow well. It may be because the grain business at Panjin port just started, and there have been no cases of plant invasions caused by artificial introductions or inadvertent introductions through freight.

## 2.2 Survey results and analysis of insects

### 2.2.1 Composition of insect species. A

total of 56 species of insects, belonging to 30 families, were captured in this background survey, including Coeeinellidae (6 species), Carabidae (4 species), Tabanidae (4 species), Pyralidae (4 species), Aphididae (4 species), Culicidae (3 species), Pieridae (2 species), Cicindelidae (2 species), Rutelidae (2 species), Calliphoridae (2 species), Sarcophagidae (2 species), Noctuidae (2 species), Melolonthidae (2 species), Chrysopidae (1 species), Crambidae (1 species), Pentatomidae (1 species), Tipulidae (1 species), Pseudococcidae (1 species), Drosophilidae (1 species), Colydiidae (1 species), Acrididae (1 spe-

cies), Reduviidae (1 species), Syrphidae (1 species), Cerambycidae (1 species), Cicadellidae (1 species), Chrysomelidae (1 species), Formicidae (1 species), Anthicidae (1 species), Galerucidae (1 species), and Cecidomyiidae (1 species).

No invasive insects were found within 1 km of Panjin port and its surrounding area (Table 3).

### 2.2.2 Survey and analysis of insects.

The 56 species of insects in this survey were all native to China, and no alien species were found. Coeeinellidae accounted for the largest proportion of only 10.7%, and other insect species were scattered without

**Table 3 List of insects at Panjin port**

No.	Latin name	Family	Place of origin	No.	Latin name	Family	Place of origin
1	<i>Anthicus laevipennis</i>	Anthicidae	China	32	<i>Chlaenius touzalini</i>	Carabidae	China
2	<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>	Aphididae	China	33	<i>Harpalus calceatus</i>	Carabidae	China
3	<i>Schizaphis piricola</i>	Aphididae	China	34	<i>Anomala exoleta faldermanni</i>	Rutelidae	China
4	<i>Henosepilachna vigintioctomaculata</i>	Coeeinellidae	China	35	<i>Xylotrechus rufilius</i>	Cerambycidae	China
5	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Pieridae	China	36	<i>Dichrocrocis punctiferalis</i>	Crambidae	China
6	<i>Apophyllia nigriceps</i>	Galerucidae	China	37	<i>Rhopalosiphum padi</i>	Aphididae	China
7	<i>Monomorium chinense</i>	Formicidae	China	38	<i>Aedes albopictus</i>	Culicidae	China
8	<i>Helotropha leucostigma</i>	Pyralidae	China	39	<i>Lucilia cuprina</i>	Calliphoridae	China
9	<i>Acrida cinerea</i>	Acrididae	China	40	<i>Tabanus pallidiventris</i>	Tabanidae	China
10	<i>Mamestra brassicae</i>	Noctuidae	China	41	<i>Cicindela lunulata</i>	Cicindelidae	China
11	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Pieridae	China	42	<i>Cicindela hybrid transbaicalica</i>	Cicindelidae	China
12	<i>Chrysops sinensis</i>	Tabanidae	China	43	<i>Cicindela hybrid transbaicalica</i>	Pyralidae	China
13	<i>Helicoverpa assulta</i>	Noctuidae	China	44	<i>Anoplogenus cyanecens</i>	Carabidae	China
14	<i>Pseudococcus comstocki</i>	Pseudococcidae	China	45	<i>Tachys gradates</i>	Carabidae	China
15	<i>Chrysopa septempunctata</i>	Chrysopidae	China	46	<i>Dastarcus helophoroides</i>	Colydiidae	China
16	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	Coeeinellidae	China	47	<i>Helicophagella melanura</i>	Sarcophagidae	China
17	<i>Acanthaspis ruficeps</i>	Reduviidae	China	48	<i>Episyrphus balpeata</i>	Syrphidae	China
18	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	Coeeinellidae	China	49	<i>Haematopota sinensis</i>	Tabanidae	China
19	<i>Rhopalosiphum maidis</i>	Aphididae	China	50	<i>Dolycovis baccarum</i>	Pentatomidae	China
20	<i>Lucilia illustris</i>	Calliphoridae	China	51	<i>Anomala smaragdina</i>	Rutelidae	China
21	<i>Tabanus amaenus</i>	Tabanidae	China	52	<i>Harmonia axyridis</i>	Coeeinellidae	China
22	<i>Henosepilachna vigintioctopunctata</i>	Coeeinellidae	China	53	<i>Chilocorus esakii</i>	Coeeinellidae	China
23	<i>Chilocorus esakii</i>	Coeeinellidae	China	54	<i>Sarcophaga naemorhoidalis</i>	Sarcophagidae	China
24	<i>Cicadella viridis</i>	Cicadellidae	China	55	<i>Culex bitaeniorhynchus</i>	Culicidae	China
25	<i>Propylea japonica</i>	Coeeinellidae	China	56	<i>Culex mimeticus</i>	Culicidae	China
26	<i>Apophyllia nigriceps</i>	Chrysomelidae	China	57	<i>Tabanus amaenus</i>	Tabanidae	China
27	<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i>	Drosophilidae	China	58	<i>Lucilia cuprina</i>	Calliphoridae	China
28	<i>Giraudiella sp.</i>	Cecidomyiidae	China	59	<i>Helicophagella</i>	Sarcophagidae	China
29	<i>Nephrotoma scalaris</i>	Tipulidae	China	60	<i>Holotrichia mutayama</i>	Melolonthidae	China
30	<i>Sylepta ruralis</i>	Pyralidae	China	61	<i>Holotrichia ernesti reitter</i>	Melolonthidae	China
31	<i>Lamprosema indicata</i>	Pyralidae	China				

species aggregation.

### 3 Discussion

Although alien invasive weeds can spread relying on natural factors such as wind power, human factor is the most important factor. For example, about half of alien harmful plants are directly caused by irrational introduction, while alien invasive insects are mainly introduced by unintentional human behaviors, mostly due to human activities, which are introduced and then spread along with transportation vehicles and goods<sup>[13]</sup>. Therefore, in order to prevent the invasion of alien pests, it is necessary to strengthen the control of artificial introduction and unintentional introduction. In terms of artificial introduction, customs, agriculture, forestry and other government departments should strictly check the approval of introduction, carry out scientific risk analysis, and achieve scientific introduction<sup>[14]</sup>. Besides, they should strengthen the management of species after introduction to prevent alien species from escaping from cultivation and domestication land to the natural environment and evolving into invasive species. In terms of unintentional introduction, public education should be strengthened to raise public awareness, and the knowledge of alien species invasion and inspection and quarantine should be widely publicized to improve the national aware-

ness of prevention. Moreover, strict inspection and quarantine should be carried out to block the possibility of unintended introduction as much as possible<sup>[15]</sup>.

Therefore, it is necessary to strengthen the prevention consciousness of enterprises and the masses at ports, and vigorously publicize the harm of alien invasive species and raise people's awareness of prevention. Meantime, the large-scale spatial analysis of alien species invasion and early warning research of invasion trend should be done to grasp the invasion trend from the macro and determine the key factors affecting the invasion, so as to better predict and prevent the occurrence of ecological invasion.

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