Investigation of the *Ailanthus altissima* application for phytoremediation purposes

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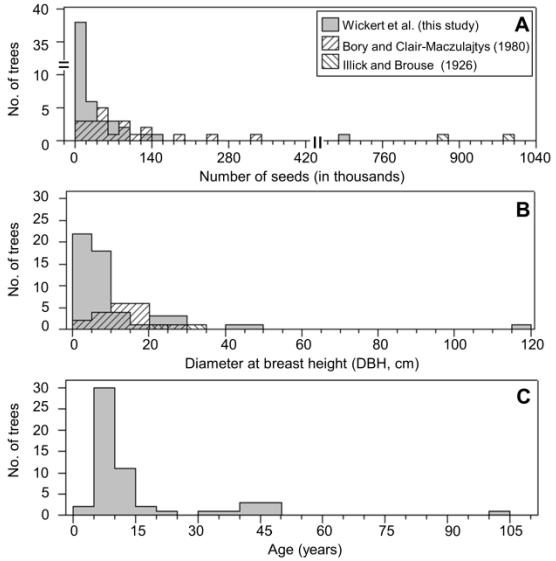
Ailanthus trees in urban landscapes

Ailanthus altissima

The homeland of the highest ailant is China, where the tree has long been cultivated for breeding ailant silkworm. Cultivated in Europe and North America as a gardening and ornamental plant.

General growth data for cultivation of Ailanthus trees



Wickert, K. L.; O'Neal, E. S.; Davis, D. D.; Kasson, M. T. (2017). "Seed Production, Viability, and Reproductive Limits of the Invasive Ailanthus altissima (Tree-of-Heaven) within Invaded Environments". Forests. 8 (7): 226.

Application, Risk and Impact Factors

It is likely introduced particularly for ornament, shelter and soil erosion control. It has also been employed in land reclamation of landfill sites (Lee et al., 1997). Seeds are a source of a fatty oil and protein; the oil being bitter but can be used after refining (Zheng, 1978; IWS, 1982; Chen et al., 1992).

Invasiveness. Proved invasive outside its native range. Highly adaptable to different environments Tolerates, or benefits from, cultivation, browsing pressure, mutilation, fire etc. Highly mobile locally Has high reproductive potential.

Impact outcomes. Damages and alterates ecosystem. Negatively impacts agriculture. Negatively impacts human health, animal health. Reduces native biodiversity. Impact mechanisms

Likelihood of entry/control.

Highly likely to be transported internationally deliberately. Difficult/costly to control.

Source: https://www.cabi.org

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