

A Flower asks...

"Favorite alien species" Questionnaire



Fertile Ground is an installation work in progress which explores the integrity of eco-systems with regard to the potential dangers and human involvement in the spread of non-native species. The work seeks to personalize the human dialog with a specialized group of plants labeled as being *dominant*, *dangerous*, *noxious*, *alien*, or *invasive*.

You are invited to participate in this project by filling out the following questionnaire and returning answers to the artist. For selected answers and more information, please visit the corresponding installation in the Botanical Garden...

Please reply to alex@fertileground.de

1. *Regarding your relationship with exotic or alien plants, have you ever wondered where weeds come from and how they came to be problematic?*

2. *Which alien species, regardless of its impact on the surrounding environment, do you consider to be the most beautiful or pleasing to the senses?*

3. *Do you have a favorite weed? Please describe your favorite weed or alien plant species.*

4. *With what means has your favorite alien species historically been managed in order to control overpopulation within its adopted environment?*

5. *If the development of symbiotic relationships could soften certain competitive threats of your favorite alien species, who would be the alien species' friends, and who would be its enemies?*

6. *Does your favorite alien species possess any traits considered medicinally, economically or otherwise beneficial?*

7. *In a contemporary society of plants and humans, what role does your favorite alien species play in the morphology and integrity of local seed banks?*

8. *How aware is the general public of your favorite alien species' presence? How would you like to see your favorite alien species portrayed to the public?*

10. *Could you foresee a possible future in which your favorite alien species would be entitled to conservation measures in which to protect its existence from dominant native species?*