

Abstract

The bachelor's thesis is written in the form of a literature review and deals with factors that affect the current global spread of plants into new areas, and their possible invasiveness in the new areas. The aim is to verify the hypothesis that one of the main causes of the spread of new plant species (the last 50 years aprox.) to new areas could be climate change. The introductory part of the thesis explains the basic concepts (native versus non-native species, invasive species, temporarily introduced species, etc.) and lists the main factors that affect the global distribution of non-native plant species. The following is a description of the issue of current global change, focusing primarily on climate change and what impact it may have on the spread of plant species. The last part of the work focuses on newly introduced non-native plant species and on the factors that influence their global distribution the most, in comparison with plant species introduced a long time ago (more than 50 years ago). It was found that climate change does have a significant impact on the shift of the area of distribution of newly introduced plant species, especially to extreme areas (higher altitude etc.). Several selected non-native plant species, in which a shift in the range of distribution due to climate change has been observed, serve as illustrations. However, on the global spread of newly introduced species in general, human activity, especially trade and travel, still has the greatest impact.