

The present thesis deals with the invasive species of mammals in Europe. Invasive mammals have far-reaching impacts both on the environment and on the economy. It is necessary to avoid the transfer and dissemination of such invasive species in the new environment. To prevent the spread of these species and to control them in general, it is crucial to know their characteristics and to strike at an initial phase of the invasion. The characteristics which make invasive species particularly successful in the new environment are, i.e., wide ecological valence, the ability to disseminate quickly, high competitive potential, and the potential to reproduce in the new environment. Another important factor which contributes to sustained existence of invasive species in the new environment is the absence of predators, parasites, and pathogens. Among the management practices which proved to be effective are shooting, trapping, and baiting, fencing and tree protectors are effective, too. In general, the management should be directed towards long-term reduction of population size to a predefined level based on mitigation of impacts and reduction of management costs. The EU Strategy on Invasive Species involves a three-stage approach, the three stages being prevention, eradication, and containment. All European states should incorporate this strategy to their legal regulations and programs.