



The Impact of Non-Native Species

①What Is a “Non-Native Species”?

Non-native 非土着の・外来の species 生物種 are animals and plants from a different part of the world. They often create problems for the native 在来の・土着の animals and plants, or even [~ととって変わる : t_____ the p____c_____] other species. We usually think that all non-native species are [有害だ : h_____ f_____]. But is this true?

②How Does a Non-Native Species Arrive?

They usually arrive in new lands [~が原因で : b_____] human activities. When we travel [世界中を : a_____ d the world], we sometimes carry species with us [偶然に : b_____ a_____ t]. At other times, humans bring non-native species [意図的に : o_____ p_____]. They travel on our trains or ships [彼等の元の家から遠く離れて : f_____ f_____ their o_____ g_____ l homes]. Now let's look at [いくつかの例 : some e_____ s] of these non-native species.

• European rabbits in Australia

In 1859, [英国人入植者 : an English s_____ t_____ r] brought 13 wild European rabbits into Australia because he wanted to [娯楽のためにそれらを狩る : h_____ them f_____ s_____ t]. However, some of the rabbits [生き残った : s_____ v_____ d]. After ten years, there were too many rabbits. They ate [穀物 : c_____ s] and many native plants. Other animals died because the rabbits ate all their food. There are now [2億匹以上のウサギ : m_____ t_____ 200 m_____ n rabbits] in Australia.

• Brown tree snakes in Guam

People brought brown tree snakes into Guam on ships [偶然に : b_____ a_____ t] after World War II. [たったの70年以内に : I_____ j_____ seventy years], the snakes ate [~のほとんど(を) : m_____] the birds on the island. [11種のグアム土着の森鳥のうちの九つ(が) : Nine _____ the e_____ n n_____ t_____ forest birds in Guam] [完全に消えた : d_____ a_____ ed c_____ m_____ l_____ l_____].

③Are All Non-Native Species Bad?

Scientists and governments around the world think that we should [～を減らす : r_____c_] [～の数を : the n_____s _____] non-native species. But some of these non-native species [実は : a_____l_____] help the lives of other species.

On an island near Mauritius, the native [巨大な : g_____t] tortoise^{カメ} [死に絶えた : d_____d o_____]. After that, many native plants on the island could not [生き残る : s_____v_____] because they couldn't [自力でタネを散布する : s_____d their s_____s b_____t_____s_____]. The giant tortoise ate the fruit of the plants and spread the seeds in its [糞便 : f_____c_____s] .

So [21世紀初頭に : a_____ the b_____g of the t_____y-f_____t c_____y] , scientists brought a non-native tortoise, the Aldabra tortoise, to the island. Now these tortoises are eating the fruit of the plants and spreading the seeds. Other non-native species can [似た役割を演じる : p_____ s_____r r_____s] in their new homes.

④What's Important for the Environment?

Non-native species are often [～に対して危険だ : d_____s _____] other species. But [幾つかの場合においては : i_____s_____c_____s] , they [重要な役割を演じる : p_____ an i_____t r_____] [新しい環境で : in the new e_____m_____t] . [いずれにしろ : E_____r w_____] , we [できる限り慎重に考えなければならない : h_____ think a_____f_____y a_____ we c_____] before we bring a species to a new environment. The impact of non-native species will be [最大の環境問題の一つ : o_____ the g_____est e_____m_____l p_____m_____] of the twenty-first century. If we don't [正しい選択をする : m_____ the r_____c_____s] , today, the earth's natural environment will [危険に陥る : b_____ i_____d_____r] in the future.