

Questions available in the questionnaire and their reclassification for further analysis

Table S1 Questions available in the questionnaires translated to English (the originals were in Portuguese and Spanish)

Question number	Question text
Q1	Age
Q2	Gender
Q3	Education
Q4	Occupation
Q5	Country of residence (Portugal, Spain)
Q5.1	Country of residence (another country)
Q6	Do you recognize the plant in the photo?
Q6.1	If yes, what's the name of the plant?
Q6.2	Do you have this plant on your property?
Q7	Select the statements that, in your opinion, are most appropriate for this plant.
Q8	Is pampas grass an invasive plant in your country?
Q8.1	If you answered yes to the previous question, do you know of any Decree-Law that limits its use?
Q8.2	If you answered yes to the previous question, which is this Decree-Law?
Q9	In your opinion, what do you see in the photos below?
Q10	How did you find out that pampas grass is an invasive plant?
Q11	Finally, and as a challenge, instead of the pampas grass, what other plant(s) would you use as ornamentals in gardens?

Table S2 Data reclassification for further analysis. Only those which were reclassified are shown.

Question number	Categories	Reclassification
Q1. Age*	< 18 years old	Young
	18-25 years old	
	26-40 years old	Adult
	41-64 years old	
	65-89 years old	
	> 90 years old	Old
Q4. Occupation	<i>Open-ended question</i>	Related to nature (<i>e.g.</i> farmers, fishermen, landscape architects...)
	<i>reclassification based on Rodríguez-Rey et al. (2021) to see if the respondents with activities more closely related to nature and environment were the majority</i>	Producers (<i>e.g.</i> manufacturing, industry ...) Services sector (<i>e.g.</i> tradesmen, artists, administratives, pharmaceuticals, lawyers, managers ...) Environmental experts (<i>e.g.</i> ecology researchers, biology teachers, natural resources managers, forest engineers, nature guides...) Students Non-biology teachers Unemployed and retired people
Q6.1 If yes, what's the name of the plant?	<i>Open-ended question</i>	Correct name Incorrect name No answer
Q7. Select the statements that, in your opinion, are most appropriate for this plant.	It serves as food and shelter for our animals This plant can be used in decoration without negative consequences It is suitable to hold highways slopes Since it is an herb, its removal is easy Does not reproduce by seed It is not a problem and has always existed in this country It is not forbidden to have this plant	Incorrect statements
	Does not allow for native plants to grow Flowers cause allergies and leaves cause injuries because they are sharp Removing it can be very difficult and cost a lot of money It is one of the worst invasive exotic plants in Europe There are several ornamental alternatives to this plant The seeds are very small and are easily dispersed by wind A plant from South America, was brought to this country many years ago, where it became a problem It is forbidden to have this plant	Correct statements
Q8.2 If you answered yes to the previous question, which is this Decree-Law?	<i>Open-ended question</i>	Correct Incorrect No answer

Q9. In your opinion, what can be seen in the photos below?	Flowers of three different species of grasses	Incorrect
	The first two belong to <i>C. selloana</i> and the last to <i>C. jubata</i>	Correct
	All photos are <i>C. selloana</i> , different sexes	
	Doesn't know / No reply	No answer
Q10. How did you know that pampas grass is an invasive plant?	Reality observation	Reality observation
	Family or friends	Family or friends
	(<i>in: other</i>)	Professional activity
	Stop Cortaderia webpage	Academic and scientific activities
	Stop Cortaderia social media	
	Stop Cortaderia training	
	Invasoras.pt webpage	
	Invasoras.pt social media	
	Invasoras.pt activities	
	Academic training	
Botanical gardens		
	(<i>in: other</i>)	Traditional media This questionnaire
	It is not invasive	It is not invasive
	Other (<i>e.g.</i> this questionnaire, professional activity, CTC, CCV, traditional media, legislation, self-taught)	Other (<i>minus professional activity, traditional media, this questionnaire</i>)
	Don't remember No answer	No answer
Q11. Finally, and as a challenge, instead of the pampas grass, what other plant(s) would you use as ornamentals in gardens?	<i>Open-ended question</i>	Safe (both native and exotic non-invasive species)
		Unsafe (invasive and exotic species with invasive potential in limited situations)
		Mix of (un)safe (when both safe and unsafe plants were suggested by the same respondent)
		Undefined (when generalist names were used, which made it impossible to categorize the species)
		No answer

* grouped only when analyzing the association between questions.