

Biological Control of Water Hyacinth by *Neochetina eichhorniae* and *N. bruchi* in Wenzhou, China

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Wenzhou is located in the southeastern Zhejiang Province. Water hyacinth was introduced into Wenzhou in the 1960s. Now the weed has become a bio-disaster. Chemical and manual control of water hyacinth cannot control the weed. In co-operation with the Biological Control Institute, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, *Neochetina eichhorniae* was introduced and released at four sites (Wutian, Liushi, Yaoxi and Kunyang) in 1996. The area of each site is about 1000 m² and 1000 adult weevils were released at each site. The weevils have established and spread their population well at Wutian and Liushi. However, although they became established one year after release, there were no weevils at the other two sites, because of the effect of some unknown factor. The study in Wenzhou showed that the maximum total numbers of weevils occurred in mid-June each year. Adult numbers were highest in November, larvae in mid-June and pupae in early July. From 1996 to 1999, the area and height of water hyacinth had been reduced greatly at Wutian and Liushi.

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