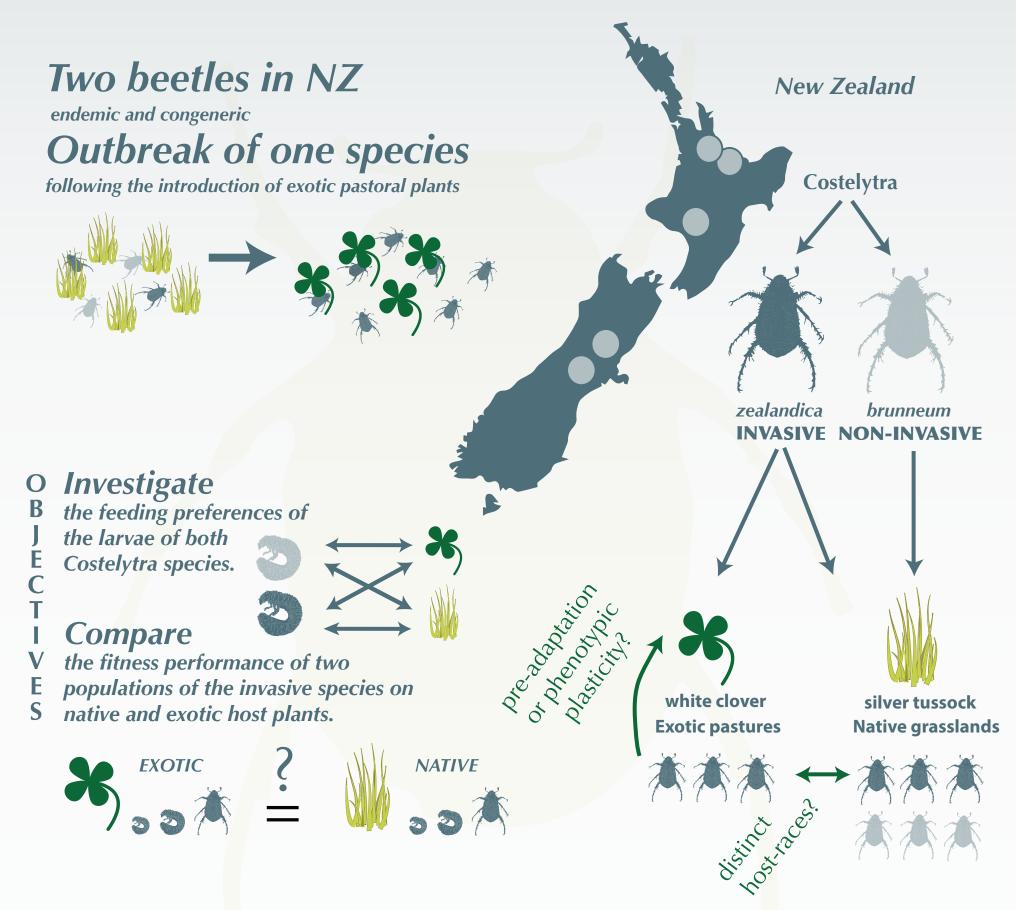
## PREFERENCE OF A NATIVE BEETLE FOR "EXOTICISM", CHARACTERISTICS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO INVASIVE SUCCESS OF COSTELYTRA ZEALANDICA (SCARABAEIDAE: MELOLONTHINAE).

Lefort et al. 2015 | DOI: 10.7717/peerj.1454



## **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

Ability to utilise novel/exotic host = pre-adaptation or phenotypic plasticity in C. zealandica that may have contributed to its invasion success.

Differences in feeding preferences between populations of C. zealandica confirm recent evidence of the existence of distinct host-races in this invasive species.

Image Beetle: 'Grass grub, Costelytra zealandica', from An Encyclopaedia of New Zealand, edited by A. H. McLintock, originally published in 1966. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, updated 13-Jul-12



