

### Grassland Composition Survey

**Objective:** Determine the approximate plant composition of a grassland.

**Materials and Equipment:**

- Two plots (50 ft. x 50 ft.) of grassland
- Pencil and paper
- IML's *Crop and Grassland Plant Identification Manual*  
or any other illustrated guide available

**Procedure:**

Note: Half the class will work on one plot and the rest on the other plot.

1. Your instructor will explain the method for finding the percentages of different plants in the grassland. Record the names of the plants and keep a running tally of the total number of each kind of plant.
2. Record the totals for each plant.
3. Add the totals to calculate the entire number of plants recorded.
4. For each plant, divide the total for that plant by the total number of plants. Multiply by 100 to find the approximate percentage of that plant in the grassland.

**Key Questions:**

1. What is the primary plant type in your plot?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are some uses for the grassland that these plants could support?

3. How does the other plot of land differ in plant composition from the one you evaluated?

4. How, if at all, do these differences affect the best use of the land?