

Botany Courses 2012



PTYXIS
ECOLOGY

Midweek CPD courses

led by Clare O'Reilly MIEEM PGCE (FE&HE) or John O'Reilly BA(Ed) CEnv MIEEM

Introduction to Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Cost £175

Tues 17th & Wed 18th April 2012 – Newcastle

This course will enable you to conduct a Phase 1 Habitat Survey. We focus on survey methodology, but also assist with vegetative plant identification (see our July course on flowering plant indicator species for Phase 1). Day one covers survey planning, mapping techniques and identifying habitats. On day two you will conduct your own survey of an urban-fringe 'development' site and discuss best practice in reporting.

Grasses, Sedges & Rushes for Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Cost £160

Wed 23rd & Thurs 24th May 2012 – Frosterley, Nr Durham

A course for the complete novice covering the key 'must know' species, plus distinguishing improved, semi- & unimproved grasslands. We cover defining the 3 families, plant part terminology, and the main sedge groups and rush species relevant to Phase 1. Much of the course focuses on vegetative grass identification – the easiest way to start grasses! Includes using a new comprehensive vegetative grass key, devised specifically for beginners.

Identifying Grass Indicator Species in Flower

Cost £195

Mon 25th – Wed 27th June 2012 – Middleton-in-Teesdale, County Durham

A beginner's intensive course focused on key flowering grasses for Phase 1 Habitat Survey and recognising UK BAP lowland and upland habitats. An ideal follow-on from the May course, and includes revising distinguishing Phase 1 grassland types. Covers parts of a grass flower, lots of ecology, and visits to woodland, acid, neutral & calcareous grassland, heathland and mires. 2.5 day course with two evening sessions on Monday and Tuesday.

Advanced Grasses

Cost £80

Mon 16th July 2012 – Kendal

A specialist course for those with experience of grasses who need an in-depth look at the difficult groups, including *Agrostis*, *Bromus*, *Poa* and *Festuca* and non-natives typical of urban brownfield sites. You need to know grass flower terminology, as we will use the technical keys in the BSBI Grasses Handbook.

Using the Wild Flower Key – botany for beginners & the top 10 plant families

Cost £80

Wed 4th July 2012 – Kendal

This course is for anyone who wants to use botanical keys. We cover all the traditional school botany needed to use keys and identify plants, such as parts of a flower and superior/inferior ovary. We focus on recognising the top 10 plant families and common species of grassland, heathland and woodland/hedgerow habitats. The aim is to understand why a plant is what it is and how to use keys on your own!

Tutors are trained teachers, professionally qualified ecologists and nationally recognised botanists.

NEW Plant Indicator Species for Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Cost £160

Thurs 5th & Fri 6th July 2012 – Kendal

An improvers course, focussed on identifying habitat indicator species, including those used to distinguish acid, calcareous & neutral grasslands, heathlands, woodlands and wetlands. Focuses on herbs, and key grasses, sedges and rushes. You need to have done a basic grass sedge & rush course, such as our May course.

For more courses, see over...

Full course details from enquiries@ptyxis.com 01434 321199
For past student testimonials, see www.ptyxis.com/training.html
All courses run 10am – 5pm ©Ptyxis Ecology



NEW **Advanced Vegetative Grasses**

Cost £80

Thurs 20th September 2012
– Hexham, Nr Newcastle

This indoor lab course is aimed at those with experience of vegetative grass identification who want to use the grass keys in the *Vegetative Key to the British Flora* by Poland & Clement. We cover observing anatomical characters used in the key such as stomata as well as assessing its use on some less common and non-native species. We will revise the characters used in vegetative grass identification such as youngest leaf rolled/folded and open/closed sheath but the majority of the course will be spent on using the key with specimens.

Introduction to Bryophytes as Indicator Species

Cost £160

Wed 25th & Thurs 26th April 2012
– Haltwhistle, Nr Carlisle

For the complete novice, we concentrate on field characters for identifying common species; in particular those used as indicators of pH and NVC communities. We cover species of heathland, blanket bog, acid, neutral & calcareous grassland and a range of woodland types. This course excludes *Sphagnum* species (see course to the right).

NEW **NVC Demystified**

Cost £80

Thurs 19th April 2012
– Haltwhistle, Nr Carlisle

This indoor course is for anyone who needs to understand the National Vegetation Classification system. It is ideal for beginner NVC surveyors to help them navigate through the NVC books and for site managers and conservation professionals who may never conduct a survey but who need to understand the process. We cover how the NVC classification was constructed, what are the limitations of the classification and what this means for interpreting results, as well as approaches to surveying and how do you decide which NVC community you have? We will also review computer programmes and booklets designed to help NVC practitioners.

Sphagnum Identification & Ecology

Cost £160

Wed 13th & Thurs 14th Sept 2012
– Hexham, Nr Newcastle

This is a field-based course aimed at beginners. We will key out c. 15 of the most common and ecologically important species using a field key. By seeing most of the species several times in different situations, you will develop an appreciation of the range of variation within each species. Essential start for anyone wishing to conduct mire NVC surveys or work in peatland conservation.

PTYXIS ECOLOGY BOOKING FORM

Participant	Full Name	Company / organisation	Email address
1			
2			

Emergency mobile number: _____

Course:	No. of bookings

PAYMENT

	No. People		Per Person		Total
Full course fee(s) payable on booking	<input type="text"/>	@ £	<input type="text"/>	£	<input type="text"/>
No VAT is due	<input type="text"/>	@ £	<input type="text"/>	£	<input type="text"/>
Cheques payable to 'Ptyxis Ecology'				Total enclosed	<input type="text"/>

I have read and agree to the Booking Conditions available at www.ptyxis.com/training.html.
In the event of cancellation for any reason up to 28 days before the course start date a refund of 50% of the full fee will be made. If cancellation is less than 28 days before the course start date, the course fee is payable in full.
All cancellations must be received in writing (email is adequate). Please also note that the course may be cancelled by Ptyxis Ecology if there are insufficient bookings or for other exceptional reasons, and all fees paid to us will be refunded in full.

Signed: _____ **Dated:** _____

Please post to Ptyxis Ecology, 3 Railway Cottages, Lambley CA8 7LL or email to enquiries@ptyxis.com