Botany Courses 2011

Introduction to Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Mon 11th & Tues 12th April 2011 - Newcastle
This course will enable you to conduct a Phase 1 Habitat Survey. We focus on survey methodology, but also assist with vegetation 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.

Cost £150

Identifying Invasive Plants on Schedule 9
Wed 25th May 2011 – Kendal OR
Fri 27th May 2011 – Newcastle
All ecologists need to be familiar with the 40 terrestrial and aquatic plant species in Sch 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, for which it is a criminal offence to cause to grow in the wild. This course includes an overview of all of the listed species and hybrids, plus their ecology and distribution. An identification workshop using specimens of all the widespread taxa also covers native look-alikes and how to approach difficult groups like Cotoneaster.

Cost £75

Grasses, Sedges & Rushes for Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Mon 16th & Tue 17th May 2011 – Hamsterley Forest, 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.

Cost £150

Identifying Grass Indicator Species in Flower
Wed 15th – Fri 17th June 2011 – 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 April 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.

Cost £180

Advanced Grasses
Thurs 7th July 2011 – 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 Puccinula 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.

Cost £60

Using the Wild Flower Key – botany for beginners & the top 10 plant families
Mon 18th & Tue 19th July 2011 – 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!

Cost £75

Plant Indicator Species for Phase 1 Habitat Survey
Wed 20th July 2011 – Kendal
Designed to follow on from the Wild Flower Key course, focussed on identifying habitat indicator species, including those used to distinguish types of grasslands and wetlands. Focuses on herbs, rather than grasses, sedges and rushes (these specialist groups are covered in our other courses).

Cost £75

Introduction to Aquatic Plants
Tue 9th & Wed 10th August 2011 – Hexham, nr Newcastle
A beginner’s course visiting a reservoir and ponds looking at submerged plants, including getting started with pondweeds and sorting out stringy things. Includes using keys written for the course and discussion of the use of certain species as bioindicators of water quality.

Cost £120

For more courses, see over...
Other requirements

Learning needs (in confidence)

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 will be refunded in full.

Signed: ___________________________ Dated: ___________________________

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