

# Botany Courses 2011



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 £150

**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 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.

### Identifying Invasive Plants on Schedule 9

Cost £75

**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*.

### Grasses, Sedges & Rushes for Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Cost £150

**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.

### Identifying Grass Indicator Species in Flower

Cost £180

**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.

### Advanced Grasses

Cost £60

**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 *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 £120

**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!

The only grass indicator species courses in the UK!

### Plant Indicator Species for Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Cost £75

**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).

### Introduction to Aquatic Plants

Cost £120

**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.

For more courses, see over...

Full course details from [enquiries@ptyxis.com](mailto:enquiries@ptyxis.com) 01434 321199  
For past student testimonials, see [www.ptyxis.com/training.html](http://www.ptyxis.com/training.html)



## Introduction to Bryophytes as Indicator Species

Cost £135

Wed 6th & Thurs 7th April 2011

– 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).

All courses run 10am – 5pm unless otherwise indicated. Accommodation and lunch are not included.

For comments on our courses, see [www.ptyxis.com/training.html](http://www.ptyxis.com/training.html)

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## *Sphagnum* Identification & Ecology

Cost £150

Wed 13th & Thurs 14th April 2011

– 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.

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

## PTYXIS ECOLOGY BOOKING FORM

Participant	Full Name	Company / organisation	Email address
1			
2			

Postal address for correspondence: \_\_\_\_\_

Course:	No. of bookings
Introduction to Phase 1 Habitat Survey @ £150	
Identifying Invasive Plants on Schedule 9 @ £75 (Select: Kendal or Newcastle)	
Grasses, Sedges & Rushes for Phase 1 Habitat Survey @ £150	
Identifying Grass Indicator Species in Flower @ £180	
Advanced Grasses @ £60	
Using the Wild Flower Key – beginner's botany & the top 10 plant families @ £120	
Plant Indicator Species for Phase 1 Habitat Survey @ £75	
Introduction to Aquatic Plants @ £120	
Introduction to Bryophytes as Indicator Species @ £135	
<i>Sphagnum</i> Identification & Ecology @ £150	

## PAYMENT

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

## Other requirements

Learning needs (in confidence)

- I have read and agree to the Booking Conditions available at [www.ptyxis.com/training.html](http://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](mailto:enquiries@ptyxis.com)