



Grasses, Sedges and Rushes Old Sarum & The New Forest

A 1 or 2 day course giving participants;

- the skills and confidence to identify a wide range of grasses, sedges and rushes.
- a simple way to identify grass species
- an understanding of grasses as indicator species
- a crib sheet listing the key features of the 90 most common species

Details

DAY 1

Grasses and Sedges - Grasslands and Meadows Old Sarum and Figsbury Ring, Salisbury

DAY 2

Grasses, Sedges and Rushes - Heathlands and Bogs New Forest

These training days will give participants the confidence to identify a wide range of grasses and sedges (using largely non-flowering features) commonly encountered in a range of habitats.

The first day focuses on grasslands and calcareous habitats, looking at common species, as well as more specialised indicator species of meadows and unimproved grassland.

The second day will look at the species to be found in damp and acidic habitats, including heathlands, acid grasslands and bogs and mires.

Each day will cover roughly 30 species and will be run on the basis of people having no previous knowledge. In general, the mornings will involve teaching the species and the afternoons will involve revising and being tested on them.

The workshops will be carried out in several locations from the stunning New Forest to the hill-forts surrounding Salisbury, and provide the opportunity to discuss some of the conservation management issues of these habitats, as well as the difficulties of identifying grasses in grazed and mown habitats.

Although several of the more common species will be seen on both days the courses will be run separately and can either be attended on their own or as a two day course if you have a particular interest in the habitats.

Feedback from previous courses

'Excellent course. The teacher was very good indeed, and I thoroughly enjoyed the course'

'I learnt some brilliant identification tips to take away with me and it was good to learn about where you are likely to find species and which ones are indicators of good habitat/NVC communities'

'Really enjoyable course, felt like I learnt a lot which has really stuck since using it out in the field on my own. Not too many species that make it overwhelming.'

'Excellent course, thank you! I will definitely recommend this course to others.'

'Genuinely spot on, tutor was incredibly attentive to individual knowledge levels'

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

Schedule

Day 1

- 10.00 Welcome and start
- 10.10 First tutorial session
- 12.30 Lunch (or shorter if weather bad)
- 1.15 Second tutorial/revision session
- 2.00 Participants to carry out practice survey
- 3.15 Discussion of results
- 3.30 Final look at key species from day
- 3.45 Departure

There are loos at Old Sarum and a small shop selling drinks and snacks

Day 2

- 10.00 Meet at Turf Hill carpark
- 10.10 Introduction to Heathland and Acid Grassland grasses at Rushy Flat
- 12.30 Leave Rushy Flat
- 1.00 Arrive at High Corner Inn, Lunch
- 1.40 Walk to Woodford Bottom for revision session
- 4pm Depart

There are loos at the second site in the pub, but not at the first (but there are some thick gorse bushes nearby!). We will aim to have lunch at the pub (partly to use the facilities) If you want to eat a sandwich in the carpark then join us at the table that is fine.

What to bring

- ▶ Notebook
- ▶ Water, lunch and snacks, firm boots (some steep banks). Please wear long trousers for the second day to minimise exposure to ticks (on this day there is a short amount of walking involved, and some ground will be boggy). There is the option to get a pub lunch on the second day.
- ▶ £2 for parking at Old Sarum

Any problems on the day please call Dominic Price on 07968 (786390)

Please inform us of any medical requirements/conditions we should be aware of prior to the course.

Directions

Day 1

Old Sarum is signed off the A345 2 miles north of Salisbury. Meet in the main car park (where there are loos). Address: Castle Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire - SP1 3SD There is a £1 charge for parking.

Google maps - click [here](#)

Day 2

The Turf Hill carpark is situated at SU211176 on the B3080 about 2 miles southeast of North Charford, the nearest postcode is SP5 2PU.

Google maps - click [here](#)

In the afternoon we will aim to convoy to the High Corner Inn which is near the second site - BH24 3QY Please try to be prompt, so we can start on time! If you are unavoidably detained on both days we will spend the first hour within site of the carpark, so don't panic.

If you would like to come by train we can offer lifts to/from Salisbury station on both days.



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