

Grasses Identification

18th- 25th June 2010

Led by Judith Allinson

Level: Open to all



Photographed by: Robert Callow Callow

Kindrogan Field Studies Centre

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The Field Studies Council (FSC) is an environmental education charity committed to helping people explore, understand and be inspired by the natural world. Each year over 100,000 people experience the FSC through visits to our network of 17 Centres



Course outline: June is an excellent time to see grasses in flower.

We shall:

Learn about the vegetative and flowering structure of grasses, and the names of the flower parts.

Practice using keys to improve our identification skills.

Visit a variety of delightful habitats around Kindrogan including woodland, riverside, acid and basic grassland and moorland; (weather and fitness permitting there will be a mountain day)

Learn some of the grasses which act as indicator species for certain habitats.

Find most of the common UK grasses, plus some mountain and woodland specialities during the course.

This course should be of value to those engaged in botanical survey work, to amateur botanists and to those interested in learning how to recognise some members of this important group of plants.

Your tutor: Judith Allinson has run Grasses courses at Kindrogan over several years. She is a former member of FSC staff and co-author of the AIDGAP Key to Grasses in the Vegetative State. She worked for several years carrying out botanical survey work for English Nature. And currently teaches in schools and carries out some freelance survey work.

Equipment to bring with you:

Wellingtons and/or waterproof walking boots (some are available at the centre at a small cost)

Waterproof clothing (some are available at the centre at a small cost)

Lunch Box, vacuum flask

Rucksack

Plenty of spare warm clothing

Hand lens

Binoculars, if you have them

Recommended Reading:

'Grasses' CE Hubbard, (Strongly recommended reading)

'New Flora of the British Isles' CA Stace, Cambridge University Press

'Excursion Flora of the British Isles' AR Clapham, TG Tutin, & Warburg, Cambridge University Press

Plus any other grass books you may have.

Booking Procedure

To book a place on this course, please complete the booking form and send it together with a deposit of £50.00 (cheque payable to Field Studies Council). Provisional bookings should be made by telephone. Payment of the balance of the course fee will be 30 days before the beginning of the course. Cancellation after this date may leave the customer liable for the full amount – a condition which is accepted when the booking is confirmed. You are recommended to take out personal cancellation insurance to cover this eventuality.

Course Fees & What's Included

Resident - £440 Sole Occupancy / £370 Shared Accommodation includes tuition, full board accommodation, transport to sites, use of library, from supper on 18th until after breakfast on 25th June 2010

Non – Residential - £326 includes tuition packed lunches, evening meals and transport (in other words everything but bed and breakfast).

Transport – Any excursions during the trip will be made in either the Centre vehicles or private cars. The cost of this is included in the fee. For anyone who kindly uses their own vehicle for the course excursions will be reimbursed for petrol costs at a set rate.

Times – Resident and Non-resident visitors are requested to arrive at the centre before 7pm on 18th and report to reception. Supper will be served at 7.30pm after which there will be an introductory talk about the centre. Breakfast is served at 8am. Tuition will end on the evening of the 24th with departure after breakfast on the 25th June.

Weekend/Mid week Courses – Courses that run from Friday to Sunday or mid week may finish late, so to accommodate this we maybe able to offer extra nights accommodation.