

Investigating the effects of trampling
SHEET 3 – ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF RESULTS

1. Draw a scattergraph with soil hardness (cm) on the x-axis against the frequency of total rosette plants (use red dots) and the frequency of total creeping plants (use blue dots).

Draw best-fit lines for (a) the rosette plants and (b) the creeping plants.

2. Describe the trends shown on your graph.

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3. Using what you know about **competition between plants**, explain
(a) why rosette plants are common in short grassland

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(b) why rosette plants are less common among longer grass

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4. During 2006, the Squares were closed to the general public. Explain fully how this environmental change would have affected the grassland community.

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5. Consider your method. List the difficulties that your group found.
Suggest improvements that could be made so other groups will not encounter the same problems.

Difficulties found	Improvement

6. The level of trampling was investigated by using a soil pin to measure the hardness of the soil. How reliable is this method? Design another method for measuring the level of trampling that you could use if you had more time.

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