

Plan for describing a plant community.

1. Name of the plant community. Here you should give an expanded name, which is a part of its characteristic (floodplain lily of the valley oakery, fescue- white sagebrush steppe, flooding hay meadow, etc.).
2. Habitat. An area occupied by a plant community and its character ecological conditions. Here it is necessary to specify 1) relief (elevation, depression, slopes, plain), groundwater occurrence (deep, shallow); 2) mechanical and chemical composition of soil (sandy, clay, gray, chestnut, saline, non-saline); 3) exposure to the sun (north, south); 4) susceptibility of the territory to flooding during high water; 5) degree and regularity of moisture (arid conditions, swampy, moderate humidification conditions); 5) location in space (nearest settlement, river, elevation and distance to them), geographical coordinates.
3. Species composition and quantitative participation of species in phytocoenoses. Make a list of the higher plant species found in the community. Identify dominant species (represented by very large numbers of specimens).
4. Level structure of plants community. Determine the number of level in the plant community and describe each of them. When describing the level it is necessary to indicate which plants form it, its height, the degree of closeness (density). Identify dominant species for each level. Identify the phase of development of dominant species (flowering, fruiting, budding, blooming of leaves, death of the above-ground part, etc.). Identify to which ecological group the plants that make up each level of the community belong. Notes the out-of-level elements. Identify the main life forms of plants that make up each level (trees, shrubs, lianas, semi-shrubs, dwarf semi-shrubs, annual or perennial grasses)
5. Find objects indicating the parasitism of some plants at the expense of others.
6. Notes examples indicating human influence on a given community.
7. Notes the medicinal plants you have found in this plants communities.