

Rapid Point Survey by Bayonet Blade¹

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A bayonet was developed for rapid points in tall dense herbaceous vegetation (Fig. 1 and 2). It is a steel blade about 65 cm high, 4.5 cm broad and 2 mm thick. This blade is sharp-edged along one height which constitutes the line of sight. The upper part is T shaped and used as a plumb-line. The lower part is bevelled on the opposite side to the sharp-edged height; which reduces the disturbance of vegetation when the bayonet blade is vertically stuck into the ground. At each species, all contacts of any part of the vegetation of every species, with the sharp-edged part of the blade, are recorded.

A trained observer can do 350 sightings a day. This apparatus has been used successfully in tall grassland vegetation of France. Data obtained by

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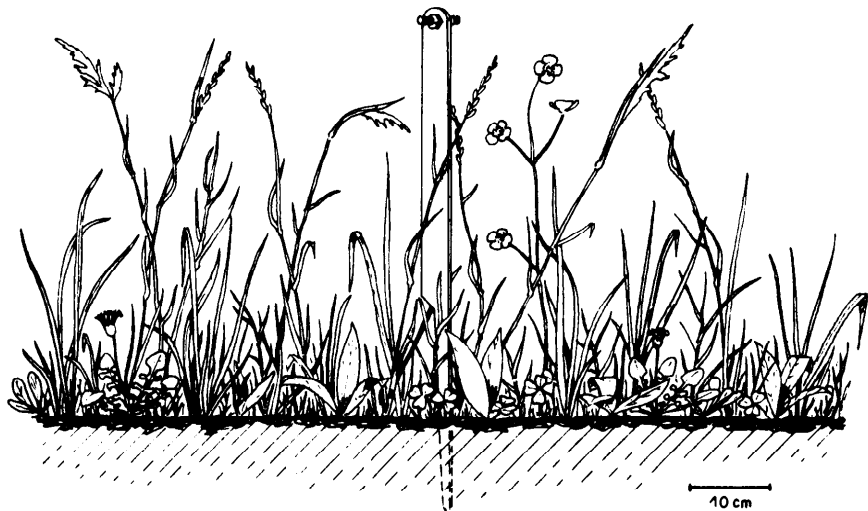


FIG. 1. The bayonet.



FIG. 2. The bayonet in field use.

bayonet recording give very small deviation (Poissonet, 1969) as compared to a needle point frame (Long et al., 1972).

Literature Cited

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