

EUNIS habitat type map: Grassland and sparsely vegetated areas

Background and concept

In addition to the overview map which illustrates the distribution of EUNIS habitat types in Europe, 5 separate maps have been prepared. Each of these maps depicts one specific, broad and aggregated habitat type and for this habitat type the CORINE land cover classes which make up this particular type are displayed.

Methodology

Scientific references

Moss, D. (1998): EUNIS habitat classification - Cross references between the EUNIS habitat classification and (i) Annex I of the EU Habitat Directive (92/43/EEC) and (ii) the CORINE land cover nomenclature.- Draft version, European Environment Agency

Data input

The basis for the creation of the 5 separate habitat type maps was the extended CORINE land cover database (LCALL250).

Actions

Step 1:

Definition of 5 broad, aggregated habitat types which encompass one or several EUNIS habitat types. For these types the corresponding EUNIS habitats and CORINE land cover classes were selected. The map legend identifies the classes of the CORINE land cover database which contribute to this broad habitat.

Countries without CORINE land cover data are shaded light grey. All the habitat types and land cover classes that are not selected in the current map are shaded white.

For orientation the EUNIS type J (see Table) is drawn in red on all the maps (constructed industrial and other artificial habitats).

A lookup table with the correspondence between EUNIS types and extended CORINE land cover classes were made, containing the following information:

CORINE land cover class	EUNIS Habitat types
4.2.3, 5.2.3	A Marine habitats (1)
3.3.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.1, 4.2.1	B Coastal and halophytic habitats (2)
5.1.2, 5.1.1	C Freshwater aquatic habitats (3)
4.1.1, 4.1.2	D Wetland habitats (4)
1.4.2, 3.2.1, 3.3.3, 2.3.1	E Grassland habitats (5)
2.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3	F Heathland and scrub habitats (6)
2.2.2, 2.2.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.4	G Woodland and forest habitats and other wooded lands (7)
3.3.2, 3.3.4, 3.3.5	H Inland sparsely vegetated or unvegetated habitats (8)
1.4.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.4.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 2.4.4	I Regularly or recently cultivated habitats and gardens (9)
1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.2.3, 1.2.4, 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3, 4.2.2	J Constructed industrial and other artificial habitats (10)

Table: CORINE land cover classes aggregated into EUNIS habitats types

Step 2:

Creation of separate maps

Map Wetlands and water bodies:

The EUNIS habitat types A, B, C and D are included in this habitat type. The corresponding CORINE land cover classes are drawn on the map. The identification of the CORINE land cover classes is based on Table 6.

The selected land cover classes are:

2.1.2, 2.1.3, 3.3.1, 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 5.1.1, 5.1.2, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.2.3 for the original CORINE land cover and Finland and 4.1, 4.2, 5.1, 5.2 in Sweden, Switzerland and GB (see annex 6 for clarification of CORINE land cover codes).

The EEA water pattern is drawn on top of the land cover classes in blue. The non-selected land cover classes are represented in white. The countries with no CORINE land cover data are masked and shaded in light grey. This masking was done to limit the display of the EEA water pattern data to countries for which land cover data is available.

Map Wooded species:

The EUNIS types F, G, B1.5 and B1.6 are included in this broad habitat type. The corresponding CORINE land cover classes are drawn on the map.

(CORINE land cover classes 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.2.4)

For GB, Sweden and Switzerland the following classes were selected:

Permanent crops, Forest and scrub and/or herbaceous vegetation associations.

Map Grassland and sparsely vegetated areas:

The EUNIS types E and H are included in this habitat type. The corresponding CORINE land cover classes are drawn on the map. The identification of the CORINE land cover classes is based on Table (see above).

The selected land cover classes are:

1.4.2, 2.3.1, 2.4.2, 2.4.3, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.2.3, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 3.3.5, 4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.2.1 for the original CORINE land cover and Finland and 2.3, 2.4, 3.2, 3.3, 4.1 in Sweden, Switzerland and GB. (see land cover database meta data for clarification of CORINE land cover codes).

Map Agricultural areas:

The EUNIS type I is included in this habitat type. The corresponding CORINE land cover classes are drawn on the map. The identification of the CORINE land cover classes is based on the conversion table (see above).

Map Forest areas:

The EUNIS type G is included in this habitat type. The corresponding CORINE land cover classes are drawn on the map. The identification of the CORINE land cover classes is based on the conversion table (see above).

Created data sets:

No new data sets have been created. For

- wooded species
- grassland and sparsely vegetated areas
- agricultural areas

look-up-tables have been created to draw only the selected classes and the rest in grey.