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FOR 361.01: Range Forage Plants

Unknown

University of Montana - Missoula

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SYLLABUS
F - 361
RANGE FORAGE PLANTS

Range Forage Plants (F-361) is to assist resource students in plant identification, familiarize students with key species encountered in different habitats, and provide some appreciation of different plant values and the complexities of plant life found on rangeland. A major portion of the course will be grass identification and keying of common grasses in western Montana. A plant collection and paper on a topic related to forage plants are required.

During the course we will discuss forage plant identification and morphology and physiology requirements for management of grazing areas. We will discuss some important forage plants for wildlife and livestock, some indicator habitat type plants, hay species, poisonous plants, and major weeds. Although important plants for categorizing the range ecosystem encompass many plant families the plant families we discuss in more detail include Asteraceae, Boraginaceae, Brassicaceae, Chenopodiaceae, Fabaceae, Poaceae, and Rosaceae. Students will be required to memorize scientific and common name, family or tribe, and forage value of approximately 250 plants that will be covered during the semester.