

Guidelines for the use of the Functional role of vegetation Spreadsheet

1. Columns and rows where data can be keyed in have a white background. Any columns with a coloured background will have computed values inserted as calculations proceed.
2. Be aware of the correct data dimensions needed (see top of data sheet columns).
3. When keying data in, completing each row allows easier correction of errors than keying in one column at a time.
4. Up to four vegetation layers are provided for in the spreadsheet, but fewer layers are OK.
5. If vegetation species identity is recorded, select an appropriate abbreviation.
6. The nature of vegetation to be assessed can be decided by the observer, according to their needs. For example, “all perennial grasses” vs a selected perennial grass; all shrub species and sizes vs a specific shrub and > than a specified size. The procedure is extremely versatile and can be adapted to specific needs.
7. All of the summed computed values appear at the end of the spreadsheet after line 100.
8. Both PCQ and WQ data use the same spreadsheet. It is only the collection of data in the field that changes.
9. Graphical outputs for foliage volume and vegetation cross-section are located in the Summary section