

Determining the Plant Species of our Local Forest

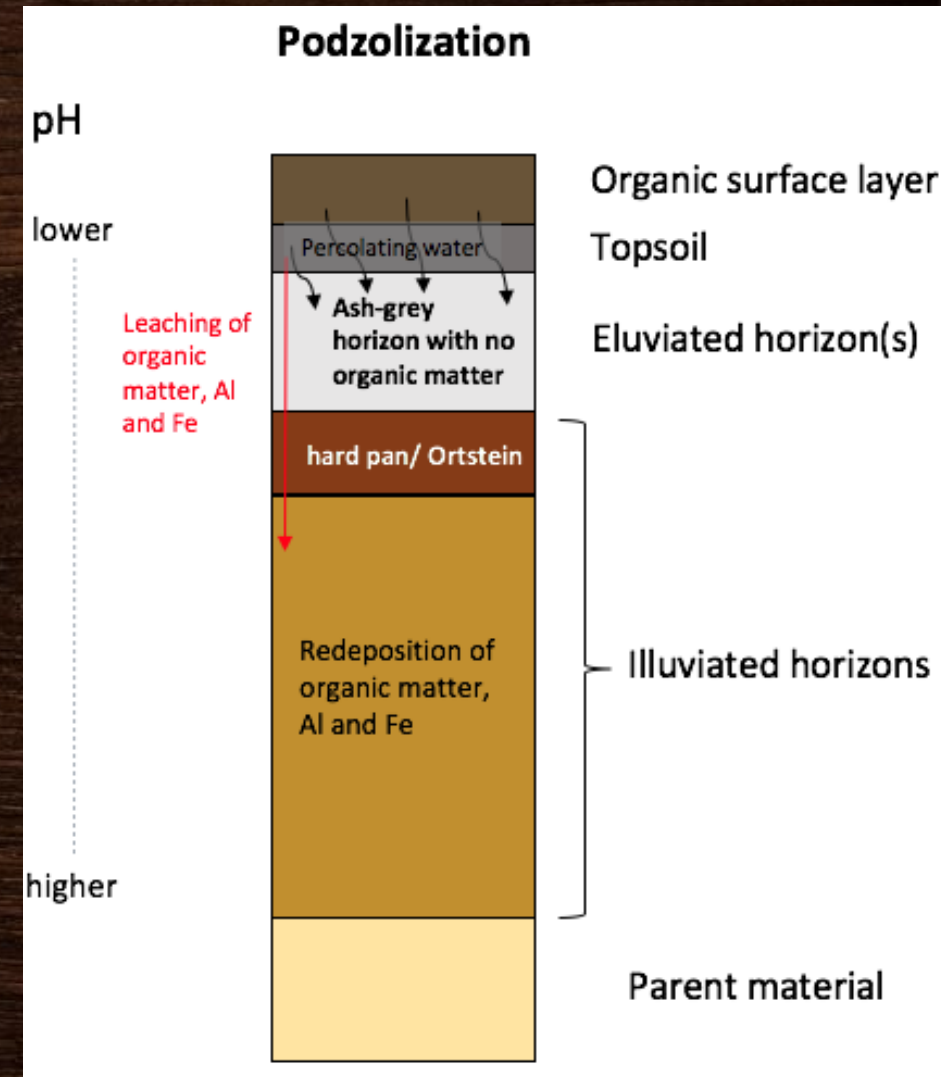
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The Project

- Our educational goal was to practice field studies in biology
- Our assignment was to determine to plant species of two very different areas of the local forest
 - The first area was a moist boreal forest in a natural state
 - The second area was a clear cut, that has been cut down five years ago
- We took a 1m x 1m square from each of the forest types and counted the plants individually by species

The Soil

- The soil of both areas is a type podzol
- The podzol is constructed of 5 main layers
 - The organic surface layer made of leaves and other organic material
 - The topsoil is composed of dispersed organic material
 - The eluviated horizons already contain many of the nutrients that have flushed down with rain water
 - The illuviated horizons contain most of the nutrients from the organic matter
 - The parent material is unchanged original soil



Clear cut area 1



Clear cut area 2



Clear cut area 3



Moist Boreal Forest 1



Moist Boreal Forest 2



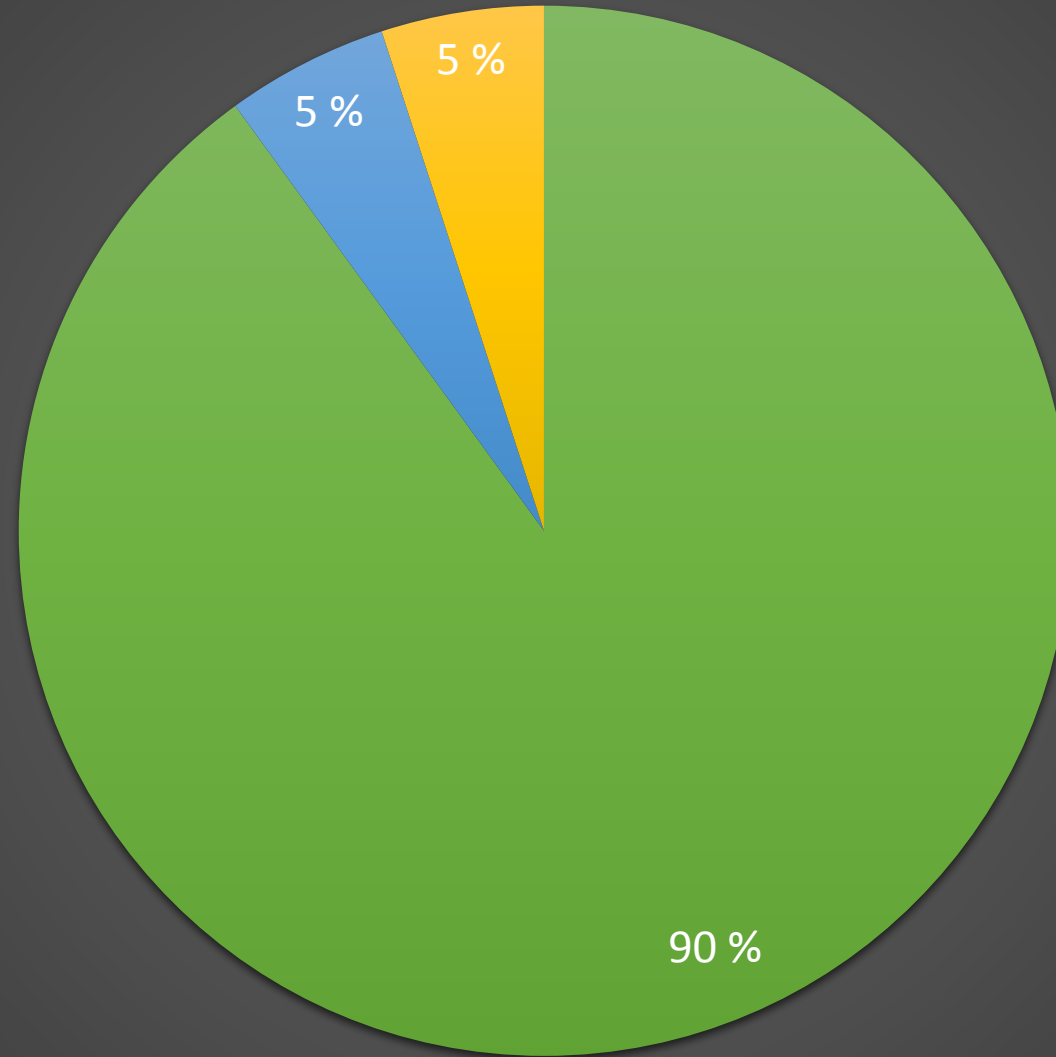
Moist Boreal Forest 3



Charts

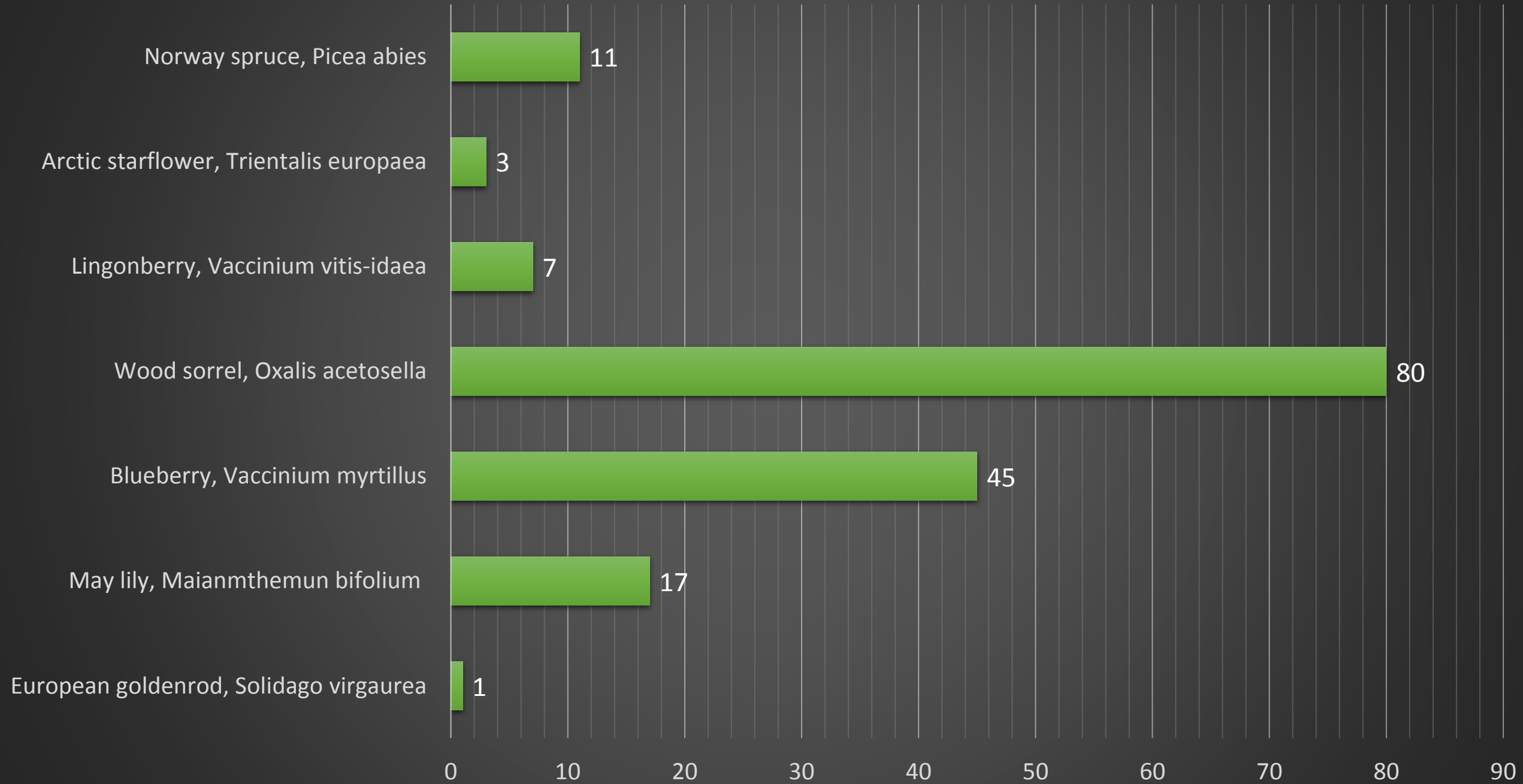
- We made charts of the collected data with Microsoft Excel to better illustrate our results
- As mentioned before, all the results were measured from a 1m x 1m sample area

Ground layer in a moist boreal forest - percentage



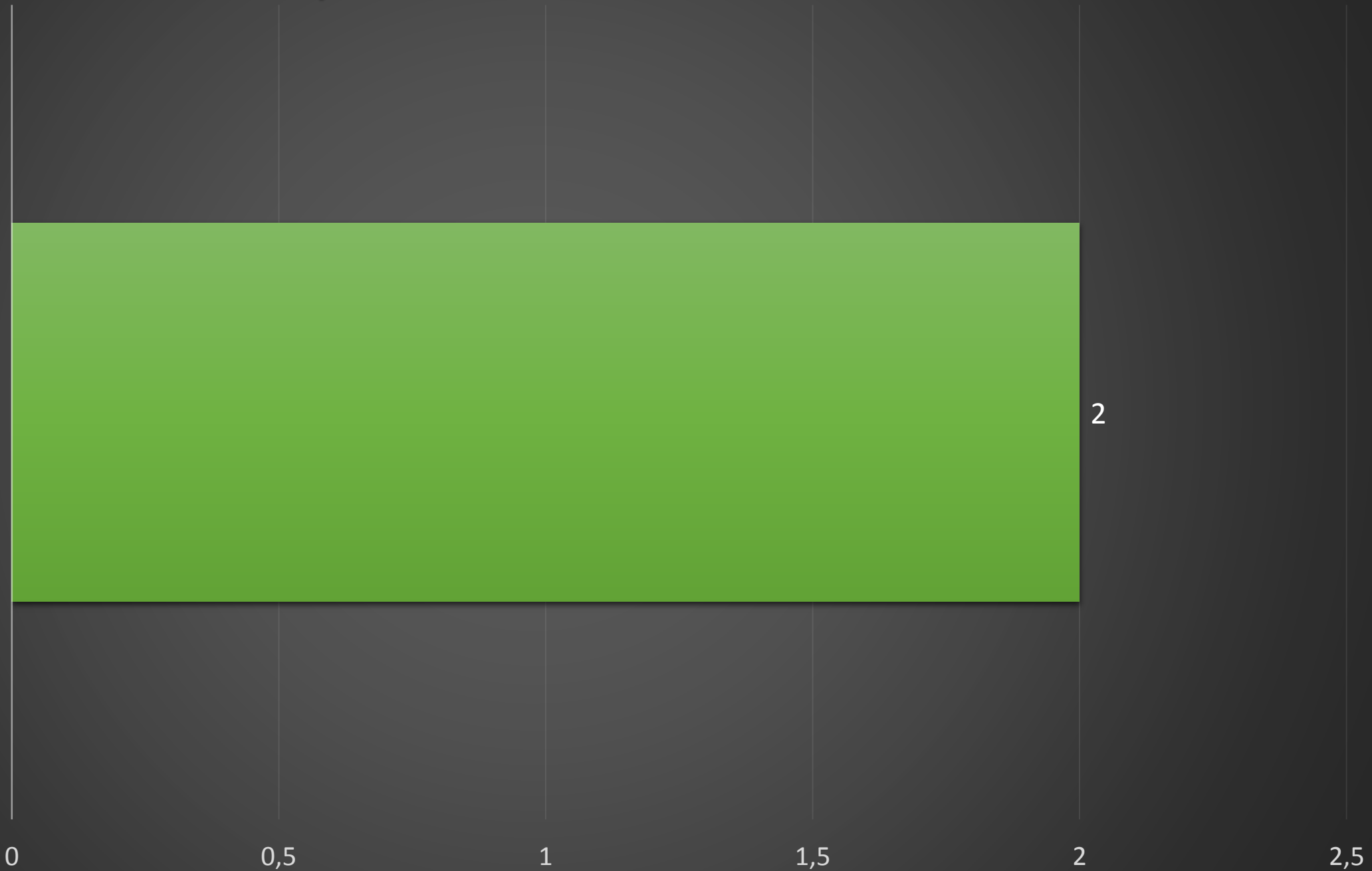
■ Red-stemmed feathermoss, *Pleurozium schreberi* ■ Fork-moss, *Dicranum majus* ■ Many-fruited thyme-moss, *Plagiomnium affine*

Field layer in a moist boreal forest - amount



Shrub layer in a moist boreal forest - amount

Rowan, *Sorbus aucuparia*

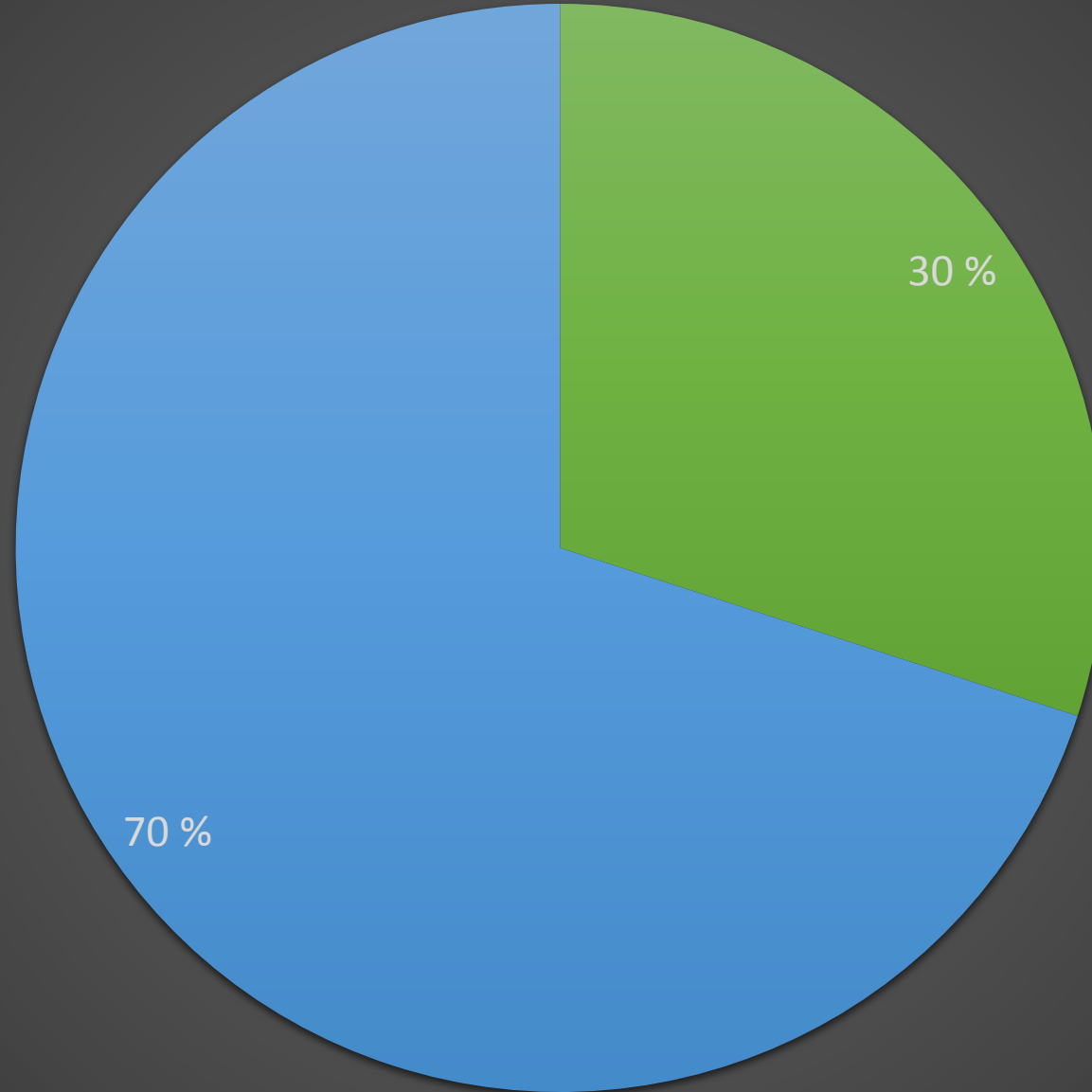


Ground layer in an area after clearcutting - percentage



■ No plants

Field layer in an area after clearcutting - percentage



■ Wood small-reed, Calamagrostis epigejos

■ Other grasses, Poaceae

Shrub layer in an area after clearcutting - amount

