

Measure Tree Height on Level Ground: Simplified Clinometer Technique

Field Guide

Task

Measure heights of shrubs and/or trees to help determine the MUC class of your Land Cover Sample Sites.

What You Need

- 50 m measuring tape
- Flexible measuring tape
- Small bean bag
- Measure Tree Height on Level Ground: Simplified Clinometer Technique Data Sheet*
- Pen or pencil
- Permanent tree markers (optional)
- Clinometer
- Species ID keys and/or other local species guides
- Blindfold

In the Field

1. Work in a team of two or three. Move away from the base of the tree until the clinometer reads 45 degrees when you see the top of the tree through the straw.
2. Have your partner stretch the 50 m measuring tape from the base of the tree to your toes. Your partner should then step on the tape at the ground and then run it up to your eye level.
3. This is the height of the tree. Record this on the *Measure Tree Height on Level Ground: Simplified Clinometer Technique Data Sheet*.
4. Repeat steps 1-3 two more times for each tree and report the average value.

