

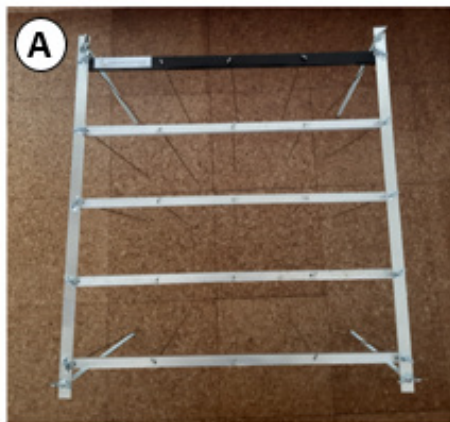
Supplement

ABDUBAKIR U. KUSHBOKOV, ISABEL C. BARRIO AND INGIBJÖRG S. JÓNSDÓTTIR Estimating the effects of grazing exclusion on the seed bank in Icelandic rangelands

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Aboveground vegetation assessments

Aboveground vegetation was assessed using the point intercept method in summer 2021. We used a 50 x 50 cm frame with 25 regularly



A

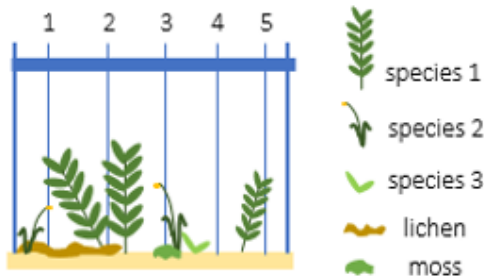


Figure S1. Frame used for point intercept assessments, with 25 fixed points (A) and illustration of how data collection proceeds (B). At each point, the number of hits by each species is recorded, and then tallied across all the points in the frame.

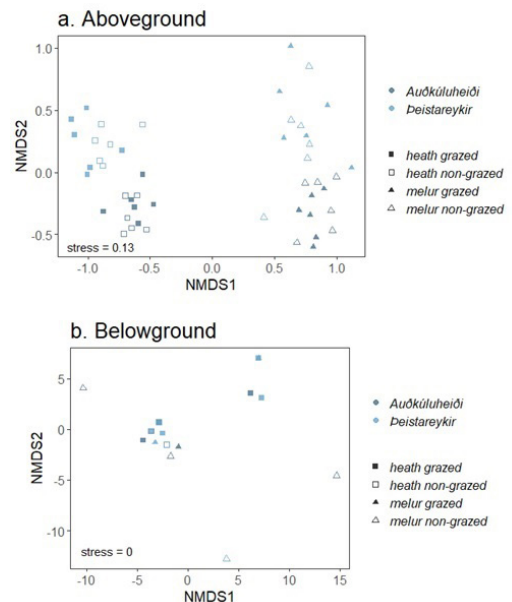


Figure S2. Non-Multidimensional Scaling plots for above- (a) and belowground species composition.

distributed points (**Figure S1**). At each point we recorded the number of intercepts by different plant species. The lowest intercept (at ground level) was also recorded and could be different from a plant species (e.g., litter, bare ground or rocks). In addition, species present in the 50 x 50 cm frame but not hit were recorded as present, with an abundance of 0.1 intercepts. Thus, point intercept data provides information on the number of species present in a plot and their abundance (as approximated by the number of intercepts per plot). We sampled four

permanently marked subplots (50 x 50 cm; 2 m apart) in each plot and the number of intercepts was summed for each plot for a total of 100 points.

For this study we only used data on vascular plant species that can produce seeds, to increase comparability with species present in the soil seed bank. For visualization of the dataset, we present Non Multidimensional Scaling (NMDS) plots for above and belowground vegetation (**Figure S2**), built with the `vegan` package (Oksanen et al 2022) in R. Please note that the plot for belowground species is presented here only for comparative purposes, as the NMDS analysis failed to converge because of insufficient sample size (thus, stress is indicated as zero).

REFERENCES

Oksanen J, Simpson G, Blanchet F, Kindt R, Legendre P, Minchin P, O'Hara R, Solymos P, Stevens M, Szoecs E, Wagner H, Barbour M, Bedward M, Bolker B, Borcard D, Carvalho G, Chirico M, De Caceres M, Durand S, Evangelista H, FitzJohn R, Friendly M, Furneaux B, Hannigan G, Hill M, Lahti L, McGlenn D, Ouellette M, Ribeiro Cunha E, Smith T, Stier A, Ter Braak C, Weedon J (2022). `vegan`: Community Ecology Package. R package version 2.6-2, <<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=vegan>>.