

### Aims

- 1/ collect and identify grass species
  - Build a herbarium
- 2/ Assess grass distribution and abundance (pilot study)
  - search for vegetation types
  - evaluate status of veld
  - correlate grass data with past and future animal / insect projects

### Identification of grass species

1. Observe grass and determine characteristics
2. Use reference floras to identify species

Overall appearance, phenology

Vegetative parts (branching, leaf shape, hairs, ...)

Reproductive parts (inflorescence, spikelets)

### Identification of grass species - results

Genus	species	subspecies	Forage value	Grass number	Found on Kuzikus
Eragrostis	<i>cylindroflora</i>			5	yes
	<i>calamagrostoides</i>		**	22	Yes
	<i>lehmanniana</i>		**	6	Yes
	<i>rigidior</i>		**	8	Not sure
	<i>rotifer</i>		**	9	Yes
Aristida	<i>congesta</i>	<i>congesta</i>	+	1	Yes
	<i>stipitata</i>	<i>stipitata</i>	+	3	Yes
	<i>stipitata</i>		+	11	Yes
	<i>meridionalis</i>		**	13	Yes
Stipagrostis	<i>uniplumis</i>	<i>uniplumis</i>	**	2	Yes
	<i>complanata</i>		**	14	Yes
	<i>hutchinsoniana</i>	<i>arcalina</i>	+	18	Yes
	<i>calata</i>		**	19	Yes, confirm species
Schmidtia	<i>induripennis</i>		+	4	no
	<i>psophodesoides</i>		+++		yes
Pogonarthria	<i>fleckii</i>		+	7	Not yet
Digitaria	<i>seriata</i>		+++	10	yes
Sporobolus	<i>nodulosus</i>		**	15	yes
Cynodon	<i>dactylon</i>		+	16	Yes, confirm species
Setaria	<i>verticillata</i>		+	17	yes
Cenchrus	<i>ciliaris</i>		+++	20	Yes, confirm species
Digitaria	<i>velutina</i>		+	21	yes
Anthephora			+++		

### Grasses of the open veld

Annual:

*Eragrostis cylindroflora*  
*Schmidtia kalahariensis*  
*Pogonarthria fleckii*

Perennial:

*Stipagrostis uniplumis*  
*Aristida congesta*  
*Aristida stipitata* (2 subsp.)  
*Eragrostis lehmanniana*  
*Aristida meridionalis*  
*Eragrostis rotifer*  
*Eragrostis rigidior*

### Grasses in bushes


Annual:

*Eragrostis cylindroflora*  
*Setaria verticillata*  
*Digitaria velutina*  
 ...

Perennial:

*Stipagrostis uniplumis*  
*Eragrostis lehmanniana*  
*Eragrostis rotifer*  
*Eragrostis rigidior*  
 ...

**BRINK** Grasses around waterholes




*Stipagrostis hochstetteriana secalina*

Annual:  
*Schmidtia kalahariensis*  
 ...

Perennial:  
*Stipagrostis namaquensis*  
*Stipagrostis hochstetteriana secalina*  
*Stipagrostis ciliata* (?)  
*Eragrostis echinochloides*  
*Digitaria seriatia*  
*Cynodon dactylon*  
*Cenchrus ciliaris*  
 ...

**BRINK** Grasses in pans



*Sporobolus ioclados*

Annual:  
 ...

Perennial:  
*Stipagrostis hochstetteriana secalina*  
*Sporobolus ioclados*  
 ...

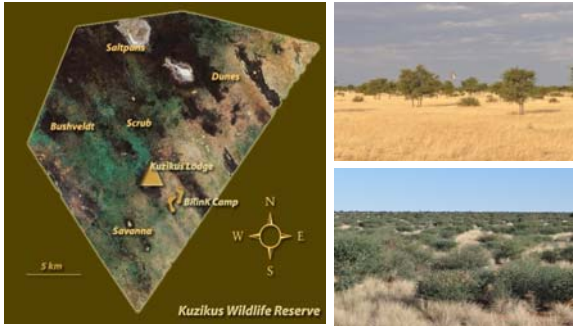
**BRINK** Grass identification - Summary

- Fairly good coverage of plant species in open veld ...
- Identify more species around waterholes, pans and bushes

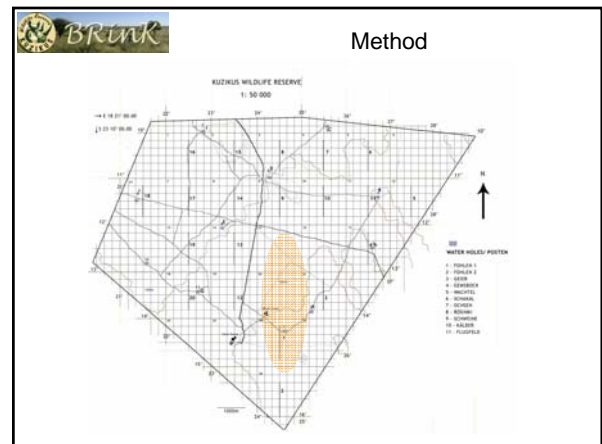
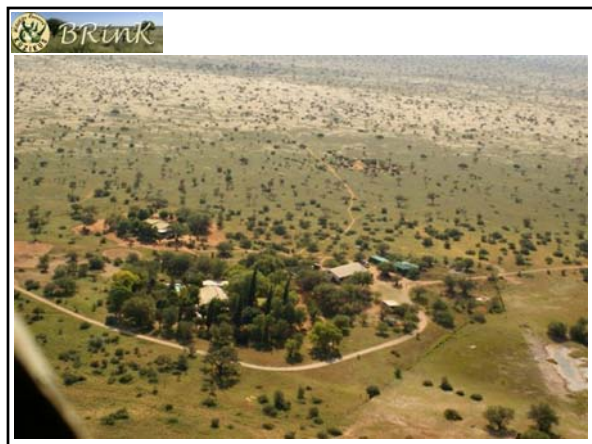


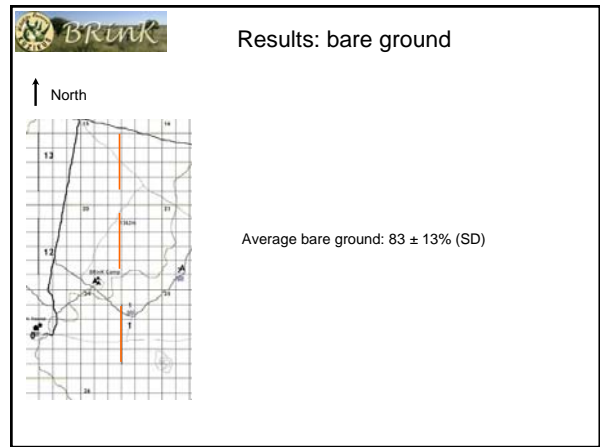
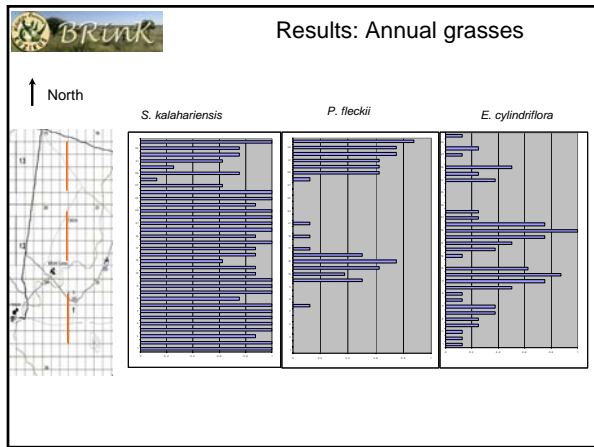
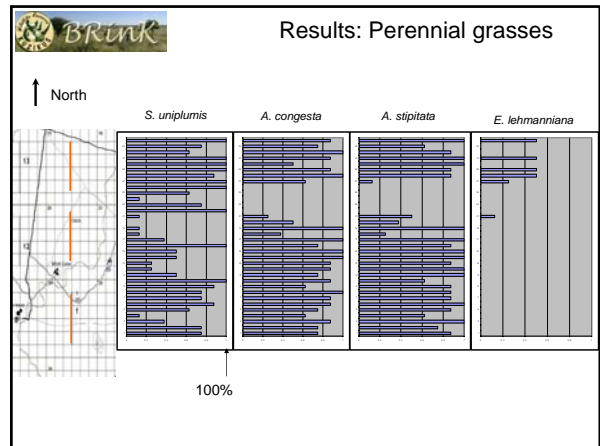
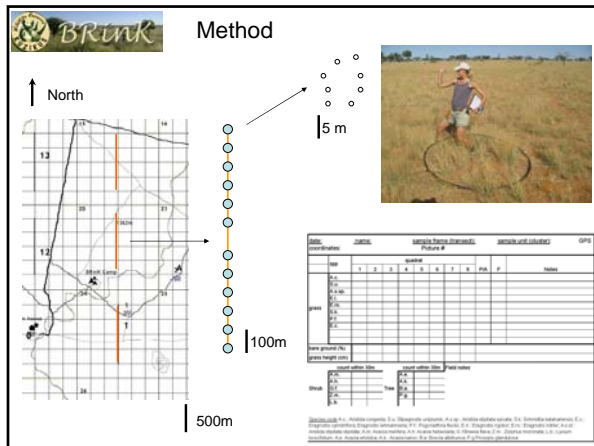
→ Use repertoire of veld species to assess veld status

**BRINK** Pilot study: Occurrence and abundance of grasses in open veld ("eriolobaland")



Kuzikus Wildlife Reserve





**BRINK** Veld grass distribution - Summary





Thanks for your attention!

