

Plant species metadata

When using these data, please cite:

Mainka, M.; Bakker, L.; Maier, A.; Ruethers, J.; Bakke Westergaard, K.; Fior, S.; Frossard, A.; Griepentrog, M.; Van de Broek, M.; Wilken, F, Dötterl, S.; Alexander, J.; Magnabosco, C. (2025): Arctic Greening Database. v0.1. GFZ Data Services. <https://doi.org/10.5880/fidgeo.2025.074>

Introduction

In this data sheet all measured parameter were directly assessed in the field per biplot. The datasheet contains the unique species and plot ID, the respective date of observations, the observed species and its relative cover per biplot.

Table 1. General information

project_name	ETH+ Arctic Greening
creation_date	2024-11-12
last_modification_date	2025-04-11
sampling_period	2022-07-09 – 2023-08-09
creator	Jana Ruethers
contact_1	jana.ruethers@usys.ethz.ch
contact_2	Jake.alexander@usys.ethz.ch
number_samples	788
processing_status	complete
upload_status	structured

Table 2. Variable overview

variable	explanation	unit
species_id	Unique species_id per observation	-
plot_id	plot_id of the respective observations	-
species	Identified species per observation	
date	Date of the observation	Date format
cover	Respective plant cover of the respective species	%

Methods

Sample processing All data was directly measured in the field, no later processing was needed.

Sample analysis

Samples of unknown species were collected and later identified with Svalbardflora (Svalbardflora.no) and botanists. Most plant species were directly identified in the field. When this was not possible, example specimens were placed in a plant press for later identification in the laboratory.