

CLIMATOGRAMS AND BIOMES

Climatogram: a graph of temperatures and precipitation over the course of a year.

Why are climatograms useful?

-They allow us to predict the type of biome that will exist in a given region.

Biomes: a regional ecosystem with a characteristic set of plants and animals.

SELECTED LAND BIOMES

Biome	Precipitation (cm)	Other Information	Temperature (°C)	Plants	Animals
Prairies	51-88	in spring	hot summers, cool-cold winters	dense tall grass	herding animals
Temperate forest	75-150	even throughout year	-30 to 30	oak, hickory, beech, hemlock, maple, elm	squirrels, rabbits, birds, deer, bobcats, foxes
Tropical Forest	>200	even throughout year	20-25	trees, orchids, bromeliads, vines, palms,	birds, bats, sm. Mammals, insects
Taiga	40-100	mostly snow	very cold!	Evergreen conifers, pine, fir, and spruce	woodpeckers, hawks, moose, bear, weasel, lynx, fox wolf, hares, shrews
tundra	little rainfall	severe winds, all light summers and all dark winters, permafrost low nutrients	very cold winters	grows flat on ground, hairs, flowers parabola shaped, heliotrophic, pollination wind driven	glycerol in body tissues for antifreeze, white fur, fat insulation, hibernation, insects live in H ₂ O in winter
Deserts	<50 H ₂ O evap. Before hit ground	cover 20% land	20-25 extremes -18 to 50	shrubs, sm trees, spines, thorns	nocturnal, few mammals, mostly reptiles, amphibians have accelerated life cycles, many animals burrow