GCSE Biology required practical activity: Field investigations

Risk Assessment

- Wash hands after handling seeds.

Method

You are provided with the following:

- a 0.5 m^2 quadrat
- a 30 m tape measure
- a clipboard
- a pen
- paper.

Read these instructions carefully before you start work:

1. Put the 30 m tape measure across a trampled area of the school field to form a transect line.

2. Put the 1 m^2 quadrat against the transect line. One corner of the quadrat should touch the 0 m mark on the tape measure.

3. Count the number of daisy plants within the quadrat.

4. Record the number of daisies counted within the quadrat in a table such as the one here.

Distance along the transect line in m	Number of daisy plants per 1 m² quadrat	
	Trampled	Un-trampled
0		
5		
10		
15		
20		
25		
30		
Mean number of daisy plants per m²		

5. Move the quadrat 5 m up the transect line and count the number of daisy plants again. Record in the table.

6. Continue to place the quadrat at 5 m intervals and count the number of daisy plants in each quadrat.

7. Calculate the mean number of daisy plants per m² for the trampled area.

8. Move the 30 m tape measure to an un-trampled area of the school field to form the new transect line.

9. Repeat steps **2–7** for the un-trampled transect line.

10. Compare the population size of daisies in the trampled and un-trampled areas of the field.