

INTRODUCTION

TOPIC: GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEM

INTRODUCTION TO GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEM

- As the name implies, grasslands are open spaces in which a variety of grasses grow, with only a few trees scattered near rivers and streams
- Grassland are big open Areas that get between 25 and 75 cm of rain per year
- Some Grassland are Hot all year round. Some Grassland have very hot Summer and very Cold Winter
- There are two main types of Grassland i.e, Temperate Grassland and the Savanna



TEMPERATE GRASSLANDS

- The temperate grasslands (also called prairies, steppes, pampas and veld) are found in all four corners of the world
- The largest expanse is the Great Plains of North America
- Grasslands are defined by their semiarid climates, with 10-30 inches of precipitation annually (mostly in snow form depending on latitude)
- Temperatures range from -40 to over 70 F



Butterfly weed



Prairie dog

SAVANN AS

- Also known as tropical grasslands
They are found in a wide band on either side of the equator on the edges of tropical rainforests.
- The savanna is characterized by very hot temperatures and distinctive wet and dry periods
- During the winter less than 4 inches of rain can fall but they can receive over 25 inches during the summer months



Gum-Arabic tree



Emu

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SAVANNA AND Temperate Grassland

- Savanna gets more rainfall(20-50inches) than a temperate grassland(20-35inches) annually
- The grass grows better on Savanna Grassland than in the Temperate Grassland
- The soils in Temperate Grassland is rich in Nutrient and is suitable for cultivation where as in Savanna, Soils are frequently nutrient poor and dry but contain many valuable minerals

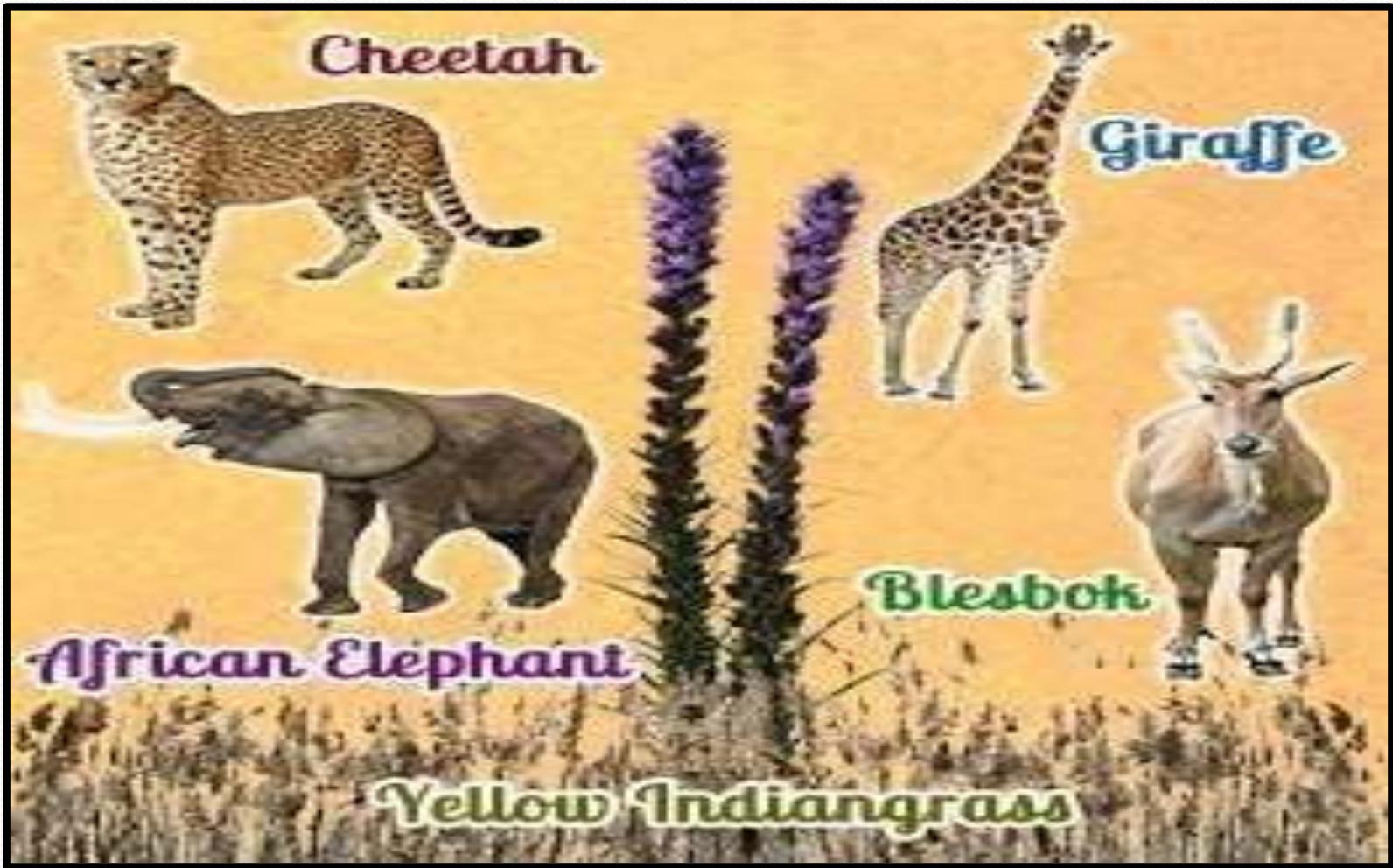


Temperate Grassland



Savanna Grassland

ANIMALS OF THE GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEM



African Savannah









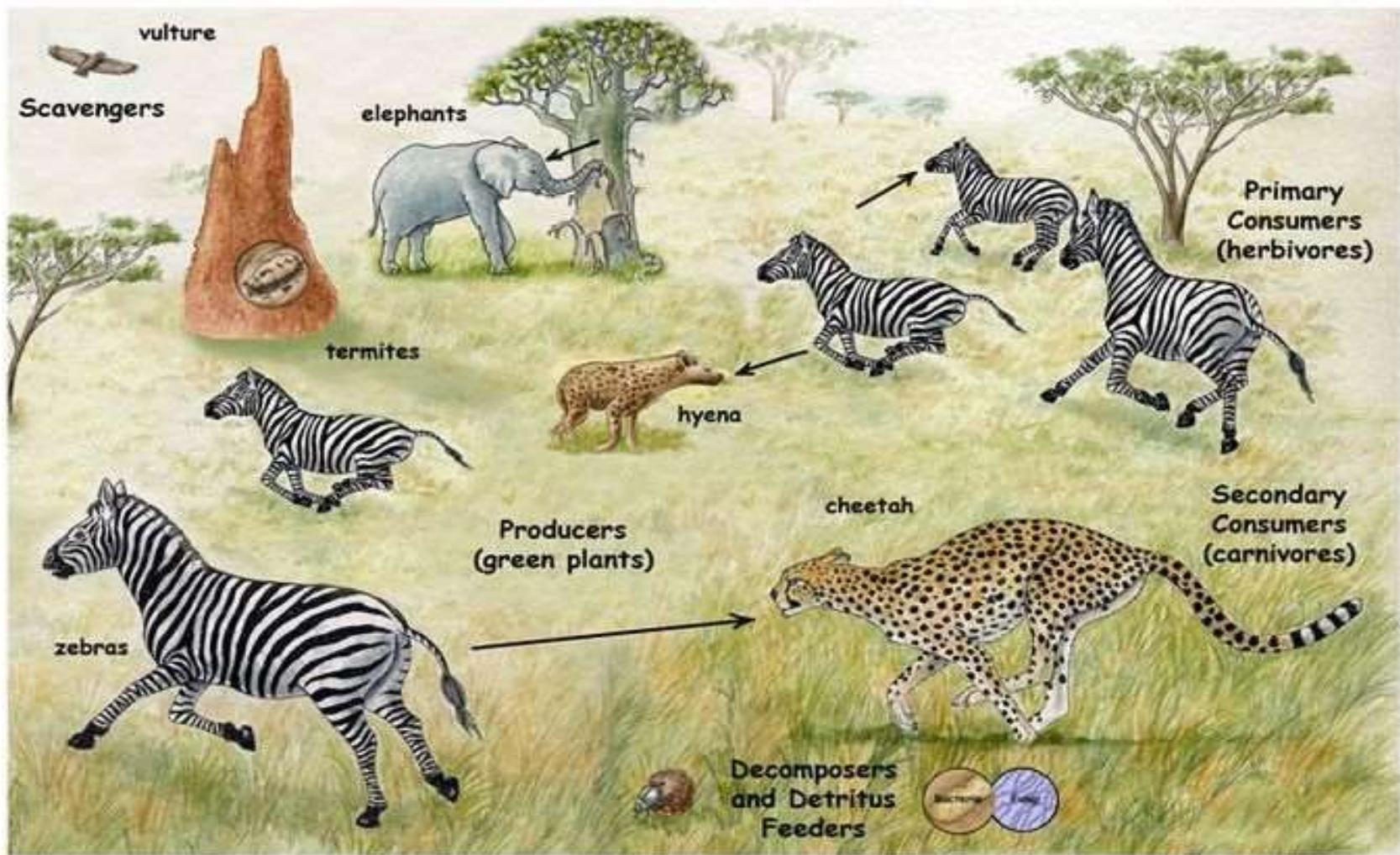
PLANTS OF THE GRASSLAND ECOSYSTEM



Plants

- Acacia Senegal
- Baobab
- Bermuda Grass
- Candelabra Tree
- Elephant Grass
- Jackalberry Tree
- Manketti Tree
- River Bushwillow
- Umbrella Thorn Acacia
- Whistling Thorn

Grassland Food Web





CHARACTERISTICS OF GRASSLANDS

CS:

- Ecosystems in which the predominant vegetation type consists of various grasses rather than trees or large shrubs
- Grasslands may be divided into several types, including savannas, temperate grasslands, tallgrass prairies, steppes, alpine tundra and flooded grasslands, among others
- The type of grassland that occurs in a particular region is based on the latitude, terrain, local climate, precipitation and wildfire regime
- It occurs in Regions that are too dry for forest but have sufficient soil water to support a closed Herbaceous plant canopy that is lacking in Desert

CHARACTERISTICS OF GRASSLANDS

CS:

- It occurs in Regions that are too dry for forest but have sufficient soil water to support a closed Herbaceous plant canopy that is lacking in Desert
- Grasslands are found primarily on plains or rolling topography in the interiors of great land masses, and from sea level to elevations of nearly 16,400 ft (5000 m) in the Andes
- Because of their continental location they experience large differences in seasonal climate and wide ranges in diurnal condition
- There is at least one dry season during the year, and drought conditions occur periodically

THREAT

S:

- Continued global warming could turn current marginal grasslands into deserts as rainfall patterns change.
- Land once incompatible with row-crop agriculture, but which provided a living to ranching families and habitat for prairie wildlife, is being converted to row crops.
- Development of urban areas is increasingly cutting into grassland habitat.



THREAT

S:

- Drought-hardy, cold-resistant, and herbicide-tolerant varieties of soybeans, wheat, and corn allow crops to expand into native grassland.
Where only one crop is grown, pests and disease can spread easily, creating the need for potentially toxic pesticides.
- Grasslands are home to some of the most magnificent animals on the planet—elephants, bison, lions—and hunters have found them to be enticing prey. But when hunting is not controlled or is conducted illegally, species can be wiped out



HOW TO CONSERVE IT???

- Preventing Illegal Wildlife Hunting
- Prevents grassland from turning into brush land
- Prevent Grassland Fires
- Prevent Overgrazing by Cattles and introduced Stall feeding
- Creating Protected areas such as Parksand Wildlife Sanctuaries



IMPORTANCE:

- Grasslands are of vital importance for raising **livestock** for human consumption and for **milk**
- Grasslands provided home to many❖ hunted and domesticated
- They are used as grazing area for cattle of Rugler Community
- They Maintain Biodiversity
- Protects restored habitat for many plants and animals including



A stylized illustration of a giraffe and its calf standing in a grassy field. The giraffe is brown with tan spots and has a long neck. The calf is smaller and also has brown and tan markings. They are positioned in front of a large tree with many green leaves. The background is a light yellow color.

Thank
You