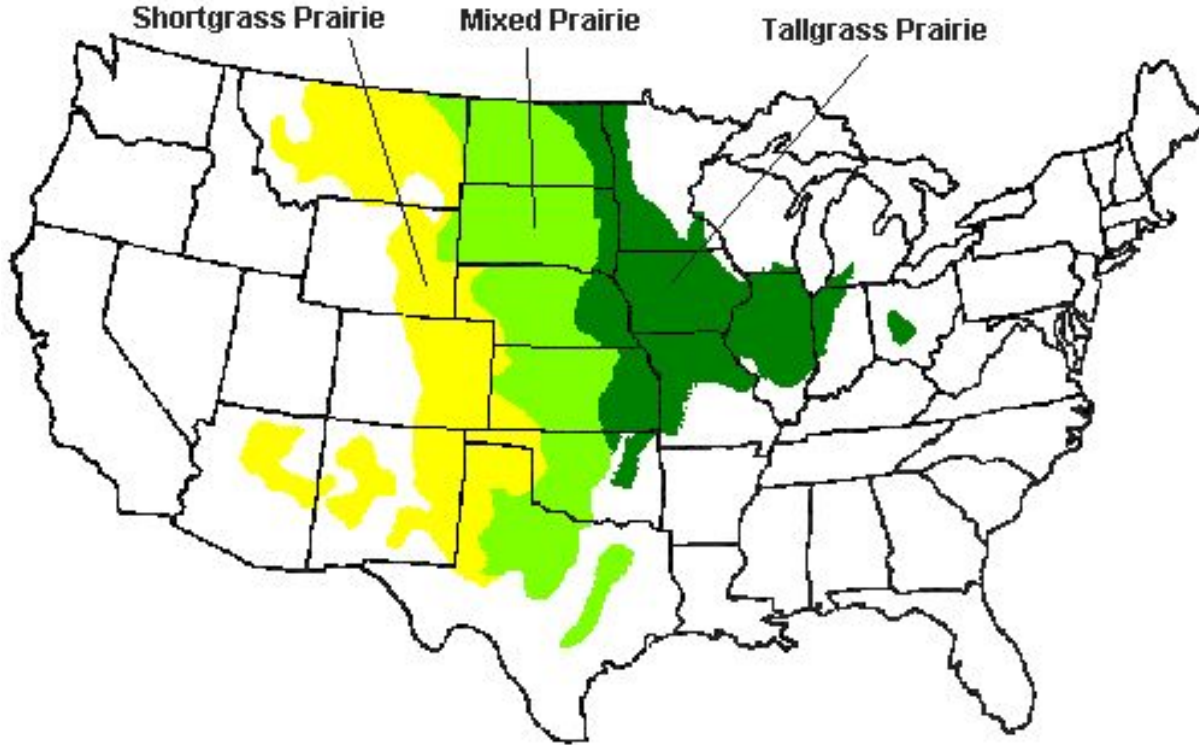


# Grasslands of North America

# Tallgrass Prairie



# Tallgrass Prairie

## Average Rainfall

- a. 30-35 inches (760-890 mm)

## Description of Climate

- b. Climate is variable
- c. Average low temperature: 27 F
- d. Average high temperature: 80 F
- e. Rainfall varies depending on year, but tends to be moist year round

# Tallgrass Prairie

## Dominant grass types (3)

- a. Big bluestem
- b. Switchgrass
- c. Indian grass



# Tallgrass Prairie

## Dominant fauna

- a. Bison
- b. Franklin's ground squirrel
- c. Greater Prairie Chicken
- d. Deer mouse
- e. least shrew



# Tallgrass Prairie

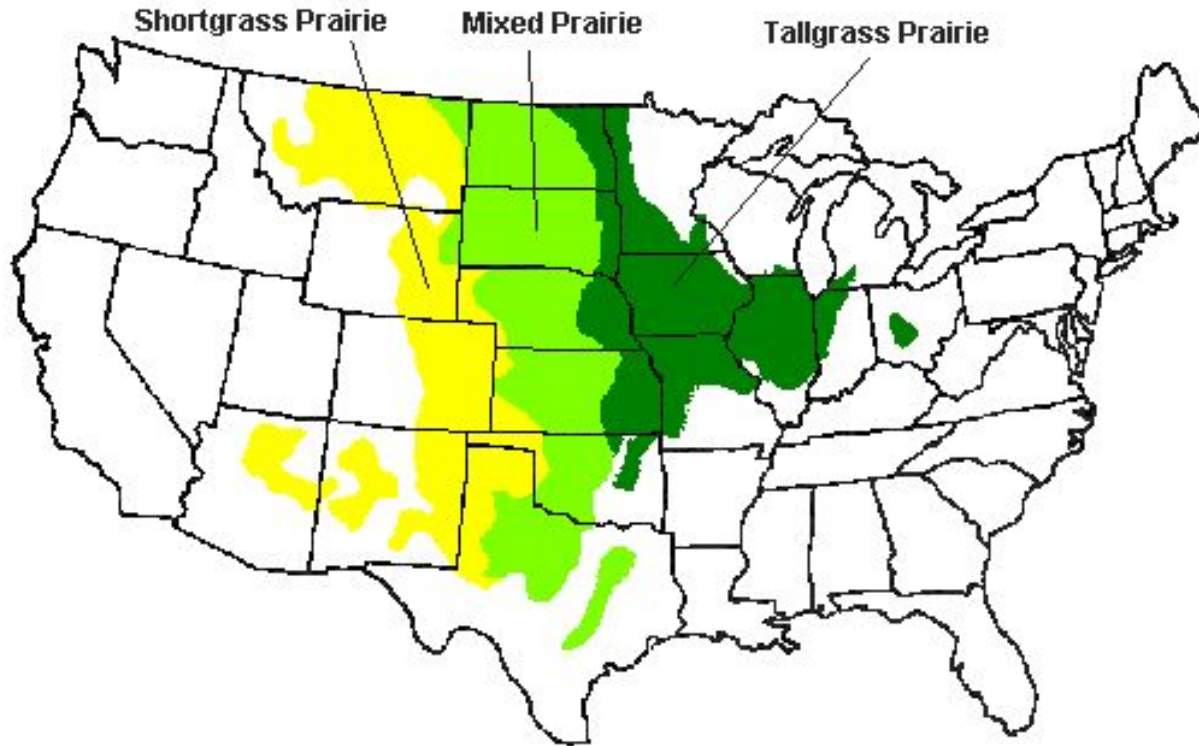


## Reasons for decline

- a. Farming
  - i. Plowing and cultivation
- b. Near extermination of prairie dogs
- c. Confined grazing patterns of European cattle



# Mixed Grass Prairie





# Mixed Grass Prairie

## Average Rainfall

- a. 12-24 inches (304-609 mm)

## Description of Climate

- b. Climate varies
- c. Hot summers to cold winters
  - i. Up to 110 F
  - ii. Down to -40 F



# Mixed Grass Prairie

## Dominant grass types (3)

- a. Western wheatgrass
- b. Needlegrass
- c. Grama grass
- d. Buffalo grass



# Mixed Grass Prairie

## Dominant fauna

- a. Black-tailed prairie dog
- b. Coyotes
- c. Bighorn sheep
- d. Turkey vultures
- e. Mule deer



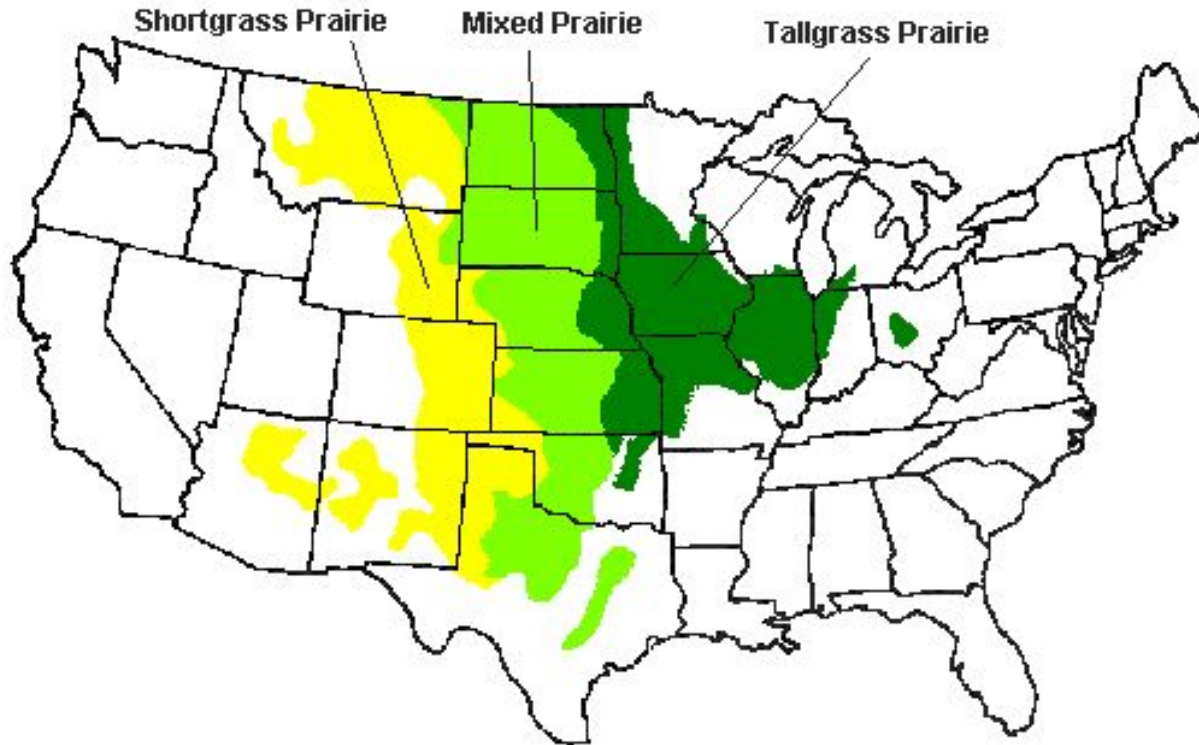
# Mixed Grass Prairie

## Reasons for decline

- a. Agriculture
- b. Suppressing wildfires
- c. Invasive woody species



# Short Grass Prairie



# Short Grass Prairie

## Average Rainfall

- a. 10-12 inches (254-305 mm)

## Description of Climate

- b. Cold, dry winters
- c. Warm to hot summers



# Short Grass Prairie

## Dominant grass types

- a. Blue grama
- b. Sideoats grama
- c. Greasegrass (Purple Top)



# Short Grass Prairie

## Dominant fauna

- a. Domestic cattle
- b. Pronghorn
- c. Burrowing owl
- d. Ornate box turtle
- e. Mountain plover





# Short Grass Prairie

## Reasons for decline

- a. Agriculture
- b. Suppression of wildfires



# Desert Grassland



# Desert Grassland

## Average Rainfall

- a. 10 inches (254 mm)

## Description of Climate

- b. Hot summers
- c. Cold winters

# Desert Grassland

## Dominant grass types

- a. Black grama
- b. Tobosa
- c. Sacaton
- d. Curly Mesquite



# Desert Grassland

## Dominant fauna

- a. Javelina
- b. Cicada
- c. Harvester ant
- d. Great blue heron



# Desert Grassland

## Reasons for decline

- a. Livestock grazing



# Palouse Prairie





# Palouse Prairie

## Average Rainfall

- a. 10-30 inches (250-760 mm)

## Description of Climate

- b. Average temp 45-54 F
- c. Snow in winter, warmer through spring & summer (usually dry)

# Palouse Prairie

## Dominant grass types

- a. Bluebunch wheatgrass
- b. Idaho fescue
- c. Prairie junegrass



# Palouse Prairie

## 1. Dominant fauna

- a. American kestrel
- b. Ring-necked pheasant
- c. Horned lark
- d. Bobcat
- e. Blacktail jackrabbit



# Palouse Prairie

1. Reasons for decline
  - a. Intensive farming
  - b. Agriculture
  - c. Fire suppression

