

OLLSCOIL NA hÉIREANN, GAILLIMH
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND, GALWAY

AUTUMN EXAMINATIONS, 2001

THIRD-YEAR SCIENCE

BOTANY

BT306: Plant ecology and palaeoecology (Environmental Botany)

Professor M.J. Dring
Professor M.D. Guiry
Professor M. O'Connell
Dr J. Fuller

Time allowed: *Three hours.*

Answer *four* questions.

1. With regard to the Braun Blanquet method, write concise notes on the following:
 - (i) cover-abundance scales;
 - (ii) character species;
 - (iii) units for vegetation classification.
2. Discuss the main factors to be taken into account when interpreting pollen diagrams.
3. Give a concise account of the impact of Neolithic man on the natural environment in Ireland.
4. Give an illustrated account of the origin, development and vegetation of raised bogs.
5. Describe the main types of woodland found in Ireland and the environmental factors that influence their floristic composition.
6. Describe the principal soil types that occur in Ireland and the type of vegetation they may support.
7. "A long-term perspective is essential to understand the vegetation cover of the modern Irish landscape". Discuss.