

Temperate pasture



NEW ZEALAND
CREDIT: GISELA ANDERSON

Vegetation

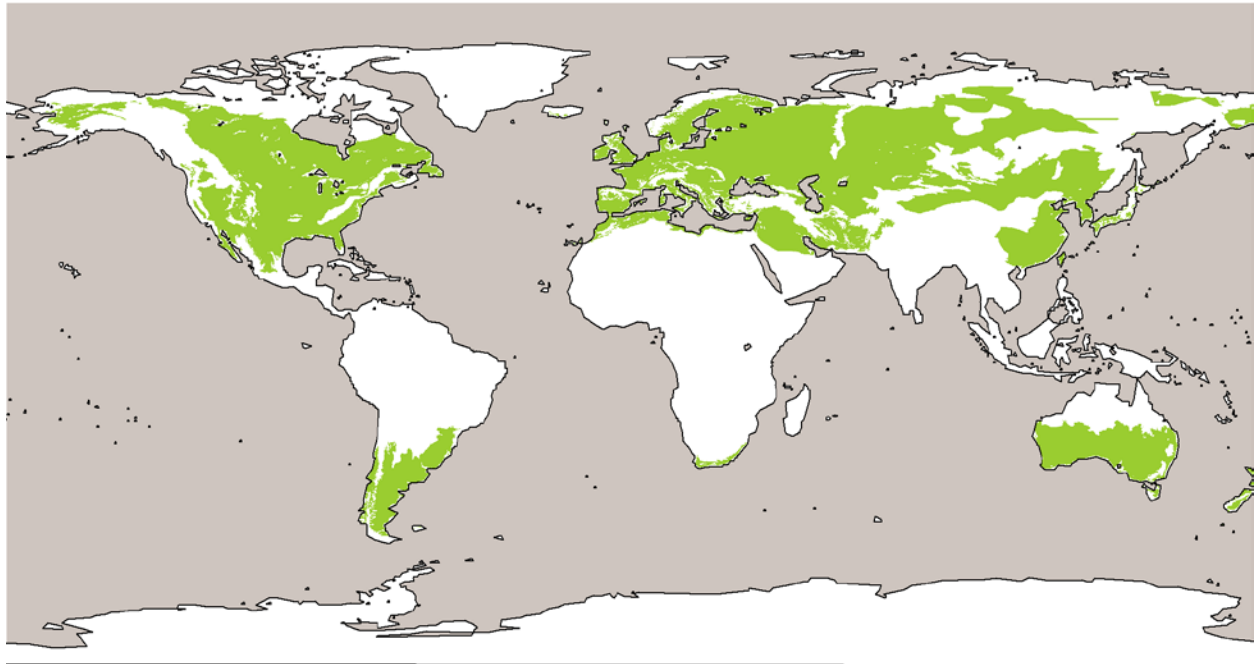
Temperate pasture, as defined here, is grass-dominated (no trees). The calculator assumes moderate, sustainable grazing intensity.

Climate

Temperate pasture is found outside the tropics in climates warm enough to support cattle.

Potential Distribution

This distribution map illustrates the climate zones in which this ecosystem type occurs, with stippled areas indicating climate zones where it is rare. It is not present in all parts of its climatic range.



Climate regulation value

The average greenhouse gas value for ecosystems of this type is 81 metric tons CO₂-equivalents per hectare over a 50 year time frame (t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹). This includes 143 t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹ from storage of organic matter that would result in greenhouse gas release if cleared and -62 t CO₂-eq ha⁻¹ 50 yrs⁻¹ from ongoing greenhouse gas exchange between the ecosystem and the environment.

The calculator currently lacks appropriate data to calculate the biophysical effects of clearing this ecosystem type.

Considering an average car, emitting 1.1 lb CO₂ per mile driven, clearing 100 square feet (9.3 m²) of this ecosystem type would, on average, be equivalent to driving 150 miles/242 km (counting greenhouse gasses only).