

Supporting Information 2. Typical examples from the variety of nested-plot sampling schemes in GrassPlot.

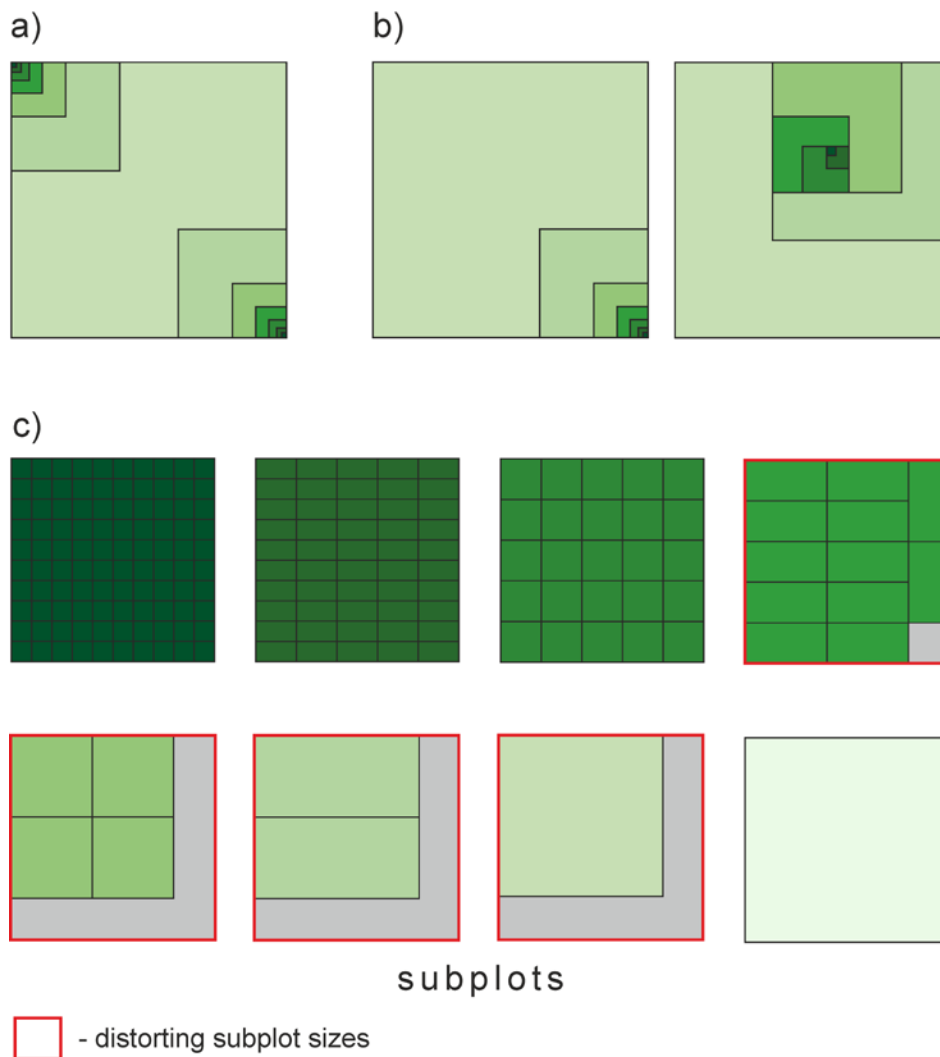


Figure S2.1. Visualisation of three typical ways of nested-plot sampling found in the GrassPlot database: a) Perfect nesting with replication at smaller grain sizes (field sampling standard with two replicates of each grain size except the biggest, which is used during EDGG Field Workshops; for details see Dengler et al., 2016); b) two examples of perfect nesting without replication of the subplots, c) non-perfect nesting, where the smallest subplots completely tessellate the biggest plot. In this example, a typical GLORIA sampling design is shown (Pauli et al., 2015). Only the smallest subplots (P/A) and the biggest plot (% cover) are actually sampled in the field, while all intermediate grain sizes plots are created post hoc by joining species lists of adjacent subplots. To achieve more different grain sizes, we accepted some that did not allow full tessellation of the biggest plot (see grey areas) and thus distorted the complete nesting. When the distorting sizes of subplots were removed, a complete nesting would result.

References

- Dengler, J., Boch, S., Filibeck, G., Chiarucci, A., Dembicz, I., Guarino, R., ... Biurrun, I. (2016). Assessing plant diversity and composition in grasslands across spatial scales: the standardised EDGG sampling methodology. *Bulletin of the Eurasian Grassland Group*, 32, 13–30.
- Pauli, H., Gottfried, M., Lamprecht, A., Niessner, S., Rumpf, S. Winkler, M., ... Grabherr, G. (Eds.) (2015). *The GLORIA field manual – standard Multi-Summit approach, supplementary methods and extra approaches* (5th ed.). Vienna: GLORIA-Coordination, Austrian Academy of Sciences & University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences.