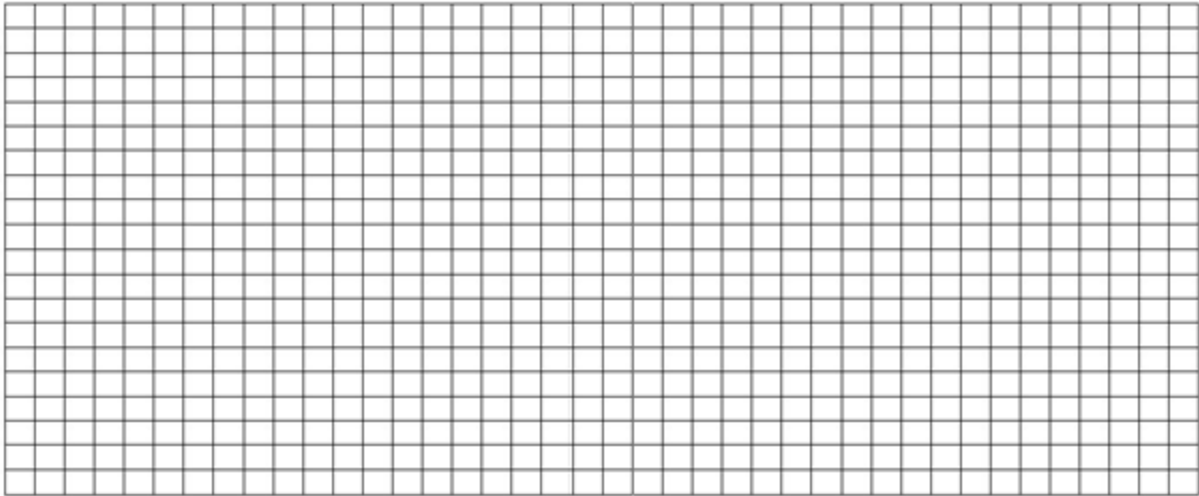


Graphing the Dust Bowl and Beyond

Tracking the Drought

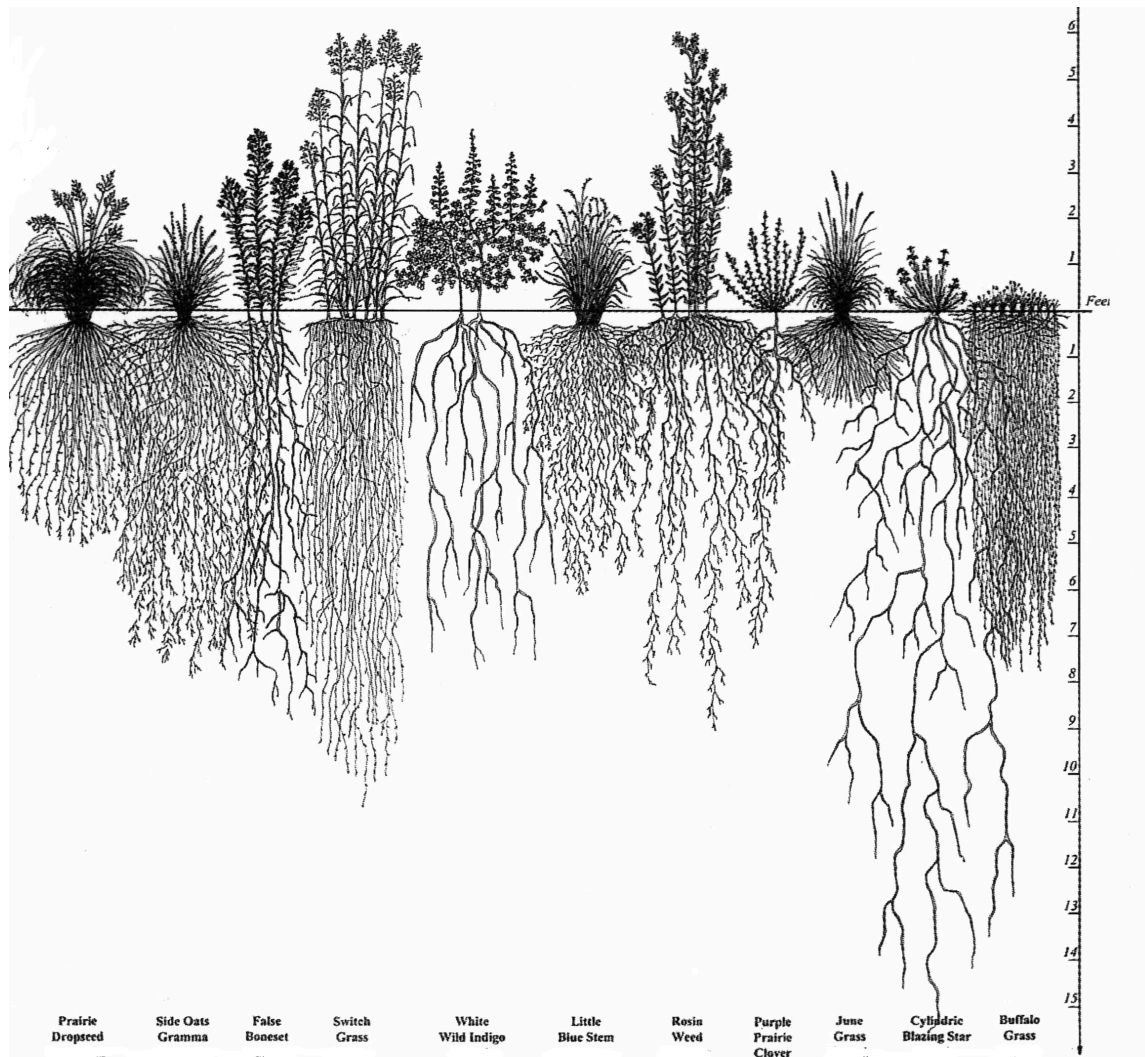
Graph (roughly on paper) the total precipitation from the "beginning" of the Dust Bowl drought to the "end". You pick the best range.

Year	Precipitation (inches)	Year	Precipitation (inches)	Year	Precipitation (inches)
1920	17.45	1930	17.54	1940	11.89
1921	26.63	1931	12.24	1941	36.56
1922	13.05	1932	16.74	1942	25.77
1923	25.28	1933	10.42	1943	10.64
1924	9.72	1934	10.86	1944	18.50
1925	21.36	1935	9.21	1945	15.92
1926	15.90	1936	9.59	1946	18.00
1927	17.57	1937	11.39	1947	15.78
1928	25.10	1938	16.40	1948	(Data missing)
1929	14.84	1939	14.82	1949	19.82
				1950	25.82



1 In the years leading up to the Dust Bowl, farmers were continually increasing their planting. Explain why, given the climate data above, this would have seemed like a reasonable decision at the time.

Graphing the Dust Bowl and Beyond



2. One of the most heavily planted crops at the time was red winter wheat. This crop has a maximum root depth of 5 feet. It is planted in mid-August and harvested around mid-May. Using the picture above of native species (original), how might the replacement of those native species with this domesticated crop have contributed to the Dust Bowl?

3. Using pages 272-273, what are at least three techniques used today to guard against wind and water erosion? Why are these techniques effective at preventing erosion?