

A-SCS
Section II-E
Area I

DRAW
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE-26-38

Land Resource Area High Plains, Rolling
Plains
Location All Field Offices
Date October 20, 1975

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs on level to gently sloping land along draws, streams, and valley floors. It occurs at all elevations in the area.
2. SOILS:
 - a. The soils associated with this site are calcareous soils that vary from clay loams to fine sandy loams that are 20 inches or more in depth. These soils are moderately permeable. These soils receive runoff from higher lying sites. If unprotected by plant cover the site is subject to scouring and gullyng. Some areas are subject to occasional flooding and some deposition. A water table or saline condition may occur in a few places. These soils are arable.
 - b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:
 - Spur clay loam
 - Bippus clay loam
 - Bippus fine sandy loam
 - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
 - a. The climax plant community is dominated by mid and short grasses. The understory is dominated by western wheatgrass, vine mesquite, sideoats grama and blue grama. Alkali sacaton occurs on saline soils and may comprise a large percent of the composition. Shrubs normally comprise less than ten percent of the total plant cover. A few tall trees may occur on the site.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	80%	<u>Woody</u>	10%	<u>Forbs</u>
Vine mesquite	15	Cottonwood)	10	Prairie clovers
Blue grama	20	Hackberry)		Roundhead lespedeza
Sideoats grama	10	Willows)		Ground plum milkvetch
Buffalograss	15	Wild plum)		Illinois bundle flower
Western wheatgrass	10	Elm)		Heath aster
Alkali sacaton	5			Scarlet gaura
Tall dropseed)			Western ironweed
Silver bluestem) 5			Englemann daisy
Threeawns)			Louisiana sagewort
				Pitchers sage

- b. As retrogression occurs, the mid grasses give way to the short grasses. Grasses such as vine mesquite, sideoats grama begin to be replaced by blue grama and buffalograss. With continued retrogression these plants will be replaced by threeawns, and silver bluestem. Eventually annuals are prevalent. Alkali sacaton will increase under saline conditions with retrogression.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 1800 pounds in poor years to 2600 pounds of air-dry vegetation in good years.

INTERPRETATIVE DATA

1. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The site is inhabited by deer, squirrel, turkey, quail and dove. Several of the forbs, woody plants, and grasses which grow on the site provide good cover, browse, and seeds for birds and animals.
2. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a.

<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/Y1</u>
Excellent	76-100	14-19
Good	51-75	17-26
Fair	26-50	24-40
Poor	0-25	38 4

- b. Seeded areas

	<u>Percent Ground Cover</u>			
	<u>100-76</u>	<u>75-51</u>	<u>50-26</u>	<u>25-0</u>
Mid grasses	13-20	20-26	26-38	38 4
Short grasses	18-23	23-28	28-40	40 4
Mixtures	15-22	22-27	27-39	39 4

3. RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES

a. Cattle

<u>Primary *</u>	<u>Secondary *</u>	<u>Low Value *</u>
Sideoats grama	Buffalograss	Threeawns
Vine mesquite	Silver bluestem	Heath aster
Blue grama	Alkali sacaton	Ragweed
Western wheatgrass	Prairie clover	Annuals
Englemann daisy	Tall dropseed	Elm
Illinois bundleflower		

b. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Illinois bundleflower	Louisiana sagewort	Mesquite
Englemann daisy	Prickly pear	ragweed
Lespedeza	Willow	Cottonwood
Hackberry	Dotted gayfeather	Most grasses
Elm		

c. Quail, Dove & Turkey

<u>Primary **</u>	<u>Secondary **</u>	<u>Low Value **</u>
Western ragweed	Prickly pear	Most grasses
Croton	Vine mesquite	Mesquite
Illinois bundleflower	Tall dropseed	
Sunflower	Juniper	
Wild grapes		