

GRAVELLY HILL  
DESERT SHRUB  
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area Edwards Plateau

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date January 1, 1972

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs as gravelly hills with slopes of 5 to 25 percent. Elevations range from 2000 to 3000 feet.
2. SOILS:
  - a. The soils of this site are shallow to very shallow gravelly loams containing about 60 percent by volume of 1 to 3 inch in diameter gravel throughout the profile and on the surface. The soil is underlain by semi-indurated caliche. The soil has a good plant-soil-water-air relationship. If unprotected by vegetation, runoff is high and erosion becomes severe.
  - b. A soil taxonomic unit which characterizes this site is:  
Upton very gravelly loam
  - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
  - a. The climax plant community consists of short and mid grasses of the bunch and stoloniferous forms. Short grasses are dominant. Some perennial forbs and woody shrubs occur in association with the grasses.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	85% <u>Woody</u>	10% <u>Forbs</u>	5%	
Chino grama	30	Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Orange zexmenia Bushsunflower Greenthread Plains zinnia	5
Sideoats grama	25	Guajillo	Gray coldenia Croton Dogweed	T T T
Bush muhly		Kidneywood		
Black grama		Feather dalea		
Green sprangletop	5	Range ratany	2	
Plains bristlegrass		Ceniza		
Arizona cottontop		Guayacan		
Fall witchgrass	5	Javelinabush		
Slim tridens	5	Lechuguilla	T	
Routh tridens		Cacti	T	
Hairy tridens	5			
Halls panicum				
Perennial threeawn	10			
Cane bluestem	T			
Red grama	T			
Fluffgrass	T			

b. As retrogression occurs lechuguilla, cacti, gray coldenia, croton, paperflower, dogweed, red grama, fluffgrass, groundsels, desert baileya and annuals increase or invade and gain dominance in the plant community.

c. Approximate total annual herbage yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 370 pounds per acre, air-dry weight, in unfavorable years to 440 pounds per acre in favorable years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THIS SITE: This site is inhabited by deer, dove, and quail. Other non-game birds and small animals also inhabit the site.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/Yr.L.</u>	<u>AU/Sec/Yr.L.</u>
Excellent	76-100	53-80	8-12
Good	51-75	64-107	6-10
Fair	26-50	80-128	5-8
Poor	0-25	128-0	0-5

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES1/

## a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Green sprangletop	Fall witchgrass	Lechuguilla
Sideoats grama	Hairy tridens	Fluffgrass
Black grama	Slim & rough tridens	Coldenia
Chino grama	Perennial threeawns	
Bush muhly	Red grama	
Cane bluestem	Kidneywood	
Arizona cottontop	Feather dalea	
Bushsunflower	Orange zexmenia	
	Skeletonleaf	
	goldeneye	

## b. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Bushsunflower	Mariola	Perennial threeawn
Orange zexmenia	Guayacan	Fluffgrass
Kidneywood	Guajillo	Desert baileya
Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Plains zinnia	Ragweed
Feather dalea	Cane bluestem	Gray coldenia
Range ratany	Fall witchgrass	
Chino grama	Red grama	
Hairy tridens	Slim & rough tridens	
Sideoats grama	Black grama	
Green sprangletop	Arizona cottontop	
Plains bristlegrass	Halls panicum	

## c. Goats

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Kidneywood	Slim & rough tridens	Perennial threeawns
Guayacan	Chino grama	Fluffgrass
Guajillo	Black grama	Creosotebush
Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Hairy tridens	Lechuguilla
Feather dalea	Plains zinnia	Broom snakeweed
Range ratany	Geniza	Dogweed
Bushsunflower	Mariola	Croton
Greenthread	Pricklypear	
Orange zexmenia		
Lechuguilla		
Sideoats grama		
Green sprangletop		
Arizona cottontop		
Plains bristlegrass		
Fall witchgrass		
Bush muhly		

1/ Definitions of terms and an explanation of interpretations is given on a separate page which is attached or submitted with each group of range site descriptions.

## d. Deer

Primary

Bushsunflower  
 Orange zexmenia  
 Greenthread  
 Some annual forbs  
 Skeletonleaf goldeneye  
 Guayacan  
 Range ratany  
 Daleas  
 Kidneywood  
 Guajillo  
 Lechuguilla

Secondary

Sideoats grama  
 Green sprangletop  
 Plains bristlegrass  
 Fall witchgrass  
 Croton  
 Plains zinnia  
 Mariola  
 Pricklypear

Low Value

Perennial threeawns  
 Chino grama  
 Black grama  
 Fluffgrass  
 Red grama  
 Broom snakeweed  
 Dogweed  
 Creosotebush  
 Gray coldenia

## e. Javelina

Primary

Lechuguilla  
 Pricklypear  
 Tasajillo  
 Cacti fruits  
 Roots of perennial  
 grasses and forbs  
 Mast of most woody  
 shrubs

Secondary

Perennial grasses  
 Perennial forbs

Low Value

Annual grasses  
 Annual forbs  
 Most woody shrubs

## f. Dove and Quail

Primary

Seed of:  
 Croton  
 Kidneywood  
 Daleas  
 Guajillo  
 Plains bristlegrass  
 Fall witchgrass  
 Mariola  
 Annual forbs w/hard  
 seeds

Secondary

Seed of:  
 Sideoats grama  
 Tridens  
 Bushsunflower  
 Orange zexmenia  
 Mast of most  
 woody shrubs

Low Value

Seed of:  
 Threeawns  
 Most gramas  
 Fluffgrass  
 Cane bluestem  
 Bush muhly  
 Creosotebush