

DRAW  
MIXED PRAIRIE  
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION

Land Resource Area Trans-Pecos

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date January 1, 1972

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site generally occurs as narrow, frequently overflowed draws which receive runoff water from adjoining sites and remote, higher elevations. Slopes range from 0 to 2 percent and the elevations range from 4500 to 5500 feet.
2. SOILS:
  - a. Soils are deep loams and stony loams, moderately permeable, with medium to high available water holding capacity. The site has good plant-soil-water-air relationships. Runoff is moderate and the site is susceptible to crusting and gully erosion, if unprotected by plant cover.
  - b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:
    - Gageby silt loam
    - Rockhouse loam
  - c. Specific site location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
  - a. The climax vegetation is dominated by mid grasses of both the bunch and stoloniferous forms, with an intermittent overstory of shrubs and trees. Considerable variation occurs in vegetation due to periodic overflows. Annuals temporarily occupy recent alluvial deposits of silt and sand.

<u>RELATIVE PERCENTAGE</u>			
<u>Grasses</u>	80% <u>Woody</u>	15% <u>Forbs</u>	5%
Sideoats grama	40	Walnut	Globemallow
Cane bluestem		Western soap- berry	Perennial croton
Giant sacaton	15	Willow	Milkwort
Bulbous panicum		Cottonwood	Dayflower
Vine-mesquite	10	Graves oak	Perennial bladderpod
Green sprangletop		Emory oak	Annual forbs
Plains bristlegrass	3	Gray oak	
Plains lovegrass		Texas oak	
Arizona cottontop	10	Whitebrush	
Tobosa		Brickellbush	
Blue grama	5	Skunkbush	
Alkali sacaton		Baccharis	
Perennial threeawns	3	Apacheplume	
Sand muhly		Catclaw	
Mat muhly		Alligator juniper	T
Pinyon ricegrass	2		
Thinstem stipa			
Annual grasses	T		

b. As retrogression occurs, sideoats grama, cane bluestem, vine-mesquite, green sprangletop, Arizona cottontop, and bulbous panicum decrease in species composition. Blue grama, tobosa, and alkali sacaton will initially increase before being replaced by perennial threeawns, and muhlys. Other species which increase and invade include whitebrush, baccharis, catclaw, and mesquite. Annual species also become more prevalent as retrogression occurs.

c. This site in excellent condition produces approximately 2300 pounds air-dry total annual yield per acre in years with favorable growing conditions and about 1500 pounds per acre in years with poor growing conditions.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The site is inhabited by deer, and quail. Several of the woody plants and forbs which grow on the site provide good food and cover for these game species, as well as several other non-game birds and animals.

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	18-23	27-35
Good	51-75	21-32	20-30
Fair	26-50	29-46	14-22
Poor	0-25	40-80	8-16

## b. Seeded areas

	<u>Percent Ground Cover</u>			
	<u>100-76</u>	<u>75-51</u>	<u>50-26</u>	<u>25-0</u>
Johnsongrass (Ac/AU)	15-20	18-30	30-40	40+
Native mixtures (Ac/AU)	18-23	21-32	29-46	40+

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

## a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Blue grama	Alligator juniper
Cane bluestem	Tobosa	Walnut
Vine-mesquite	Giant sacaton	Willow
Green sprangletop	Alkali sacaton	Western soapberry
Arizona cottontop	Perennial threeawn	Whitebrush
Bulbous panicum	Sand muhly	Catclaw
Plains lovegrass	Mat muhly	Baccharis
Plains bristlegrass	Finestem stipa	Brickellbush
	Globemallow	Perennial croton
	Perennial bladderpod	Pinyon ricegrass
	Oaks	Annual grasses
		Annual forbs

## b. Goats

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Skunkbush	Whitebrush	Alligator juniper
Apacheplume	Brickellbush	Willow
Whitebrush	Cane bluestem	Western soapberry
Graves oak	Plains lovegrass	
Gray oak	Blue grama	
Emory oak		
Globemallow		
Blue grama		
Sideoats grama		
Green sprangletop		
Plains bristlegrass		
Arizona cottontop		

## c. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Apacheplume	Brickellbush	Threeawns
Skunkbush	Whitebrush	Tobosa
Graves oak	Catclaw	Sacatons
Gray oak	Pinyon ricegrass	Juniper
Emory oak	Finestem stipa	Walnut
Globemallow	Sideoats grama	Western soapberry
Dayflower	Green sprangletop	Baccharis
	Plains bristlegrass	Vine-mesquite
	Blue grama	Cane bluestem

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.

## c. Quail

Primary

Seed of:  
Crotons  
Globemallow  
Bladderpod  
Plains bristlegrass  
Bulbous panicum  
Hard-seeded annual  
forbs

Secondary

Seed of:  
Sideoats grama  
Green sprangletop  
Pinyon ricegrass  
Plains lovegrass  
Sacatons  
Mast of most woody  
plants

Low Value

Seed of:  
Cane bluestem  
Threeawns  
Muhlys  
Tobosa  
Finestem stipa