

USDA-SCS  
Section II-E  
Technical Guide  
Area 19

(Clay FLAT)  
~~HEAVY CLAY~~  
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION  
PE-19-25

Land Resource Area E P

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1-1-72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs on nearly level to very gentle sloping divide areas and in valleys. Slopes are generally 0 to 1 percent.
  
2. SOILS:
  - a. This soil is a deep dark calcareous fertile clay over limestone. It has high shrink-swell properties and cracks when dry. It typically is a few inches lower than the surrounding soils so it receives extra runoff. The permeability is slow. The soil has a fair available water holding capacity. It has a fair to poor plant-soil moisture relationship. Cracks take water rapidly when dry, but expand and absorb water slowly when wet. Seasonally wet or droughty. Plants that spread by vegetation means succeed best due to shrink-swell of soil.
  
  - b. Soil taxonomic units are:

Tobosa clay
  
  - c. Specific site location:
  
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
  - a. The climax plant community is mainly tobosa and buffalograss as dominants. Annual forbs and grasses grow in years of above average winter rains.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGES

<u>Grasses</u>	<u>90%</u>	<u>Forbs</u>	<u>5%</u>
Tobosa	40	Engelmann daisy	T
Buffalograss	15	Sagewort	T
Curlymesquite	5	Sensitive brier	T
Sideoats grama	10	Annual forbs	5
Cane bluestem	10		
Vine-mesquite	10		
Little barley	5		
Ozarkgrass	5		
Other annual grasses			
Fall witchgrass	T		
Texas wintergrass	5		
Perennial threeawn	T		

- b. As retrogression occurs mesquite and some lotebush may invade and form a dense canopy. Some common invaders on the site are, red grama, threeawns, sand dropseed, burrograss, and ear muly.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 1000 pounds in poor years to 3000 pounds air dry vegetation in good years.
4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The site is used by dove and quail. Antelope are native in this area.
5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a.	<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/YL</u>
	Excellent	76-100	12-18
	Good	51-75	16-24
	Fair	26-50	22-32
	Poor	0-25	28-38

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

## a. cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Buffalograss	Annual threeawns
Cane bluestem	Curlymesquite	Burrograss
Vine-mesquite	Fall witchgrass	Ear muhly
Texas wintergrass	Tobosa	Red grama
Engelmann daisy	Perennial threeawn	Lotebush
	Sensitivebrier	Mesquite
	Sand muhly	
	Annual forbs and grasses	

## b. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Buffalograss	Curlymesquite	Mesquite
Texas wintergrass	Vine-mesquite	Lotebush
Engelmann daisy	Sideoats grama	Bitterweed
Mexican sagewort	Cane bluestem	Annual forbs
Sensitivebrier	Perennial threeawn	Tobosa
Selected annuals	Fall witchgrass	

## c. Goats

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Lotebush	Buffalograss	Mesquite
Engelmann daisy	Sideoats grama	Burrograss
Sagewort	Vine-mesquite	Tobosa
Sensitivebrier	Curlymesquite	Bitterweed
Texas wintergrass	Perennial threeawn	Red grama
Selected annual grasses and forbs	Cane bluestem	Annual forbs

d. Quail and Doves

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Seed of:	Seed of:	----
Western ragweed	Mesquite	
Croton	Sensitivebrier	
Annual grasses	Other grasses	
Forbs		

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.