

USDA-SCS  
Section II-E  
Technical Guide  
Area 19

LOW STONY HILL  
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION  
PE 19-25

Land Resource Area E P

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date 1-1-72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: Moderate to steeply sloping stony hills.  
Elevation ranges from 2600 to 3000 feet.

2. SOILS:

a. Soils in this site are very shallow, less than 10 inches, brown to light gray calcareous stony loams. Generally 20 to 30 percent of the soil surface is covered by stones or consists of rock outcrops. Water-holding capacity is low, but the stony nature makes effective use of small amounts of moisture. Light rains will generally wet the entire soil layer due to the runoff from rocks. These stones also act as a protective cover which slows evaporation and affords some protection to the grasses. When bare, these soils loose water from larger showers rapidly due to their sloping terrain.

b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize this site are:

~~Factor stony loam~~

Tarrant stl 0-890 ? 819  
← Does not exist in 14-25

c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

a. In climax, the composition consists of grasses, low shrubs and forbs. This site has a great variety of plants. Plant occurrence varies due to variations in the rock and depth of soil.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGES

<u>Grasses</u>	<u>80%</u>	<u>Woody Plants</u>	<u>10%</u>	<u>Forbs</u>	<u>10%</u>
Sideoats grama	20	Feather dalea		Bushsunflower	
Little bluestem	T	Skeletonleaf		Mexican sagewort	
Cane bluestem		goldeneye		Velvet bundle-	
Green sprangletop	15	Vine ephedra		flower	
Black grama		False mesquite	5	Sticky selloa	
Bush muhly	10	Sumac		Orange zexmenia	
Plains bristlegrass		Salvia		Engelmann daisy	
Cane bluestem	5	Hackberry		Showy and rough	
Hairy tridens		Elbowbush		Menodora	5
Hairy grama	10	Lechuguilla		Gaura	
Wolftail		Catclaw		Plains zinnia	
Slim tridens	10	Juniper		Desertrue	
Fall witchgrass	5	Mariola	5	Texas skeleton	
Wright threeawn	5	Sacahuista		plant	
Reverchon panicum	T	Sotol		Riddell dozedaisy	
Southwestern stipa	T	Yucca		Dotted gayfeather	
New Mexico stipa	T	Cactus		Annual forbs	5
		Shin oak	T		
		Live oak	T		

- b. As retrogression occurs hails panicum, hairy tridens, red grama, juniper, lechuguilla, pricklypear and javelinabrush increase and invade. Annuals increase greatly. Juniper usually becomes the most predominant woody invader.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 1500 pounds in good years to as low as 500 pounds in poor years.
4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THIS SITE: The site is inhabited by deer, javelina, turkey, dove and quail. Also present are several species of non-game birds and mammals.
5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>a.</u>	<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/YL</u>
	Excellent	76-100	20-29
	Good	51-75	30-40
	Fair	26-50	41-55
	Poor	0-25	56-65

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

## a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Buffalograss	Feather dalea
Plains bristlegrass	Hairy grama	Skeletonleaf
Green sprangletop	Threeawn	goldeneye
Bush muhly	Slim tridens	Sumac
Cane bluestem	Black grama	Mariola
Bushsunflower	Fall witchgrass	Lechuguilla
Mexican sagewort	Vine ephedra	Catclaw
Engelmann daisy	Sticky selloa	Cactus
	Orange zexmenia	Hairy tridens
	Velvet bundleflower	Red grama
	Elbowbush	
	Sacahuista	
	Menodora	

## b. Sheep

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Sideoats grama	Black grama	Feather dalea
Plains bristlegrass	Bush muhly	Cedar
Green sprangletop	Cane bluestem	Lechuguilla
Bushsunflower	Hairy grama	Sotol
Mexican sagewort	Slim tridens	Red grama
Buffalograss	Sticky selloa	Coldenia
Fall witchgrass	Skeletonleaf goldeneye	Evax
Menodora	Hackberry	Mariola
Vine ephedra	Gaura	Threeawn
Velvet bundleflower	Orange zexmenia	Perennial Broom-
Engelmann daisy	Shin oak	weed
Selected annuals	Hairy tridens	

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.

EP-ISH

c. Goats

Primary

Shrubby dalea  
Shin oak  
Skeletonleaf goldeneye  
Vine ephedra  
Hackberry  
Elbowbush  
Sideoats grama  
Green sprangletop  
Bushsunflower  
Velvet bundleflower  
New Mexico sagewort  
Other forbs

Secondary

Most grasses  
Sticky selloa  
Orange zexmenia  
Sotol  
Yucca

Low Value

Lechuguilla  
Cactus  
Juniper  
Mariola  
Threeawn

d. Deer

Primary

Feather dalea  
Sumac  
Hackberry  
Gaura  
Vine ephedra  
Velvet bundleflower  
Bushsunflower  
Mexican sagewort  
Engelmann daisy  
Annual forbs

Secondary

Skeletonleaf  
goldeneye  
Fall witchgrass  
Sticky selloa  
Orange zexmenia

Low Value

Most grasses  
Juniper  
Sacahuista  
Sotol

e. Quail, Dove and Turkey

Primary

Seed of:  
Croton  
Plains bristlegrass  
Reverchon panicum  
Live Oak  
Foliage of grasses  
and forbs (turkey)

Secondary

Seed of:  
Dropseed  
Sumac  
Hackberry  
Fruit of woody plants

Low Value

Seed of:  
Other grasses