

DEEP SAND  
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION  
PE 38-48

North Central Prairies,  
Land Resource Area Central Basin

Location Lampasas, Llano, Mason

Date February 19, 1987

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site is on gently undulating upland positions. Slope gradients range from 1 to 5 percent.
2. SOILS:
  - a. The soils are deep and have more than 40 inches of sand or loamy fine sand over loamy B horizons or have sandy C horizons to a depth of more than 72 inches below the surface. Rainfall and plant roots penetrate the soils readily. Available moisture capacity per foot of depth is low. Plants that can most efficiently utilize the site are the deep rooted grasses, forbs and trees. Fertility is low.
  - b. Some taxonomic units that characterize this site are:
    - Patilo fine sand
    - Eufaula fine sand
    - Desan fine sand
    - Arenosa fine sand
  - c. Specific type location:
3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:
  - a. The climax plant community is a post oak and blackjack oak dominance with a noticeable absence of little bluestem. The woody cover makes a 40 to 60 percent canopy cover. A few tall grasses occur in the scattered open areas. Forbs, legumes, woody vines and shrubs add to the variety of the climax plant community.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	45%	<u>Woody</u>	50%	<u>Forbs</u>	5%
Sand lovegrass	25%	Post oak	30%	Trailing wildbean	} 5%
Indiangrass	} 5%	Blackjack oak	20%	Lespedeza	
Switchgrass		Prickly pear	} T	Erect dayflower	
Purpletop tridens		Hackberry		Carolina horsenettle	
Red lovegrass		Bumelia			
Fringeleaf paspalum	Skunkbush sumac				
Scribners panicum	T	Prickly ash			
Sand dropseed		Greenbriar			
		Wild grape			

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: The site is inhabited by deer, turkey, dove, and quail. Because of extreme brush density, this site makes only fair to poor wildlife habitat.
5. AESTHETIC AND RELATED VALUES: Bluebonnets, Indian paintbrush, and phlox are just a few of the beautiful flowers which grow on this site.
6. HYDROLOGIC CHARACTERISTICS: These undulating uplands have rapid permeability, slow runoff and are somewhat excessively drained. Due to the rapid permeability, water erosion is not a problem.
7. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>a. Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU</u>
Excellent	76 - 100	16 - 24
Good	51 - 75	22 - 34
Fair	26 - 50	30 - 40
Poor	0 - 25	40+

- b. Introduced Species: Few adapted native plant species are commercially available. Weeping lovegrass species are best adapted when managed as monocultures.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Ac/AU Percent Stand</u>			
	<u>100-76</u>	<u>75-51</u>	<u>50-26</u>	<u>25-0</u>
Improved lovegrass	10-14	12-16	14-26	20-28+

8. RELATIVE FORAGE VALUE OF SPECIES IN POTENTIAL PLANT COMMUNITY:

## a. Cattle

Primary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Sand lovegrass  
Purpletop  
Switchgrass  
Indiangrass  
LespedezaSecondary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Red lovegrass  
Fringeleaf paspalum  
Scribner panicum  
HackberryLow Value  $\frac{1}{/}$ Post oak  
Blackjack oak  
Pricklypear

## b. Deer

Primary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Greenbriar  
Hackberry  
Bumelia  
Erect dayflower  
Lespedeza  
Trailing wild bean  
Post oak  
Blackjack oak  
Skunkbush sumac  
SwitchgrassSecondary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Sand lovegrass  
Purple top  
Prickly pearLow Value  $\frac{1}{/}$ 

Other grasses

## c. Goats

Primary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Greenbriar  
Hackberry  
Post oak  
Blackjack oak  
Bumelia  
Lespedeza  
Trailing wild bean  
IndiangrassSecondary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Sand lovegrass  
Switchgrass  
Skunkbush sumacLow Value  $\frac{1}{/}$ Other grasses  
Prickly pear

## d. Quail and Dove

Primary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Croton  
Trailing wild bean  
Lespedeza  
Erect dayflower  
Green briar  
Hackberry  
Bumelia  
Oak  
Lovegrass  
Switchgrass  
Peas  
PurpletopSecondary  $\frac{1}{/}$ Paspalum  
Scribner panicumLow Value  $\frac{1}{/}$ 

Other grasses

e. Turkey

Primary 1/Oak  
Hackberry  
Greenbriar  
Bumelia  
Croton  
Trailing wild beans  
Paspalum  
Skunkbush sumacSecondary 1/Purpletop  
Fringeleaf paspalum  
Scribner panicum  
Dropseeds  
LespedezaLow Value 1/Lovegrass  
Prickly pear

## Legend and Definitions for Range Site Description

1/ This rating system provides general guidance as to animal preference for plant species. It also indicates possible competition between kinds of animals for the various plants. Grazing preference changes from time to time and place to place depending upon the animals, upon plant palatability and nutritive value, stage of growth and season of use, relative abundance, and associated plants. Grazing preference does not necessarily reflect a plant's ecological place in the climax plant community.

The following definitions apply to cattle, sheep, goats, deer and antelope grazing.

Primary: These species generally decrease when the climax plant community is subjected to continuous heavy grazing pressure by the animals listed.

Secondary: These plants usually increase initially, then decrease when the site is subjected to continuous heavy grazing use by the animals listed.

Low Value: These plants continue to increase or invade with heavy continuous grazing use of the site.

For squirrel, peccary and birds the terms primary, secondary, and low value indicate species preference only. They do not indicate plant response to feeding pressure, nor do they have any ecological significance.

APPROVAL - Signature

Date

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Field Specialist

3-11-87