

USDA, SCS
Section II-E
Technical Guide
Area 27, Texas

SANDY BOTTOMLAND
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE ~~44-64~~

Land Resource Area CLAYPAN & BL

Location _____

Date 11/1/71

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occupies nearly level to gently sloping flood plains and high bottoms of major streams and their tributaries. Slopes range from 0 to 3 percent but are mainly less than one percent. Elevation ranges from 250 to 650 feet. The site is lower than adjacent sites.

2. SOILS:
 - a. The soils of this site are deep, sandy alluvial sediments. They receive extra water from occasional to frequent overflows or as runoff from higher sites. The soils are rapidly permeable and excessively drained. They may have gravel throughout the profile, or a gravel strata below. They may have a water table below 40 inches for a good part of the year. Deep rooted perennial plants are sometimes able to reach and use the moisture from the water table. However, due to the sandy subsoil and gravel content, lower water holding capacity and inherent lower fertility, the site may be somewhat droughty and less productive than Loamy and Clayey Bottomlands.

 - b. Some soil taxonomic units which characterize the site are:

Brazos fine sand
Lincoln loamy fine sand, fine sand
Sayers loamy fine sand, fine sand

 - c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

- a. In climax condition this is a savannah site. The tree canopy, which shades about 30 percent of the ground, includes oak, elm, sycamore, cottonwood and black willow. Underbrush and woody vines are also prominent on the site. Switchgrass, Indiangrass, little bluestem, beaked panicum, Virginia wildrye and purpletop are the dominant herbaceous plants. Sedges and broadleaf uniola grow adjacent to the water's edge and in wet areas.

<u>RELATIVE PERCENTAGE</u>					
<u>Grasses</u>	<u>75%</u>	<u>Woody</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>Forbs</u>	<u>5%</u>
Switchgrass	30	Oak	15	Tickclover	5
Little bluestem	15	Elm		Snoutbean	
Big bluestem		Cottonwood		Wildbean	
Indiangrass		Sycamore		10	Blood ragweed
Beaked panicum	Black willow	White crownbeard			
Purpletop	Ash	Ironweed			T
Virginia wildrye	Hackberry	Partridgepea			
Sedges	10	Hawthorns			Croton
Broadleaf uniola		Yaupon			5
Longleaf uniola	Greenbrier				
Low panicums	Grape				
Redtop panicum	Honeysuckle				
Tall dropseed	Peppervine				
Knotroot bristle	Alabama				
Carolina jointtail	supplejack				
Longspike tridens					

- b. As retrogression occurs, trees, shrubs and woody vines often increase and invade to form dense thickets. As the overstory thickens, shade tolerant species make up a higher percent of the herbaceous production. If the canopy continues to close, production by herbaceous plants is reduced proportionately.

Any or all of the following plants may be seen on the site in a deteriorated condition: broomsedge and bushy bluestem, vaseygrass, bermudagrass, blood ragweed, beebalm, yankeeweed, asters, snow-on-the-prairie, fogfruit, yaupon, sesbania, winged elm and baccharis.

- c. Approximate total annual yield of the site in excellent condition ranges from 3000 to 7000 pounds of air-dry vegetation per acre, depending on overstory canopy, overflows, rainfall and other growing conditions. With a 30 percent canopy, up to 1400 pounds of the annual yield will be by woody plants. Part or all of this production may be unpalatable to or out of reach of grazing animals.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: Deer, squirrel, dove and quail inhabit the site. Ducks frequent the site during the winter.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

a. <u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Percent Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/Yearlong</u>
Excellent	76 - 100	7 - 10
Good	51 - 75	10 - 14
Fair	26 - 50	14 - 18
Poor	0 - 25	18 $\frac{1}{2}$

b. <u>Introduced Species</u>	<u>Percent Ground Cover</u>			
	<u>100-76</u>	<u>75-51</u>	<u>50-26</u>	<u>25-0</u>
Common bermudagrass	8-10	10-15	15-20	20 $\frac{1}{2}$

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES ^{1/}

a. For Cattle

<u>Primary</u> ^{2/}	<u>Secondary</u> ^{3/}	<u>Low Value</u> ^{4/}
Switchgrass	Redtop panicum	Broomsedge and
Indiangrass	Low panicums	Bushy bluestem
Beaked panicum	Tall dropseed	Vaseygrass
Big bluestem	Knotroot	Threeawns
Little bluestem	bristlegrass	Blood ragweed
Virginia wildrye	Carolina jointtail	Western ragweed
Purpletop	Longleaf uniola	Croton
Sedges	Broadleaf uniola	White crownbeard
Tickclover	Longspike tridens	Ironweed
Snoutbean	Hackberry	Beebalm
Wildbeans	Honeysuckle	Coneflowers
	Greenbrier	Yankeeweed
		Partridgepea
		Other woody plants

b. For Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Greenbrier	Oak leaves	Cottonwood
Honeysuckle	and twigs	Sycamore
Yaupon	Ash	Willow
Hackberry	Hawthorns	Blood ragweed
Elm	Peppervine	White crownbeard
Grape	Trumpet creeper	Ironweed
Alabama supplejack		Croton
Sedges		Coneflowers
Virginia wildrye		Yankeeweed
Rescuegrass		Partridgepea
Low panicums		Other grasses
Snoutbean		
Wildbean		
Tickclover		

c. For Quail and Dove 5/

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Blood ragweed	Trailing wildbean	Fuzzy seeded
Western ragweed	Gaura	grasses & forbs
Croton	Pricklypoppy	Non mast-producing
Sunflowers		woody plants
Partridgepea		Ironweed
Mast & fruits		Yankeeweed
Snow-on-the-Prairie		Beebalm
Snoutbean		Coneflowers
Ticklover		Cottonwood
Slickseed wildbean		Sycamore
Panicum seed		Willow
Paspalum seed		Ash

d. For Squirrels 5/

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Acorns	Large seeded	White crownbeard
Dewberries	grasses & forbs	Yankeeweed
Grape	Buds & twigs	Partridgepea
Haws	Ragweed seed	Croton
Pecans		
Mulberries		
Other mast & fruits		

e. For Ducks 5/

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Smartweeds	Ragweed seed	Yankeeweed
Barnyardgrass	Partridgepea	White crownbeard
Acorns		Ironweed
Other mast & fruits		Willow
Aquatic vegetation		Cottonwood
		Sycamore