

HIGH LIME
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE 19-44

Land Resource Area: Rio Grande
Plains

Location: _____

Date: 1/1/72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site ranges from gently sloping to low rolling land with slopes from 2 to 5 percent. This site is often found along stream terraces.

2. SOILS:

a. Soils of this site are deep, light gray, fine sandy loams and clay loams. These soils will take water well when a good plant cover is present although they will become powdery or crusty when bare. Fertility is moderately high. These soils are normally droughty due to very high lime content. This site is well drained, runoff is slow, and has moderate permeability.

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

Atco silty clay loam
Saranosa fine sandy loam
Afco fine sandy loam

c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

a. The climax plant community of this site is a mixture of grasses, forbs, and low shrubs. Guajillo is an important shrub.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	85%	<u>Woody</u>	10%	<u>Forbs</u>	5%
Arizona cottontop	15	Guayacan	)	Orange zexmenia)
Twoflower	20	Guajillo	)	Bushsunflower)
trichloris		Mescal bean	)	Mallow sp.	) 5
Green sprangletop	10	Lime pricklyash	)	Bundleflower)
Southwestern	)	Kidneywood	) 10	Annual forbs)
bristlegrass	)	Elbowbush)		
Plains bristle-	) 10	Desert yaupon)		
grass	)	Spiny hackberry)		
Pink pappusgrass	)	Ceniza)		
Nash windmill-	) 10	Ephedra)		
grass)				
Knotroot panicum)				
Slim tridens)				
Threeawn	) 10				
Fall witchgrass)				
Hooded windmill-)				
grass)				
Curlymesquite	10				

b. As retrogression occurs, the woody plants increase and dominate. Texas and plains bristlegrass, pink pappusgrass, Nash windmill-grass, and slim tridens are likely increasers. With further retrogression, such plants as red and Texas grama, annuals, Hall's panicum, and gray coldenia will invade.

c. Approximate annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 1500 pounds per acre in poor years to 3000 pounds per acre of air-dry vegetation in good years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: This site is used by deer, dove, quail, and javelina.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>Condition Class</u>	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/YL</u>
Excellent	76-100	14-17
Good	51-75	18-21
Fair	26-50	22-28
Poor	0-25	29 *

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES ^{1/}

a. Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Arizona cottontop	Fall witchgrass	Spiny hackberry
Two & fourflower trichloris	Hall's panicum	Desert yaupon
Green sprangletop	Orange zexmenia	Elbowbush
Texas bristlegrass	Bushsunflower	Guayacan
Plains bristlegrass	Kidneywood	Guajillo
Nash windmillgrass	Annual grasses	
Slim tridens	Curlymesquite	
	Pink pappusgrass	

b. Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Annual forbs	Spiny hackberry	Guajillo
Orange zexmenia	Lime pricklyash	Mescal bean
Bushsunflower	Elbowbush	Most grasses
Bundleflower		
Guayacan		
Kidneywood		
Desert yaupon		
Vine ephedra		

c. Javelina

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Pricklypear	Tender grasses	Mature grasses
Pricklypear fruit	and shoots	
Ebony bean	Mesquite beans	
	Wild olive	
	Mast from woody plants	

d. Dove and Quail

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
(Seed of the following:)		
Ragweed	Most grass seed	Most woody plants
Croton	Annual forb seed	
Bristlegrass		
Bundleflower		
Sunflower		
Tender grasses & forbs (quail)		

^{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.

Legend and Definitions for Range Site Descriptions.

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.