

TIGHT SANDY LOAM
RANGE SITE DESCRIPTION
PE 19-31

Land Resource Area Rio Grande Plain

Location _____

Date 1/1/72

1. TOPOGRAPHY AND ELEVATION: This site occurs on nearly level to gently sloping upland areas. Slopes usually range from 0 to 5 percent, but mostly less than 2 percent

2. SOILS:

a. The soils are deep with fine sandy loam surfaces and slowly permeable sandy clay loam and sandy clay subsoils. The fine sandy loam surface ranges from 8 to 16 inches thick. The soils are well drained, runoff is medium to slow and permeability is moderately slow to slow. The rapid permeability of the surface reduces runoff. This site tends to be droughty, but greens up rapidly after small rains.

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

- Delfina fine sandy loam
- Lozano fine sandy loam
- Miguel fine sandy loam
- Webb fine sandy loam

c. Specific site location:

3. CLIMAX VEGETATION:

a. The climax plant community is an open grassland with scattered mesquite and other woody brush species breaking the monotony of the landscape. Mid grasses dominate the site. Climax forbs and legumes grow well on this site.

RELATIVE PERCENTAGE

<u>Grasses</u>	<u>92% Woody</u>	<u>3% Forbs</u>	<u>5%</u>
Twoflower trichloris	Texas kidneywood	Bush sunflower	3
Fourflower trichloris	Vine ephedra	Englemann daisy	
Feathery bluestem	Buемelia	Orange zexmenia	
Tanglehead	Mesquite	Perennial legumes	2
Arizona cottontop	Condalia	Annual forbs	
Sideoats grama	Spiny hackberry		
Plains or Spike bristlegrass			
Nash & hooded wind- millgrass			
Pink pappusgrass			
Fringeleaf paspalum			
Slender grama			
Fall witchgrass			
Plains lovegrass			
Threeawn			
Buffalograss & curly mesquite			

- b. As retrogression occurs, mesquite, condalias, spiny hackberry and woody species form a moderate dense canopy. Common invaders to the site are broomweed, crotons, cactus, red grama, Texas grama, sandbur, tallowweed and lantana.
- c. Approximate total annual yield of this site in excellent condition ranges from 1000 pounds per acre in low production years to 3500 pounds of air-dry vegetation per acre in high production years.

4. WILDLIFE NATIVE TO THE SITE: This site is used by deer, dove, quail, non-game birds, javelina, small fur bearing animals and coyote and bobcat.

5. GUIDE TO INITIAL STOCKING RATE:

<u>a. Condition Class</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
	<u>Climax Vegetation</u>	<u>Ac/AU/Yearlong</u>
Excellent	76-100	14-17
Good	51-75	15-20
Fair	26-50	18-26
Poor	0-25	26+

<u>b. Introduced Species</u>	<u>Percent Ground Cover</u>			
	<u>100-76</u>	<u>75-51</u>	<u>50-26</u>	<u>25-0</u>
Introduced grasses	11-15	14-20	19-25	25+

RELATIVE FORAGE QUALITY OF SPECIES 1/

a. For Cattle

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Fourflower trichloris	Plains or Spike	Red grama
Feathery bluestem	bristlegrass	Texas grama
Tanglehead	Pink pappusgrass	Red lovegrass
Arizona cottontop	Nash & hooded	Annual forbs
Sideoats grama	windmillgrass	Mesquite
Bush sunflower	Fringekaf paspalum	Condalia
Englemann daisy	Slender grama	Spiny hackberry
Plains lovegrass	Fall kidneywood	Lime pricklyash
	Texas kidneywood	Acacia
	Vine ephedra	
	Buemia	
	Perennial legumes	
	Wrights threawn	
	Hackberry	

b. For Deer

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Most annual forbs	Blackbrush	Most grasses
Texas kidneywood	Spiny hackberry	Texas collubrina
Vine ephedra	Sedges	Pear (prickly)
Buemia	Liveoak	Mesquite
Desert yaupon	Wolfberry	
Bush sunflower	Lime pricklyash	
Orange zexmenia		
Englemann daisy		
Perennial legumes		
Schribner's panicum		
mast		
Hackberry		
Rattany		

c. For Dove and Quail

<u>Primary</u>	<u>Secondary</u>	<u>Low Value</u>
Englemann daisy	tallowweed	False indigo
Bush sunflower	Verbenas	Bitterweed
Orange zexmenia	Grass seed	Isocoma
Perennial legumes	Sedges	
Crotons		
Showy partridgepea		
Ragweed		
Panicum grass seed		
Paspalum grass seed		
Silverleaf sunflower		
Hackberry mast		
Bristlegrass seed		
Broomweed		

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.