

# Common Plants of Riparian Areas - Central Texas

With Wetland Indicator (WI) and Proposed Stability Rating (SR)

Compiled by Steve Nelle

<u>Sedges / Grasses</u>	<u>WI</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>Forbs</u>	<u>WI</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>Woody</u>	<u>WI</u>	<u>SR</u>
Spikerushes (most)	OBL	6	Water willow	OBL	7	Buttonbush	OBL	8
Emory sedge	OBL	9	Water primrose	OBL	3	Bald Cypress	OBL	9
Sawgrass	OBL	9	Watercress *	OBL	3	Indigobush amorphia	OBL	7
Rice cutgrass	OBL	6	Scouring rush	OBL	6	Black willow	FACW	7
Southern wildrice	OBL	9	Marsh fleabane	OBL	5	Arroyo willow	FACW	7
Water bentgrass	OBL	5	Smooth bidens	OBL	5	Spiny aster	FACW	8
Cattail	OBL	9	Water hyssop	OBL	3	Box elder maple	FACW	6
Bulrushes (most)	OBL	9	Pennywort	OBL	3	Possum haw	FACW	6
Porcupine sedge	OBL	5	Cardinalflower	FACW	5	Sycamore	FAC	6
Knotgrass	FACW	6	Tall aster	FACW	5	Eastern cottonwood	FAC	7
Hairyseed paspalum	FACW	6	Spiny aster	FACW	8	Pecan	FAC	6
Bushy bluestem	FACW	5	Large buttercup	FACW	6	Little walnut	FAC	7
Flatsedges (most)	FACW	5	Bog nettle	FACW	5	Roosevelt baccharis	FAC	6
White top sedge	FACW	5/6	Dock (most)	FACW		American elder	FAC	6
Rushes (most)	OBL or	FACW	Mint *	FACW	3	Roughleaf dogwood	FAC	6
Apajoggrass	FACW	6	Smallhead sneezeweed	FACW	3	Sugar hackberry	FAC	5
Barnyardgrass	FACW	4	Sesbania	FACW	3	American elm	FAC	6
Rabbitsfoot grass *	FACW	3	Poison hemlock*	FACW	5	Cedar elm	FAC	6
Switchgrass	FAC	9	Frogfruit	FAC	4	Bur oak	FAC	6
Eastern gammagrass	FAC	9	Late boneset	FAC	5	Chinquapin oak	FAC	6
Lindheimer muhly	FAC	7	Dogbane	FAC	7	Lindheimer indigo	FAC	5
Wildrye	FAC	5	Ironweed	FAC	5	Wafer ash (Ptelea)	FAC	6
White tridens	FAC	5	Shield fern	FAC	6	Dewberry	FAC	4
Vine-mesquite	FAC	6	Giant ragweed	FAC	3	Greenbriar	FAC	5
Seep muhly	FAC	6	Annual sumpweed	FAC	3	Poison ivy	FAC	5
Broadleaf Uniola	FAC	6	Brazilian verbena *	FAC	4	Grape vine (most)	FAC	5
Dallisgrass *	FAC	7	Cocklebur	FAC	3	Japanese honeysuckle *	FAC	6
Vaseygrass *	FAC	5	Tall goldenrod	FACU	6	Live oak	FACU	6
Rustyseed paspalum	FAC	5	Common ragweed	FACU	2	Netleaf hackberry	FACU	5
Giant reed (Arundo)*	FAC	7	Frostweed	FACU	6	Red mulberry	FACU	6
St Augustine grass *	FAC	6	Maximilian sunflower	FACU	6	Mesquite	FACU	5
Indiangrass	FACU	7	Clammyweed	FACU	3	Huisache	FACU	5
Johnsongrass *	FACU	6	Castor bean *	FACU	3	Western soapberry	FACU	6
Bermudagrass *	FACU	6	Western ragweed	UPL	5	Bumelia	FACU	6
Dichantherium (most)	FACU	4	Turk's cap	UPL	5	Black walnut	FACU	6
Southwestern bristle	UPL	5	Toothed goldeneye	UPL	5	Desert willow	FACU	6
King Ranch bluestem *	UPL	5				Carolina snailseed	FACU	4

\*Indicates Introduced Species

**SR - Stability Ratings** are on a scale of 1 – 10. The Stability Rating concept was developed by Al Winward, retired USFS Ecologist. Bare ground has a SR of 1. Anchored rock or logs have a SR of 10. A SR of 7 is considered the minimum for acceptable bank stability in the Hill Country. The ratings are subjective and based on experience and observation. Woody plants, when associated with stabilizing grasses and sedges provide a higher stability rating than if they occur alone.

### WI - Wetland Indicator Categories

**OBL *Obligate Wetland*** These plants are very indicative of wet soil conditions and/or a high water table.

**FACW *Facultative Wetland*** These plants usually grow in wet and seasonally moist areas

**FAC *Facultative*** These plants can tolerate wet conditions as well as periodically dry condions.

**FACU *Facultative Upland*** These plants do not tolerate very wet conditions and are indicative of dry locations.

**UPL *Obligate Upland*** These plants almost always occur in non wet areas

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