

Common Plants of Riparian Areas - South Central Texas

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

<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	10
Franks sedge	OBL	8	Watercress *	OBL	3	Indigobush amorph	OBL	7
Britton sedge	OBL	6/7	Water hyssop	OBL	3	Black willow	FACW	7
Black sedge	OBL	6	Water pennywort	OBL	3	Arroyo willow	FACW	7
Sawgrass	OBL	9	Water speedwell	OBL	3	Spiny aster	FACW	8
Rice cutgrass	OBL	6	Monkeyflower	OBL	3	Box elder maple	FACW	7
Southern wildrice	OBL	9	Scouring rush	OBL	6	Green ash	FACW	6
Water bentgrass	OBL	4/5	Water hemlock	OBL	6	Possum haw	FACW	6
Cattail	OBL	9	Marsh fleabane	OBL	5	Salt cedar	FACW	7
Bulrushes (most)	OBL	9	Smooth bidens	OBL	5	Dwarf palmetto	FACW	7
Porcupine sedge	OBL	5	Cardinalflower	FACW	5	Sycamore	FAC	6
Knotgrass	FACW	6	Tall aster	FACW	5	Eastern cottonwood	FAC	6/7
Hairyseed paspalum	FACW	6	Spiny aster	FACW	8	Pecan	FAC	6
Bushy bluestem	FACW	5	Large or small buttercup	FACW	6	Little walnut	FAC	8
Flatsedges (most)	FACW	5	Bog nettle	FACW	5	Roosevelt baccharis	FAC	6
White top sedge	FACW	5/6	River primrose	FACW	4	American elder	FAC	6
Rushes (most)	OBL or FACW	5-7	Dock (most)	FACW	4	Roughleaf dogwood	FAC	6
Aparejoggrass	FACW	6	Mint *	FACW	3	Sugar hackberry	FAC	5
Barnyardgrass	FACW	4	Smallhead sneezeweed	FACW	3	American elm	FAC	6
Rabbitsfoot grass *	FACW	3	Sesbania	FACW	3	Cedar elm	FAC	6
Switchgrass	FAC	9	Poison hemlock*	FACW	5	Bur oak	FAC	6
Eastern gammagrass	FAC	9	Scarlet pimpernel	FACW	2	Chinquapin oak	FAC	6
Lindheimer muhly	FAC	7	Smartweeds	OBL or FACW	3-5	Lindheimer indigo	FAC	5
Wildrye	FAC	5	Frogfruit	FAC	4	Wafer ash (Ptelea)	FAC	6
White tridens	FAC	5	Late boneset	FAC	5	Dewberry	FAC	4
Vine-mesquite	FAC	6	Dogbane	FAC	7	Greenbriar	FAC	5
Seep muhly	FAC	6	Ironweed	FAC	5	Poison ivy	FAC	5
Broadleaf Uniola	FAC	6	Shield fern	FAC	6	Grape vine (most)	FAC	5
Knotroot bristlegrass	FAC	5	Giant ragweed	FAC	3	Japanese honeysuckle *	FAC	6
Dallisgrass *	FAC	7	Annual sumpweed	FAC	3	Live oak	FACU	6
Vaseygrass *	FAC	5	Brazilian verbena *	FAC	4	Netleaf hackberry	FACU	5
Rustyseed paspalum	FAC	5	Cocklebur	FAC	3	Red mulberry	FACU	6
Giant reed (Arundo)*	FAC	8	Tall goldenrod	FACU	6	Mesquite	FACU	5
St Augustine grass *	FAC	6	Common ragweed	FACU	2	Huisache	FACU	5
Torpedograss *	FAC	7	Frostweed	FACU	6	Western soapberry	FACU	6
Indiangrass	FACU	7	Maximilian sunflower	FACU	6	Bumelia	FACU	6
Johnsongrass *	FACU	6	Clammyweed	FACU	3	Black walnut	FACU	6
Bermudagrass *	FACU	5	Castor bean *	FACU	3	Desert willow	FACU	6
Dichanthelium (most)	FACU	4	Turk's cap	UPL	5	Carolina snailseed	FACU	4
Southwestern bristle	UPL	5	Plateau goldeneye	UPL	5	Chinese tallow *	FACU	6
King Ranch bluestem *	UPL	5				Texas buckeye	FACU	6
						Bois d'arc	UPL	6
						Gravelbar bricklebrush	UPL	4/5
						Slender bricklebrush	UPL	4/5
						Burrobrush	UPL	6
						Whitebrush	UPL	6
						Juniper	UPL	5
						Mexican persimmon	UPL	5
						Vitex *	UPL	6
						Ligustrum *	UPL	5/6
						Chinese privet	UPL	6
						Chinaberry *	UPL	5

*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. (See GTR0-47) Bare ground has a SR of 1. Anchored rock or logs have a SR of 10. A combined SR of 6 is considered the minimum for acceptable bank stability in the Rio Grande Plains. 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 conditions.

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

Revised March, 2018

For comments, additions or corrections contact: Steve Nelle
nelleangelo@suddenlink.net