

Rangeland Productivity and Plant Composition

Douglas-Plateau Area, Colorado, Parts of Garfield and Mesa Counties

Map symbol and soil name	Ecological site	Total dry-weight production			Characteristic vegetation	Rangeland composition
		Favorable year	Normal year	Unfavorable year		
		Lb/Ac	Lb/Ac	Lb/Ac		Pct
44: Happle	Rolling Loam	1,000	800	500	Western wheatgrass	20
					Wyoming big sagebrush	15
					Bottlebrush squirreltail	10
					Sandberg bluegrass	10
					Indian ricegrass	5
					Needleandthread	5
					Other perennial forbs	5
					Prairie Junegrass	5
					Yellow rabbitbrush	5

Map Unit Description

Douglas-Plateau Area, Colorado, Parts of Garfield and Mesa Counties

44 Happle very channery sandy loam, 3 to 12 percent slopes

Setting

Elevation: 5200 to 6000 feet

Mean annual precipitation: 12 to 15 inches

Mean annual air temperature: 46 to 52 degrees F

Frost-free period: 100 to 150 days

Composition

Happle and similar soils: 80 percent

Description of Happle

Setting

Landform: Alluvial fans

Down-slope shape: Convex

Across-slope shape: Linear

Parent material: Green river formation alluvium derived from shale

Properties and Qualities

Slope: 3 to 12 percent

Drainage class: Well drained

Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat): Moderately high or high (0.57 to 2.00 in/hr)

Frequency of flooding: None

Frequency of ponding: None

Calcium carbonate maximum: 10 percent

Gypsum maximum: 0 percent

Available water capacity: Low (about 3.4 inches)

Interpretive Groups

Land capability (non irrigated): 4e

Ecological site: Rolling Loam (R034XY298CO)

Typical Profile

0 to 7 inches: very channery sandy loam

7 to 14 inches: very channery sandy loam

14 to 32 inches: very channery sandy clay loam

32 to 60 inches: extremely channery sandy loam