

Common Plants of the Welder Wildlife Refuge

Note: Information in this appendix is taken from Welder documents such as the River Walk guide, from reliable Internet resources, and from these references:

- *Field Guide to the Broad-Leaved Herbaceous Plants of South Texas*, James H. Everitt, D. Lynn Drawe, and Robert I. Lonard
- *Grasses of South Texas*, James H. Everitt, D. Lynn Drawe, Christopher R. Little, and Robert I. Lonard
- *Trees, Shrubs, and Cacti of South Texas*, James H. Everitt & D. Lynn Drawe

Photos are from the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center's collection of plant images, other Internet sources, Welder volunteers, and Shelly Maher (Kika de la Garza Plant Materials Center) on a Welder tour. This appendix is designed as an educational tool not to be published outside WWF; it is not believed that any copyright issues exist.

Other Useful References

Glossary of plant terms <http://glossary.gardenweb.com/glossary/>

(or use *Woody Plants of the Rob and Bessie Welder Wildlife Refuge*, Stephan L. Hatch and D. Lynn Drawe):

Scientific name pronunciation guide <http://rainyside.com/resources/reference/PronunciationGuideAB.html>
(incomplete but will offer clues):

Herbaceous Plants/Wildflowers

Note: This herbaceous section is organized by color for ease in looking up plants:

- White, greenish, or inconspicuous flower
- Yellow, orange, red-orange
- Pink and red
- Blue and purple

Within each color section, plants are in alphabetical order by common name.

Key: FGH = *Field Guide to the Broad-Leaved Herbaceous Plants of South Texas*

Ball moss

Tillandsia recurvata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TIRE

Epiphytic perennial with linear, gray-green leaves; forms a ball shape as it grows. Flowers Jun-Aug.



Coast germander

Teucrium cubense

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TECU

Perennial to 60 cm usually with upright stems. Leaves incised or deeply lobed. White flowers in upper axils. Heavier sands or clay; Mar-Dec.



Crow poison or False garlic

Nothoscordum bivalve

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NOBI2

Perennial to 1 ft. Umbel usually 6- to 11-flowered; white with reddish central vein. **Key:** Much like wild onion but without the odor. FGH pg 171



Dock

Rumex chrysocarpus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RUCH3

Perennial herb to 2 ft with a basal rosette of leaves. Stalk is upright and has alternate, mostly entire leaves. The small, greenish flowers are arranged in dense clusters on elongated stems. The mature flowering stalk and the three-sided fruit are usually brown at maturity. Each fruiting body contains a single black or brown seed. FGH pg 217



Engelmann's evening primrose
Oenothera engelmannii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=OEEN

Annual herb; white flowers. Trailing stems. Used by native bees.



False ragweed

Parthenium confertum

(*par-thin-ee-um con-fur-tum*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PACO11

Subshrub/forb/herb 7-27 in tall. Leaves in bunches, covered with small hairs. The flowers are white and consist of both ray and disk flowers. The leaves have small lobes toward the base and larger and more rounded lobes toward the end. FGH pg 57



Frogfruit

Phyla nodiflora var *incisa* (Syn *Phyla incisa*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=phno2

Leaves broadest above middle; teeth widely spaced over most of the marginal surface. About 1-3 in tall to 6 in when in flower. Spreads to form large open or dense patches. The inflorescence consists of a purple-colored center encircled by small white-to-pink flowers. FGH pg 247



Frostweed

Verbesina virginica; Syn *V. microptera*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=VEVI3

Perennial to 120 cm; leaves roughish. **Key:** lateral wings on stems and leaf petioles. FGH pg 69



Heart-sepal wild buckwheat

Eriogonum multiflorum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ERMU4

Annual or biannual to 120 cm; white flowers in 6-in head Sep-Dec. Grows in deep sands. Dead plant seed heads have striking shapes in winter and spring. FGH pg 215



Hooker's plantain
Plantago hookeriana

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PLHO

Grayish short-stemmed, cool season annual with a slender taproot; leaves linear to narrowly oblanceolate, entire or with small scattered denticulations. Grows to 40 cm; flowers in dense spikes, whitish Feb-Jun. Found in sandy soils. Seed is consumed by game birds such as bobwhite quail and mourning doves, and foliage is eaten by bobwhite quail, Rio Grande wild turkeys, white-tailed deer, and cattle. FGH pg 211



Horsemint or Spotted horsemint or Spotted beebalm
Monarda punctata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MOPU

Perennial ranging from 6 in to almost 3 ft. Rosettes of yellowish, purple-spotted, tubular flowers occur in whorls, forming a dense, elongated spike at the end of the stem or from leaf axils. Each whorl is subtended by large, conspicuous, whitish, purple-tinged, leaf-like bracts. Note: Jones' book (revised) says *M. Citriodora* var *parva* also on WWR; bracts less noticeable. See photo FGH pg 165.



Knotweed leaf flower or Smartweed leaf flower
Phyllanthus polygonoides

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PHPO3

Perennial to 40 cm; oblong to ovate leaves. Flowers axillary with green or yellow calyx. FGH pg 113



Late-flowering boneset
Eupatorium serotinum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=EUSE2

Perennial herb 1-3 ft; flowers resemble other mistflowers except they are white. Bloom Sep-Nov.



Pepperweed
Lepidium virginicum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LEVI3

Perennial herb to 1 ft Tiny white flowers with 4 petals and only 2 stamens, arranged in elongated clusters. Seeds eaten by birds; have a peppery taste and can be used to season soups and stews. FGH pg 75



Possum grape or Cow-itch vine or Grape ivy

Cissus trifoliata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CITR2

Mostly herbaceous vine, woody at the base, with thick, fleshy leaves yielding a fetid odor when crushed. Leaves to 3 1/2 in long including the petiole, commonly 3 lobed or divided into 3 leaflets with the terminal one symmetric and the laterals asymmetric. Tendrils coiling at the tip. Flowers small, in greenish flat topped to rounded clusters up to 2 in wide. Fruit broadly ovate, 1/4 to 1/3 in long, black when ripe. FGH pg 211



Rabbit-tobacco

Evax prolifera

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=EVPR

Annual herb to 1 ft, but usually no more than 6 in. Has what appear to be wooly hairs on its flowers and stalk. It grows very low to the ground and is a rather inconspicuous plant.



Rain lily

Cooperia drummondii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CODR2

Bulbous perennial with fragrant, solitary, white flower, six-petaled and terminal on a leafless, 12 in. stem. Opening in the evening, it lasts 2-4 days before turning pink and withering. Smooth, gray-green, grass-like leaves elongate after the flower has faded. FGH pg 19



Redseed plantain

Plantago rhodosperma

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PLRH

Annual herb from a taproot. The leaves are lance-shaped, gray-green, and lightly hairy. The inflorescence is a narrow spike up to 20 cm long Mar-May. Each small flower produces two red or reddish black seeds. Common on clay soils. FGH pg 211



Rough stoneseed

Lithospermum matamorensense

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LIMA5

Annual herb 1-3 ft; pubescent leaves alternate on upright or trailing stems. One or more white 5-petaled flowers at the end of each stem. Often found in partial shade under tree line.



Silky evolvulus
Evolvulus sericeus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=evse

Perennial with spreading stems to 30 cm. Leaves linear-lanceolate. Corolla white or light blue-violet. Loamy soils Mar-Nov. Another species, Slender evolvulus is blue to purple and leaves are smaller. FGH pg 93



Sticktight or Catchweed bedstraw or Stickywilly or Clingon bedstraw
Galium aparine

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=GAAP2 good photos at
http://www.sbs.utexas.edu/bio406d/images/pics/rub/galium_aparine.htm

Weak-stemmed, reclining plant with backward-hooked bristles on stems and leaves, and clusters of 1-3 very small white flowers on stalks rising from whorled leaf axils. Bristles cause the stems, leaves, and fruits to cleave to clothes and the fur of animals.



Sumpweed
Iva annua

(Eye-vuh ann-you-uh)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=IVAN2

Aromatic annual forb. Stems erect with upward-oriented hairs. Leaves alternate above, opposite below; 3 distinct veins arising from petiole; toothed margins. FGH pg 51



Tenpetal anemone
Anemone berlandieri

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ANBE

Perennial 6–14 in tall, with 1 greenish-white or purplish-blue flower to a stem. The few leaves are well below the flower, often near the ground. The parts of the flower that look like petals are actually the 10-20 sepals. The pistils form a conelike structure about 1 inch long. FGH pg 221



Texas bullnettle
Cnidoscolus texanus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CNTE

Spiny, deep-rooted, herbaceous perennial 1 to 3 ft. May have one to several spiny stems from a single root system. If a stem is broken, a milky white sap appears. Leaves dark green and alternate. Each leaf is divided into five leaflets that are crinkled in appearance and covered with stiff, stinging hairs. Flowers Apr-Sep, 5 to 7 white, showy, petal-like sepals that are united below. FGH pg 103



Texas nightshade or Hierba mora

Solanum triquetrum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SOTR2

Semi-evergreen perennial or subshrub with upright or sprawling vine-like stems. Leaves triangular-ovate to linear; often lobed. Flowers white to lavender Feb-Nov; berries red. FGH pg 241



Texas pricklypoppy

Argemone aurantiaca

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ARAU2

Annual or biennial. Stems widely branching, prickly throughout. Leaf blade prickly. Flowers 8-12 cm broad, closely subtended by 1-2 foliaceous bracts; petals white; stamens 150 or more; filaments pale yellow; pistil 5-6. Flowering spring-summer; fruiting summer-fall. Most often found on disturbed ground; sandy soils. FGH pg 209



Warty spurge

Euphorbia spathulata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=EUSP

Annual herb to 45 cm; milky sap; leaves opposite. Inconspicuous lowers contained in a cup-like structure that surrounds the stem.



Western ragweed

Ambrosia psilostachya

(Am-broze-ee-uh sigh-lo-stack-ee-uh)

Syn: *Ambrosia cumanensis*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=AMPS

Perennial; slender, branching. Leaves from lance-shaped to nearly oval, divided into many narrow, pointed lobes. The stem and leaves are hairy. Inflorescence usually a spike. FGH pg 29



Woolly-white or Old plainsman

Hymenopappus artemisiifolius

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=HYAR3

Biennial, 2-4 ft. Many-branched stems arise from a basal rosette of pale bluish, bipinnate leaves. Flower heads at the end of stems, sometimes having as many as 60 florets in a cluster. The bracts supporting the flower are snowy white on the outer half, giving the whole head a white appearance. Disk flowers are rose-colored to dark wine; no ray flowers.



Wooly croton or Doveweed or Hogwort

Croton capitatus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CRCA6

Warm-season annual with hairs on the surfaces of the leaves and stems. Leaves usually entire and alternate. They have an aromatic smell when crushed. Flowers are arranged in spikes at the ends of the stems. Fruit is a capsule with three segments supporting three individual seeds. Seeds valuable to dove, quail and other seed-eating birds. Found in sandy prairies. According to Jones, ours is var. *lindheimeri*. FGH pg 105



Brown-eyed susan

Rudbeckia hirta

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RUHI2

Annual to 60 cm with roughish alternate leaves. Flowers usually have a reddish spot at the base of the rays. We have var. *angustifolia* and var. *pulcherrima*. FGH pg 61



Butterweed

Senecio glabellus Syn: *Packera glabella*

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=pag17>

http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=11184

Cool-season annual to 18 to 20 in. Basal leaves up to 4 in long are deeply lobed, with oblong, lateral lobes having wavy margins. Usually one stalk. Can be unbranched or branched above, depending upon moisture and soil fertility. Numerous yellow flowers on short stalks, forming a large terminal cluster.



Coreopsis or Goldenmane tickseed

Coreopsis basalis

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=COBA2

Annual; usually 20-30 cm. Leaves pinnately or bipinnately compound. Found in deeper sands; blooms Apr-Jul.



Cowpen daisy
Verbesina encelioides

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=VEEN

Annual to 1m. Leaf petiole usually broadly winged at base. Flower disks and rays both yellow; some black in disk. Blooms Feb-Dec. Grows in sandy soils. FGH pg 69



Cut leaf evening primrose
Oenothera laciniata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=OELA

Annual 4–18 in high, erect or prostrate. Leaves are alternate, simple, pinnately cleft into rounded lobes, or sometimes merely wavy-edged or toothed. Usually 2 in long and 1/2 inch wide. The small, pale yellow flowers are borne singly in the axils, with 4 heart shaped petals united at the base to form a tube; 1/5–3/5 inch long, with 8 stamens, and 1 pistil. FGH pg 203



Fringed puccoon
Lithospermum incisum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LIIN2

Perennial to 20 cm; leaves oblanceolate to linear. Corolla lobes are toothed and often ruffled; yellow Mar-Apr. Grows in sandy or clayey loam.



Huisache daisy
Amblyolepis setigera

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=AMSE

Annual to 30 cm; mostly oblong or ovate leaves. Flower disks and rays both yellow-gold. Fragrant. Sandy loam Feb-Jun. FGH pg 31



Low menodora or Redbud

Menodora heterophylla

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MEHE2

Perennial to 20 cm, often forming mats. **Key:** buds red; flowers red on reverse Feb-Dec. Grows in clay soils. FGH pg 199



Mexican hat

Ratibida columnifera

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RACO3

Perennial; branched and leafy in lower part, usually 1 1/2 ft. tall but can reach 3 ft. Long leafless stalks bearing flower heads of 3-7 flowers. Flower petals range from dark red and yellow, to all red or all yellow. The flowers central brown disk protrudes 1/2 to 2 in. above the drooping petals. Leaves on the lower portion of the stem are feathery and deeply cleft. FGH pg 59



Nueces coreopsis or Tickseed

Coreopsis nuecensoides

http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=20807

Annual to 40 cm. Leaves pinnately compound Inner phyllaries glabrous. Sandy soils; Feb-May. FGH pg 39



Orange zexmenia

Wedelia texana; Syn *W. hispida*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=WETE

Shrub or subshrub, 1-3 ft, woody at the base and herbaceous in the leafy parts. Upper stems covered with stiff appressed hairs and rough to the touch. Rough-hairy, gray-green foliage. Leaves lobed in the basal half on either or both sides to narrow and unlobed, with margins weakly toothed or untoothed. Daisy-like flowers summer to frost. FGH pg 71



Plains coreopsis

Coreopsis tinctoria

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=COTI3

Slender, 1-2 ft. annual with pinnately compound foliage. Numerous smooth, slightly angled branches bearing showy, daisy-like flower heads with yellow rays surrounding a reddish-purple central disk. The yellow petals are notch-tipped. Flower heads occur on long stalks from the multi-branching stems. Key: taller than other Coreopsis varieties. FGH pg 41



Scarlet pimpernel

Anagallis arvensis

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=ANAR>

Annual to 4 in by 1 ft. Flower Jun–Aug. Flowers may be bright, deep blue or orange with scarlet centers. Not native—introduced



Scrambled eggs

Corydalis micrantha

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=COMI2

Winter annual or biennial with long-spurred flowers about 1/2 inch (1.5 cm) long and highly divided leaves. FGH pg 149



Silver bladderpod

Lesquerella argyrea

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LEAR3

Perennial with mostly reclining stems to 50 cm; grayish entire or toothed leaves. Bloom: yellow; Apr-Jun. Member of the Mustard family. FGH pg 77



Silverleaf sunflower

Helianthus argophyllus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=HEAR3

Annual to 13 ft; blooms summer – fall; seed for 21 species of birds; Larval host: Bordered Patch, Painted Lady, Checkerspot



Slender yellow woodsorrel

Oxalis dillenii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=OXDI2

Perennial to 15 in tall with deep tap root. Stems usually erect. Leaves palmately divided into 3 heart-shaped leaflets, green to yellow-green, that fold in the evening or when it is cloudy. Yellow flowers 1/2–1 inch across, with 5 sepals, 5 petals, 10 stamens, and 1 pistil. One to several blossoms on a slender stem borne in the leaf axils. FGH pg 207



Spreading sida

Sida abutilifolia

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=SIAB> photo at
http://www.sbs.utexas.edu/bio406d/images/pics/mlv/sida_abutilifolia.htm

Low-growing perennial with stems to 25 cm. Flowers may have a salmon blush to the yellow. Note the pinwheel shape. FGH pg 187



Squarebud daisy or Showy nerve-ray

Tetragonotheca repanda

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TERE2

Perennial to 60 cm; flower disks and rays greenish-yellow Mar-Nov; buds appear square. Grows in deep sand. FGH pg 65



Stiff-stem flax, or Yellow flax

Linum rigidum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LIRI

Perennial with usually upright stems to 40 cm. Leaves linear-lanceolate. Petals yellow; reddish on the lower half. Sand or clay loam; Feb-Jun. We also may have *L. alatum* – see FGH pg 170-173 for difference.



Threelobe false mallow

Malvastrum coromandelianum

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=MACO6>

Distinctive whorl of three lanceolate leaves; margins coarsely serrate. Pinwheel-shaped flowers solitary in the upper leaf axils, cream or pale yellow. Introduced. FGH pg 183



Woolly globemallow
Sphaeralcea lindheimeri

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SPLI

Trailing habit; forms large patches in loose sand of prairies and post-oak woodlands of southern Texas, mostly near the coast and in the inland sand plain of South Texas. Native only to Texas; it is thus said to be endemic to Texas. Orange flowers Feb-May. FGH pg 193



Yellow ground cherry
Physalis viscosa

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PHV17

Yellow flowers hang below the light-green, pubescent leaves, facing downward. Leaves and fruits are important foods for deer, turkey, and javelina. Seeds are eaten by quail and mourning doves. FGH pg 233



Yellow mecardonia or Baby Jump-up
Mecardonia procumbens

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MEPR2

Annual. Flowers are 1/2 inch (1.3 cm) long, surrounded by 3 green bracts at the base, and tubular in shape with 2 joined upper lobes, 3 lower lobes, and a brown-lined throat. Leaves are light green, fleshy, opposite, toothed, and have pinnate venation. Stems are square.



Bracted sida
Sida ciliaris

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SICI

Annual herb less than 1 ft; recumbent stems. Note pinwheel shape of flower; not shown well here—better photo FGH pg 188



Cardinal feather
Acalypha radians

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ACRA

Perennial, often forming mounds. Leaves with finger-like lobes. Male (left) and female (right) flowers differ as shown; will always find them growing within 4 or 5 ft of each other. Sandy soils. FGH pg 99



Drummond phlox
Phlox drummondii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PHDR

Annual 6-12 in. tall. Flowers range in color from pink to red, white, peach, or lavender. The 1 in. blooms are in terminal clusters and are trumpet-shaped with a short, narrow tube. The leaves are soft, hairy and sticky. **Note:** in Central Texas, flowers are usually red, but ours are pink. FGH pg 213



Meadow pink or Texas star
Sabatia campestris

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SACA3

Smooth perennial, to 1 ft, with slender, widely spaced branches. The 2 in. flower is five-petaled and pink with a yellow center. The showy flowers occur at ends of branches and on long axillary stalks. Opposite leaves clasp the stems.



Pink mint
Stachys drummondii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=STDR

Annual-biennial to 50 cm; leaves ovate. Flowers in leafy spike-like racemes (flower branches). Often in partial shade. FGH pg 169 has better photo



Plains gaura
Gaura brachycarpa

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=GABR2

Leaves borne singly on the stems and frequently in a basal rosette. Flowers are pink to white in spikes or racemes. They open in the evening. The 4 petals are on the upper side of the flower, giving it a slightly bilateral symmetry. There are normally 8 prominent stamens and 1 pistil. The stamens have reddish-brown anthers. The genus is easily recognized, but the species are sometimes difficult, due partly to a great deal of hybridization. FGH pg 201



Prairie agalinis or Prairie gerardia
Agalinis heterophylla

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=AGHE4

Warm-season annual in the Foxglove family to 3 ft tall. A key characteristic is that stems turn black when the plant dies in the summer or fall. Depending on moisture, the purple tubular flowers appear in the summer, late summer, or fall. The forage value of this plant is low for livestock and fair for wildlife. FGH pg 229



Pyramid flower
Melochia pyramidata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MEPY

Sprawling to erect annual or perennial, herb or shrub, 0.3-1.5 m high; blooms Aug-Oct



Scarlet pea or Western indigo
Indigofera miniata var *leptosepala*

<http://www.ckwri.tamuk.edu/research-programs/south-texas-natives/native-plant-list/forbs/scarlet-pea/>

Low-growing forb found on sandy loam and deep sandy soils in the Rio Grande Plains and Coastal Prairies. The leaves and stems are good forage for white-tailed deer, Rio Grande turkeys and cattle. Seeds occasionally consumed by bobwhite quail and doves. See photo FGH pg 133



Scarlet sage or Tropical sage
Salvia coccinea

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SACO5

Herbaceous perennial. Several whorls of red flowers form an interrupted spike on a square stem. Found in partial shade under the edges of trees. Used by hummingbirds. FGH pg 167



Sensitive briar

Mimosa latidens; Syn: *Schrankia latidens*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MILA15

Prickly perennial with trailing stems to 1m. Leaves bipinnate; pink blooms May–Sep. Sandy soils. FGH pg 143



Showy evening primrose

Oenothera speciosa

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=OESP2

Upright to sprawling, 1 1/2 ft. perennial, spreads to form extensive colonies. Large, four-petaled flowers range from dark pink to white in the upper leaf axils on slender, downy stems. Blossoms are lined with pink or red veins. Foliage is usually linear and pinnate, although leaves can be entire and lance-shaped depending on locality. FGH pg 205



Texas paintbrush or Entireleaf Indian paintbrush

Castilleja indivisa

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CAIN13

Annual or biennial 6-16 in. Unbranched stems form clumps topped by bright-red, paintbrush-like spikes. The flowers are actually inconspicuous and greenish, but are subtended by showy, red-tipped bracts. The roots of this plant will grow until they touch the roots of other plants, frequently grasses, penetrating these host roots to obtain a portion of their nutrients.

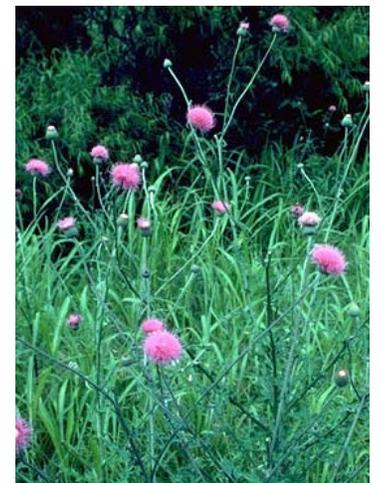


Texas thistle

Cirsium texanum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CITE2

Annual, biennial 2-5 ft tall, sparingly branched near the top. Leaves alternate, 4-9 in long, smaller on the upper third of the stem. Leaves are green above and white below, with a woolly texture on the underside. The irregular lobes have spines at the tip but few elsewhere on the leaf. One flower head to a stem, with no ray flowers but numerous deep rose-lavender disk flowers. FGH pg 37



Wild geranium
Geranium carolinianum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=GECA5

Much-branched, sprawling, pubescent annual or biennial, usually no taller than 1 ft. Leaves are palmately five-parted, these divisions being cleft or lobed again. Five-petaled, pale pink or white flowers occur in loose terminal clusters. Leaves are eaten by white-tailed deer and Rio Grande turkeys and seeds are eaten by mourning doves. FGH pg 151



Wine cup
Callirhoe involucrata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CAIN2

Perennial; sprawls along the ground to 3 ft, forming a thick mat up to 1 foot tall. Rounded, hairy leaves are deeply lobed and cleft. The chalice-shaped, 1 1/2-2 1/2 in. wide flowers have a white spot at the base of their five, maroon petals. Flowers, which are borne on long, axillary stalks, close in the evening, open in the morning and remain closed after pollination. FGH pg 179



Baby blue-eyes
Nemophila phacelioides

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NEPH

Upright to straggling, hairy annual, 6-12 in. high. Showy, pale-blue, bowl-shaped blossoms are frosted or whitish in the center and occur from leaf axils or in clusters at stem tips. Leaves are blue-green and lobed or divided into 9-11 broad segments. Blooms early and dies by summer. **Key:** Similar to Sand phacelia, but paler, and anthers appear black; Baby blue-eyes more likely in shade than sun.



Blue curls phacelia
Phacelia congesta

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PHCO2

Leafy annual or biennial 1-3 ft. tall. Purple to lavender-blue, bell-shaped flowers, deeply lobed at the rim, have conspicuously protruding stamens. The flowers are numerous, in slender, coiled clusters which uncurl as the buds develop. Leaves are soft and deeply cut, appearing ragged-looking. Seen inside de la Portillo monument fence. FGH pg 155



Blue-eyed grass
Sisyrinchium angustifolium

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SIAN3

Perennial to 12 in; narrow, light-green leaves; light-blue, star-shaped flowers with yellow centers in 2 broad bracts top a flat stem, generally only 1 flower at a time in bloom; stems taller than the clusters of narrow, sword-shaped leaves near base. FGH pg 157



Clasping Venus' looking-glass

Triodanis perfoliata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TRPE4

Annual herb. Blue-violet flowers set singly in the axils of leaves that clasp the stem. Flowers are bell-shaped and have 5-lobed corollas that are radially symmetrical. The leaves are 1/4-1" wide, are scallop-edged and shell-shaped. The plant is 6-18" high and flowers from May to August. It produces a small, many-seeded capsule as fruit. FGH pg 83



Deer pea vetch

Vicia ludoviciana

<http://uvalde.tamu.edu/herbarium/forbs-common-name-index/deer-pea-vetch/>

Annual with climbing stems 6-36 in long. Lavender-blue flowers less than 1/4 in long. Leaves pinnately compound to 3 in with 6-12 separate leaflets. Fruit is a flat pod, 3/4-1 inch long. Nutritious browse for wildlife and a soil builder through nitrogen fixation. FGH pg 145



Drummond's skullcap

Scutellaria drummondii

Perennial to 12 in. Often branched at the base, forming clumps. Leaves opposite and densely arranged. Each leaf is 1/3-3/4 inch long and mostly oval, occasionally somewhat oblong. Flowers grow in the axils of the leaflike bracts. They have 5 sepals and 5 bluish-purple petals united to form a 2-lipped blossom 2/3-1 inch long. The lower lip is notched.

Key: Skullcaps can be distinguished from other mints by the crest on the upper surface of the blossom. FGH pg 167



Herbertia or Prairie nymph or Prairie celestial

Herbertia lahue

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=HELA6

Miniature clump of narrow foliage to only 2 in tall. Blue-lavender flowers composed of three large oblong petals surrounding a contrasting white eye, open late morning Mar-May. A member of the iris family.



Lobelia or Berlandier lobelia

Lobelia berlandieri

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LOBE3>

Cool-season annual to 20 in; most plants less than 12 in. Most leaves originate from the base of the stem and are hairless, oval and up to 2 in long on short stems. The leaves on the stalks are lance-shaped and much smaller. From one to 20 thin, ascending branches, each bearing a loose stalk of small, bright, purplish-blue flowers with white "eyes." Poisonous to both livestock and wildlife. Not native—introduced



Mistflower or Crucita

Chromolaena odorata (Syn *Eupatorium odoratum*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CHOD

Deciduous sub-shrub. Branched stems curve upward 2-6 ft. in height. Somewhat triangular-shaped leaves are virtually evergreen in extreme south Texas. Lilac to bright purplish-blue flowers cluster together into showy, ageratum-like flower heads. FGH pg 43



Prairie larkspur

Delphinium carolinianum ssp. *virescens*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=DECA3

Slender, upright perennial, unbranched stems from 1-2 ft. tall. Pale lavender-blue to white spurred flowers appear in a narrow, terminal spike. Leaves divided and lobed into narrow segments. Basal leaves often form a winter rosette that withers before the flowers open. The Spanish name is Espuela del caballero from its resemblance to a horseman's spur.



Ruellia

Ruellia nudiflora

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RUNU

Perennial 1–2 ft. Leaves opposite, 2–5 in, on short stems. Gray-green leaves have curly or wavy-toothed margins. Trumpet-shaped, purplish blossoms nearly 2 in across at the opening and deeply lobed at the flared rim. Flowers open about sunrise & fall from plant early afternoon. FGH pg 11



Ruellia

Ruellia nudiflora var. *runyonii* (Syn *Ruellia runyonii*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RUNUR

Perennial Subshrub; leaf margins remotely toothed; petioles pubescent. FGH pg 11



Sand Brazoria

Brazoria truncata var. *pulcherrima*

http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/result.php?id_image=8777

Annual to 35 cm with lanceolate leaves. Flowers in **compact** racemes; 2-lipped, with pale yellow purple-spotted throat. On the shore of Big Lake in spring. Note: not the same species as Sand Brazoria growing at Bay Overlook, on Aransas National Wildlife Refuge.



Sand phacelia
Phacelia patuliflora

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PHPA4

Annual to 30 cm with mostly reclining stems. Flowers blue-violet, sometimes with white center. **Key:** Similar to Baby blue-eyes, but more purple than blue; stamens longer and anthers not black. Sand phacelia grows in sun rather than part shade. FGH pg 155



Sandyland bluebonnet
Lupinus subcarnosus

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LUSU>

Winter annual 6-16 in; bright-blue, pea-like flowers have a white center that turns purple with age or pollination. These showy flowers occur in a loose terminal spike. Leaves are palmately divided into five leaflets. FGH pg 135



Silverleaf nightshade
Solanum elaeagnifolium

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SOEL

Perennial 1–3 ft tall. Covering of silvery hairs, among which are the nettle-like prickles. Leaves are 2–4 in long, with wavy edges. Flowers are violet-purple or white, about 3/4 inch across, with 5 petal-like lobes joined at the base, forming a triangular shape at the tip of each lobe. Prominent, bright yellow stamens. The yellow fruits resemble small tomatoes and remain on the plant for months. They are said to be poisonous. FGH pg 237



Stemless spiderwort
Tradescantia subcaulis

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TRSU

Perennial herb to 1 ft. Petals all colors of pink, purple, and blue Mar-Jun. Three-petaled lowers may be more pointed than the photo. Special value to native bees. FGH pg 89



Texas toadflax
Nuttallanthus texanus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NUTE

Two-lipped violet to pale blue flowers atop tall, slender stalks to 32 in. A slender recurved spur extends to the rear of the calyx. Small, basal leaf rosette. **Key:** similar to Texas Vervain, but flowers on that plant have 5 petal-like lobes and no spur.



Texas vervain

Verbena halei

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=VEHA

Erect, rough, hairy, square-stemmed perennial 1–2 1/2 ft tall, with several branches in the upper part. The leaves vary widely, with the bottom leaves deeply cut in some cases and the upper leaves slightly toothed, or sometimes with smooth margins. Leaves are 3/4–3 in long and 1 1/2 in wide. Several small flowers in long, loose clusters, blooming around the stem from the bottom up, usually 6–20 flowers blooming at the same time. They are bluish to lavender, 1/4 inch across, trumpet-shaped, ending in 5 petal-like lobes. FGH pg 249



Widow's tears or Dayflower

Commelina erecta

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=COER

Perennial semi-erect. Flowers with 2 large, ear-like blue petals and one smaller white petal, in a bract, at the top of several erect branches. They only bloom for a day, but there are several buds on a plant that open 3-4 days apart. The principal leaves are linear to somewhat lance-shaped. FGH pg 87



Shrubs & Trees

Key: TS&C = *Trees, Shrubs, and Cacti of South Texas*

Note: Page numbers are given as TS&C pg ###/###, with the revised book last

Agarito

Mahonia trifoliolata; Syn: *Berberis trifoliolata*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MATR3

Evergreen shrub; leaves palmately compound, trifoliate with spinescent margins; leaflets 2.5-6.2 cm long; fruit small red berry. Many species of birds and mammals eat berries (which also make excellent jelly) reddish new growth makes tasty garnish for salads; roasted berries can be used as a coffee substitute. Leaves and stems are browsed by deer. TS&C pg 11/47



Anacua

Ehretia anacua

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=EHAN

Shrub or tree; leaves simple, alternate, ovate-elliptic, thick with **rough surface**, 2.5-7.6 cm long; fruit a yellow-orange drupe. Fruit eaten by several species of birds and mammals. Wood has been used for farm tools because it is so hard. Blooms again after rain. TS&C pg 13/50



Black Willow or Sauz

Salix nigra

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SANI

Tree to 25 m; leaves simple, alternate, linear to narrowly lanceolate with serrate margins, 7.6-12.7 cm long; fruit a small pointed capsule. Several bird species use this tree as nest sites; eat catkins and insects. Bark contains an aspirin-like compound and was used by American Indians to treat fever. TS&C pg 159/188



Blackbrush acacia or Chapparo prieto

Acacia rigidula

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ACRI

Thorny, many-stemmed shrub to 4 m with bipinnately compound, dark green leaves. Leaves with 1 pair of pinnae and 2-4 pairs of leaflets per pinna; leaflets 4-12 mm long. Flowers white or light yellow, small; fruit a reddish-brown to black, flat, curved legume. Seeds eaten by bobwhite quail; leaves and fruits browsed by white-tailed deer. TS&C pg 95/111



Brasil or Bluewood condalia or Capul negro

Condalia hookeri

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=COHO

Spinescent shrub or small tree; light-green leaves alternate or clustered, simple, obovate with entire margins, mostly more than 3 cm long; greenish small flowers; fruit a shiny black drupe. Leaves browsed by deer, fruits are eaten by many birds and mammals including humans, but poisonous to sheep. **Key:** Asymmetric leaf shape. A blue dye can be derived from the wood. TS&C pg 141/168



Carolina wolfberry

Lycium carolinianum

(Lie-see-um karo-line-ee-a-num)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=LYCA2

Shrub with spiny branches, erect or spreading to 6 ft. Small, succulent leaves. Four-petaled, tubular, lavender to blue flowers occur singly followed by fleshy, red berries. A favorite Whooping crane food. TS&C pg 167/198



Cedar elm

Ulmus crassifolia

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ULCR

Tree to 25 m; leaves simple, alternate, 2.5-5 cm long, obovate to elliptic with serrate margins, base slightly asymmetrical; fruit a small winged, reddish samara. Frequent tree along streams; nesting sites for several bird species. TS&C pg 179/213



Chinaberry or Canelón or Paraíso

Melia azedarach

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=MEAZ>

Tree to 15 m; large leaves bipinnately compound with ovate to elliptic leaflets with mostly serrate margins; leaflets 2.5-5 cm long; flowers and fruit in loose panicles; fruit yellow drupe with leathery skin. Native to Asia; frequent invader of riparian woodlands. Fruits eaten by several bird species, but are poisonous to goats and pigs. Fruit pulp can be used as insect repellent. TS&C pg 133/159

Introduced—Invasive



Dwarf palmetto

Sabal minor

(Sah-bahl my-nor)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SAMI8

Palm shrub 5-10 ft. **No thorns on leaf stem (petiole).** Leaf palmate, with a bare petiole terminating in a rounded fan of numerous leaflets. Flowers are yellowish-white, 5 mm across, produced in large compound panicles up to 2 m long, extending out beyond the leaves.



Hog plum or Guayule

Colubrina texensis

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=COTE6

Low, much-branched shrub; leaves simple, alternate or clustered, ovate to obovate, soft & densely hairy when young, 1.2-2.5 cm long; fruit a brown or black drupe separating into 2 or 3 nutlets. Deer browse leaves; javelina & several bird species eat fruits; poisonous to sheep. TS&C pg 141/167



Honey mesquite

Prosopis glandulosa

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PRGL2

Thorny shrub or tree; leaves bipinnately compound with long petiole; long linear leaflets up to 5 cm long; stipular spines paired and straight. Flowers yellowish-white in catkin-like racemes; fruit a long linear legume (to 25 cm). Forms dense thickets and often requires brush control measures. Pods eaten by livestock, deer and javelina. Important nesting site for several bird species including mourning dove and scissor-tailed flycatcher. Pods were used by American Indians to make bread or fermented into an alcoholic brew. TS&C pg 117/134



Huisache

Acacia farnesiana (Syn. *Acacia smallii*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ACFA

Shrub or small tree to 7 m; leaves bipinnately compound with 4-6 pairs of pinnae and 10-20 pairs of leaflets per pinna; leaflets 2-4 mm long. Paired stipular spines; small yellow flowers; fruit a reddish brown to black legume with two rows of seeds. Good winter forage for cattle; white-tailed deer browse leaves, fruit and stems; javelina eat fruits. Bark and fruits were used for tanning, dying and making ink. Used in France as a perfume base. Native, but aggressive. TS&C pg 93/110



Lime pricklyash or Colima

Zanthoxylum fagara

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ZAFa

Evergreen shrub or small tree with hooked leaves odd-pinnately compound, aromatic; rachis flattened or winged; leaflets oval to obovate, 6-31 mm long; fruit a small pointed reddish follicle. Leaves and soft twigs are an important food source for deer. Bark and leaves were used to produce an extract for treating nerve problems. TS&C pg 155/184



Live oak or Encino

Quercus virginiana

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=QUVI

Evergreen tree to 20 m; leaves simple, alternate, 5-12 cm long, upper surface glossy; margins entire, serrate or lobed. Fruit is an acorn. Acorns eaten by deer, javelina, squirrels, and turkeys.

Key: leaves gray-green and pubescent on reverse. TS&C pg 81/140



Lotebush

Zizyphus obtusifolia

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ZIOB

Spinescent shrub; leaves simple, 1.2-3.1 cm long, ovate to oblong with entire or serrate margins; fruit a black drupe. Leaves occasionally browsed by deer; fruit eaten by several animal species including foxes, raccoons, and coyotes. Roots were used as a soap substitute and a treatment for sores in livestock.

TS&C pg 145/171 – good photo



Netleaf hackberry or Palo blanco

Celtis laevigata var. *reticulata* (Syn *Celtis reticulata*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CELAR

Tree to 20 m; leaves relatively thick and stiff, yellowish-green, hispid, petiole densely pubescent, lower surface strongly 3-veined, margin entire, base asymmetrical, 1.9-6.3 cm long; fruits like *Celtis laevigata*. *C. reticulata* and *C. laevigata* apparently hybridize—most trees on the River Walk trail show characteristics of both. **Key:** veins on leaf back more pronounced than *C. laevigata*. TS&C pg 179/211



Prickly ash or Hercules club

Zanthoxylum clava-herculis

(Zan-tho-zye-lum clay-vuh her-cue-liss)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ZACL

Thorny shrub or small tree with gray warty bark; leaves odd-pinnately compound with ovate leaflets with serrate margins; leaflets 1.2-5.4 cm long; aromatic when crushed. Leaves symmetrical, paired. Fruit brownish, ovoid follicles; used by some bird species. Used by early settlers to treat toothache and rheumatism. **Key:** Tiny gland-dots on foliage, flowers, and fruit. TS&C pg 153/183



Prickly ash or Toothache tree or Tickle-tongue

Zanthoxylum hirsutum

(Zan-tho-zeye-lum her-soo-tum)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ZAH12

Prickly deciduous or semi-evergreen shrub to 12 ft. Spiny leaves glabrous and leathery, pinnately compound. Larval host: three swallowtails. Nectar plant: Purple hairstreak. Used by early settlers to treat toothache and rheumatism. **Key:** Glands only in the notches between the rounded teeth of leaflets. TS&C pg 155/185



Rattlebox or Rattlebush

Sesbania drummondii

(Sez-bane-ee-uh drum-un-dee-eye)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SEDR

Subshrub 2-10 ft. Medium green leaves are alternate, deciduous, and pinnately compound. The orange-yellow, pea-like flowers occur in a drooping raceme on a long stem. Seedpod appears 4-sided like a box. When seeds mature, they are loose in the pod and rattle when shaken, suggesting the name rattlebox. TS&C pg 119/137



Red mulberry or Moral

Morus rubra

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MORU2

Deciduous TREE to 15 m; deeply furrowed bark; leaves simple, alternate, cordate with serrate margins, 7.8-38 cm long; fruit a many-seeded berry resembling a blackberry. Fruits eaten by several species of birds and by raccoons, opossums and squirrels; also edible by humans. TS&C pg 133/160



Retama

Parkinsonia aculeata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PAAC3

Tree with greenish bark; leaves pinnately compound, long flat leaf rachis, small linear leaflets, 9 mm long. Large yellow flowers in showy racemes; fruit a slender legume. Rangeland pest, invades disturbed areas readily. Fruits eaten by bobwhite quail. Dried seeds were used by American Indians to make flour for bread. In drought situations, first the leaflets are dropped and then the leaflets. Blooms and leaves out again after rain. TS&C pg 113/130



Sabal palm or Palma de micharos

Sabal mexicana (Syn *Sabal texana*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SAME8

Tree to 16 m; leaves alternate, palmate, more than 50 cm wide, forming a dense rounded crown. Fruit a one-seeded black berry. **Key:** arrowhead-shaped connection of petiole to leaf, frond curves from it. No thorns on the petiole. TS&C pg 137/20



Sea ox-eye daisy

Borrichia frutescens

(Bore-rick-ee-uh fru tess-ens)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=BOFR

Shrub-like perennial to 3 ft with ascending branches. Leaves thick and leathery; pubescent on both sides. Fleshy, entire, gray-green leaves and large yellow composite flowers. TS&C pg 49/26



Spiny Aster or Devil-weed

Chloracantha spinosa (Syn *Leucosyris spinosa*)

http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/species.php?id_plant=CHSP11

Perennial subshrub/shrub. Gray-green stems; leaves in early spring. Wetland delineator, growing along the edges of wetlands. FGH pg 53



Spiny hackberry or Granjeno

Celtis ehrenbergiana (Syn *Celtis pallida*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CEEH

Densely branched spiny shrub; leaves simple, alternate with entire or coarsely serrate margins; 1.2-6.3 cm long. Fruit a yellowish orange drupe. Good food and cover plant for wildlife—leaves and stems heavily browsed by deer; fruits eaten by many birds and mammals; also edible for humans. TS&C pg 177/212



Sugar hackberry or Texas sugarberry or Palo blanco

Celtis laevigata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CELA

Tree to 20 m; leaves simple, alternate, thin, some have glabrous surface, lanceolate to ovate, margin mostly entire, base asymmetrical, 1.9-6.3 cm long; fruits small orange-red or black drupes. Several species of birds including mockingbirds and cardinal eat the fruit, as well as mammals such as raccoon, deer, and coyotes. **Key:** leaves smoother and veins less prominent than Netleaf hackberry. TS&C pg 13/210



Texas lantana
Lantana urticoides

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=Laur2

Evergreen shrub to 5 ft; blooms spring – fall. Larval host: painted lady; nectar for hummingbirds; swallowtails, Buckeye, Sulphur, Zebra longwing, Dorantes longtail, Julia, skipper butterflies; seeds for cardinal, quail. TS&C pg 187/222.

Note: Lantanas with pink and cream flowers are the invasive *Lantana camara*. If you see one; report it.



Texas persimmon or Chapote
Diospyros texana

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=DITE3

Large shrub or tree; thick leaves, dark-green and glabrous above, grey-green below; leaves simple, alternate, obovate to oblong with entire margins, 2.5-5 cm long. Fruit large round black berry (2.5 cm). Bark light gray to white, smooth, thin, on some trunks peeling in rectangular flakes and exposing a pinkish layer beneath. Fruits eaten by many species of birds and mammals; leaves and fruits browsed by deer. Fruit juice was used as a dye for leather in Mexico. TS&C pg 69/87



Texas Torchwood or Chapatillo
Amyris texana

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=AMTE4

Much-branched, rounded shrub often only 1 m tall. Leaves compound, alternate, trifoliate, with crenate margins; leaflets 2.5-3.8 cm long. Leaves smell like kerosene when crushed. Flowers greenish white, in small panicles. Occasionally browsed by deer. A member of the citrus family. TS&C pg 151/180



Turk's cap
Malvaviscus drummondii var. *drummondii*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MAARD

Evergreen shrub to 4 ft; Blooms summer – fall; fruit for birds; nectar for hummingbirds. Nectar plant: Sulphur, Swallowtailed; Larval host: Gray hairstreak, Turk's cap white skipper. Fruits edible by humans; taste like a mealy apple. TS&C pg 131/157



Woollybucket bumelia or Gum bumelia or Chittimwood or Coma
Sideroxylon lanuginosum (Syn *Bumelia lanuginosa*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SILA20

Deciduous shrub or tree; leaves alternate or clustered, simple, leathery, spatulate, 2.5-7.6 cm long; young leaves silvery pubescent; fruit a black drupe. Fruit is eaten by birds; deer browse leaves and fruits. **Note:** Leaves lose silvery, wooly look after spring. TS&C pg 161/191



Vines

Alamo vine

Merremia dissecta

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MEDI2

Perennial vine 6-12 ft. Leaves palmately compound. White flowers May-Nov.



American snoutbean

Rhynchosia americana

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RHAM

Perennial vine with heart-shaped leaves and yellow, pea-shaped flowers. FGH pg 139



Dewberry or Zarzamora

Rubus riograndis

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=RURI

Evergreen, woody-based perennial or subshrub with prickly stems to 1 m. Leaves 3- to 5-foliolate. Flowers white; fruit black when ripe. Recognized by pollination ecologists as of value to native bees. Fruit for birds and small mammals.



Greenbriar

Smilax bona-nox

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SMBO2

Prickly vine forming dense tangles in shrubby and wooded areas. Stems smooth, green, with stout, sharp prickles on lower sections. Leaves with tendril-bearing petioles; blades up to 4 1/2 in long and 4 in wide, varying from triangular to heart shaped, occasionally mottled on the upper surface. Flowers inconspicuous, in clusters arising from the axils of the leaves, male and female on different plants, Mar-Jun. Fruit spherical, 1/4 inch in diameter, fleshy, black. Good food source; new young leaves edible.



Mustang grape

Vitis mustangensis

http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/species.php?id_plant=VIMU2

Perennial vine to 72 ft; white, velvety surface on underside of leaves. Leaves in two forms: one unlobed or shallowly lobed, and the other deeply lobed, with the latter less common and on rapidly growing shoots. Lower surface of unlobed leaves often concave. Grapes up to 3/4 inch in diameter, few to the bunch, ripening in Aug-Sep- to dark purple. Good food source; edible by humans except that the skin is acid.



Old man's beard or Texas virgin's bower

Clematis drummondii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CLDR

Perennial vine to 25 ft; Leaves opposite & compound, with 5–7 leaflets 1/2–1 in long, coarsely cut, sometimes toothed. The 4 petal-like sepals are light greenish-yellow, almost white, narrow and thin, with margins slightly crinkled, 1/2–1 in long. No petals. Stamens quite conspicuous. Blooms spring-fall When seeds mature, female vine is covered with masses of silky, feathery plumes, 2–4 in long, growing out from the seed cover. Male and female flowers on different plants. Larval host: Fatal Metalmark. FGH pg 139/223



Passionvine or Passionflower

Passiflora foetida

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PAFO2

Vine to 6 ft; red fruit for birds; blooms summer-fall. Nectar & larval plant for Gulf fritillary, Zebra longwing, Julia, Heliconian.



Peppervine

Ampelopsis arborea

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=AMAR5

Semi-evergreen vine to 35 ft. Foliage bi- or tri-pinnately compound. Leaves to 6 in long & wide, with a central axis and 1 to 3 pairs of lateral axes supporting leaflets. Leaflets roughly ovate, coarsely toothed, dark green on the upper surface, lighter on the lower. New growth dark reddish Flat-topped clusters of tiny, green flowers followed by clusters of pea-sized, bluish-purple berries. Fruit fleshy, up to 5/8 inch in diameter, black and shiny when ripe; food for wildlife. FGH pg 253



Poison ivy

Toxicodendron radicans

http://www.wildflower.org/gallery/species.php?id_plant=TORA2

Deciduous vine or low shrub extremely variable in form, occurring as a ground cover, an erect shrub, or a large vine on trees. Small yellowish-white flower clusters.. Leaves are trifoliate. Red fall foliage is especially conspicuous. Old stems are covered with fibrous roots and look hairy.

All parts poisonous on contact, even leafless vines in winter.



Tie vine or Sharp-pod morning glory

Ipomoea cordatotriloba

(I-po-me-uh.cor-dat-oh-try-lo-buh)

Syn: *Ipomoea trichocarpa*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=IPCO8

Continuous, untoothed margin, either cordate or deeply 3- to 5-lobed, sepals, leaves and stems may be pubescent.



Grasses

Key: GST = *Grasses of South Texas*

Note: Introduced, invasive grasses appear together at the end of the section.

Big Bluestem or Turkeyfoot

Andropogon gerardii

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ANGE

Warm-season, perennial bunchgrass with blue-green stems 4-8 ft. tall. The seedhead is usually branched into three parts and resembles a turkey's foot. Fall color is maroonish-tan. GST pg 34



Brownseed paspalum

Paspalum plicatulum

(*Pas-puh-lum ply-kay-tuh-lum*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=PAPL3

Grass, stems stiff, erect, without hairs; panicles with 3 to 8 spike-like unilateral branches. Leaf sheaths glabrous or with few hairs towards the summit, ligule membranous 1-3 mm long; leaf blades glabrous to pubescent. GST pg 213



Buffalo grass

Bouteloua dactyloides

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=BODA2

This long-lived, warm-season, perennial, sod-forming grass has curly leaf blades, slender stems, and compact seed heads. Spreads by rhizomes. Soft, gray-green or blue-green, turf grass growing 3-12 in if left unmowed. GST pg 72



Bushy Bluestem

Andropogon glomeratus

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ANGL2

Warm season grass found in wetland habitats. Flowers in sessile spikelets are aggregated toward the upper part of the 2-5 ft. stems and are striking in fall and winter when the fine hairs of the bold, feathery racemes catch the sunlight. The sheaths surrounding the racemes take on a salmon-orange color in fall. Found in moist or semi-moist soils in full sun. GST pg 35



Eastern gamagrass

Tripsacum dactyloides

(trip-suh-cum dack-ti-loy-dees)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TRDA3

Perennial, warm-season grass 36-72 in tall. Robust stems flattened at the purplish base. Leaf blades 1/3 to 1 in wide with rough, sharp margins; may grow to 82 in long. Ligule is a short, ciliate or lacerate membrane. Inflorescence with one to three spikes to 12 in long; stigmas are purple; stamens orange. GST pg 283



Gulf cordgrass

Spartina spartinae

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SPSP

Perennial, warm-season grass 36 to 72 in. Stout, coarse stems grow from a crown of dense tufts. Leaf blades narrow; edges roll inward, making them look like a heavy cord. Inflorescence short, compact, and cylindrical. Florets fit close together on opposite sides of the axis. The glumes have short, bristly hairs on the margin. Key: rounded shape and prickly ends of leaf blades. GST pg 252



Inland sea oats

Chasmanthium latifolium

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CHLA5

Warm-season perennial grass 2-4 ft., clump-forming, bearing large, drooping, oat-like flower spikelets from slender, arching branches. Found on Welder in shaded riparian areas. The blue-green, bamboo-like leaves often turn a bright yellow-gold in fall. Seeds for birds. GST pg 77



Knotroot bristlegrass

Setaria parviflora Syn: *Setaria geniculata*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SEPA10

Warm-season grass—small; short, bristly inflorescence at tops of stems above erect leaves, 14-28 in. tall; leaf blades flat, mostly erect, to 2 ft. long; inflorescence cylindrical, bristly, to 3 in. long, to 3/4 in. wide, on stem tips; 4 to 7 long bristles stick out from around each spikelet. GST pg 242



Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SCSC

Warm-season bunchgrass with fine-textured foliage; forms dense mounds 18-24 in. tall. Slender, blue-green stems, in August, reach 3 ft. by September and become radiant mahogany-red with white, shining seed tufts in the fall. Color remains nearly all winter. Perennial clumps grow up to a foot in diameter. **Note:** *S. littorale*, Seacoast bluestem, is much like Little bluestem and also grows on Welder. GST pg 232



Purple threeawn

Aristida purpurea

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ARPU9

Warm-season grass. Culms and leaf blades grow to 12 in. The seedhead is narrow and nodding with lax, purplish branches. Three long bristles occur from each flower. Often found around Texas Harvester ant beds. GST pg 43



Rescue grass

Bromus catharticus

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=BRCA6>

Common winter and early spring species, making it an important forage grass. Introduced. GST pg 68



Texas grama

Bouteloua rigidiseta

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=BORI

Warm-season grass with tufted, slender, weak culms. Culms: numerous, 15-40 cm tall, densely clustered in small clumps. Blades: Narrow, flat, 4-12 cm long x 1-2 mm broad. Inflorescence: Wedge-shaped spikelets, 8-1.6 mm long with 3-5 spreading spikelets. GST pg 64



Texas winter grass

Nassella leucotricha

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NALE3

Cool-season grass. Tufted Inflorescence: Loose panicle 6-25 cm. long with long, slender lower branches. Blades: 10-30 cm. long and 1-4 mm. broad, pubescent with short, stiff hairs on one or both surfaces. Culms: 30-70 cm. tall, often geniculate-spreading at base. GST pg 182



Windmill tumble grass

Chloris verticillata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CHVE2

Warm-season grass. Culms: 15-40 cm tall, erect. Panicle: 10-16 laterally spreading branches 5-15 cm. long well distributed in 2-5 verticils. Spikelets: 4-7 per cm. of rachis. Compact grass with visually interesting flower consisting of 10-16 spikes arranged into at least 2 levels of windmills. The spikes may have a purplish cast. GST pg 86



Angleton bluestem
Dichanthium aristatum

Introduced; invasive

http://www.texasinvasives.org/plant_database/detail.php?symbol=DIAR5

Bunchgrass with culms 8-40 in tall. Leaf sheaths are 1.25 to 1.5 in long, generally hairless, and leaf blades are 1.25 to 12 in long and narrow in width. The inflorescence comprises a central stem with 2-15 racemes bearing numerous pairs of spikelets along the central axis of the racemes. High density of reproductive shoots. Grass falls over as it grows and produces dense mats of vegetation. GST pg 105



King Ranch bluestem

Introduced; invasive

Bothriochloa ischaemum var. *songarica*

http://www.texasinvasives.org/plant_database/detail.php?symbol=BOISS

Cespitose grass with erect or decumbent-spreading culms 30-60cm tall, rounded sheaths and flate blades; inflorescence a terminal panicle, spikelets on few to several spicate primary branches. Panicle axis shorter than the branches; sessile spikelets never pitted. Like other old-world bluestems, outcompetes native grasses by blooming earlier. GST pg 55



Kleberg bluestem

Introduced; invasive

Dichanthium annulatum

http://www.texasinvasives.org/plant_database/detail.php?symbol=DIAN

Bunchgrass with culms ranging from 8-40 in tall. Leaf sheaths are 1.25 to 1.5 in long, generally hairless, and leaf blades are 1.25 to 12 in long and narrow in width. The inflorescence comprises a central stem with 2-15 racemes (flower branches) bearing numerous pairs of spikelets (flowers) along the central axis of the racemes. High density of reproductive shoots. Fast springtime grower; matures quickly. GST pg 104



Guineagrass

Introduced; invasive

Urochloa Maxima

http://www.texasinvasives.org/plant_database/detail.php?symbol=URMA3

Tufted perennial, often with a short creeping rhizome, variable 60-200 cm high, leaf blades to 35 mm wide tapering to a fine point; panicle 12-40 cm long, open spikelets 3-3.5 mm long, obtuse, green or purplish, glumes unequal, the lower one being one-third to one fourth as long as the spikelet, lower floret usually male or empty depending on the variety. Upper floret (seed) distinctly transversely wrinkled lemma and palea. The grain is about 2mm long. GST pg 291



Wetland Plants

American lotus or Chinquapin

Nelumbo lutea

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NELU

No notch in leaf, stem comes out of the middle of the leaf; water beads up on leaf, which appears waterproof.



Blue water lily or Senorita water lily

Nymphaea odorata

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NYOD

Leaves darker red on back; more prominent veins than yellow water lily. Stem attached at notch in leaf. FGH pg 197



Broadleaf arrowhead or Duck potato

Sagittaria latifolia

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SALA2

Rooted Emergent. Colony-forming, to 3 ft. Long-petioled leaves. Flowers white in whorls of three at ends of short, whorled branches. Sap milky.



California bulrush

Schoenoplectus californicus Syn: *Scirpus californicus*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SCCA11

Rooted Emergent. Stout sedge to 6 ft. with dark-green stems and reddish-brown tassels of flowers and fruits. Stems are triangular. Leaves are reduced to basal sheaths.



Cattail

Typha latifolia

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=TYLA

Rooted Emergent. Stout-stemmed perennial, 4-8 ft. tall, often in found dense clumps. Broad linear leaf blades. The dense, brown, cylindrical flowering spike persist through autumn. Found only in fresh water. FGH pg 243



Delta arrowhead or Duck potato

Sagittaria platyphylla

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SAPL

Rooted Emergent; to 4 ft. Long, thin submerged leaves, and lance-shaped emergent leaves, up to a foot long and 4 in wide, which grow on long, rigid stems. Small, white flowers are on stems, above water.



Erect burhead

Echinodorus berteroi

Syn: *Echinodorus rostratus*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ECBE2

Rooted Emergent 1 to 2 ft tall. Leaves are basal to the flower stalks. Submerged leaves are stalkless and often ribbon-like while floating leaves are somewhat heart-shaped at the base, blunt at the tip, and have long, angled stalks.



Narrowleaf arrowhead or Longlobe arrowhead or Duck potato

Sagittaria longiloba

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=SALO2

Rooted Emergent. Similar to Duck Potato, but leaves long and narrow, leaves approx 2 ½-in wide, with 2 pointed side lobes shorter than main lobe; on long stalks from base. Height: to 44 in from roots. FGH pg 15



Pink Smartweed

Polygonum pensylvanicum

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=POPE2

Rooted Emergent. Jointed stems, erect, growing to 48 in dense, erect, spike-like clusters of small, bright pink flowers on sticky-haired stalks. FGH pg 217



Smartweed

Polygonum hydropiperoides

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=POHY2

Rooted Emergent to 3 ft. Stems are jointed or have swollen leaf nodes surrounded by a tubular sheath. Leaves are alternate, lance-shaped up to 4 in long but usually less than ½-in wide. Flowers are on spikes at the end of stems (often numerous spikes on the same plant).



Water clover

Marsilea macropoda

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=MAMA9

Leaves produced on long petioles, 2 to 20 mm. Looks like a four-leaf clover forming dense colonies in mud or shallow water. FGH pg 195



Yellow water lily or Banana lily

Nymphaea mexicana

(*Nim-fay-uh mex-ee-can-uh*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=NYME

Leaf back paler and less veined than blue water lily, stem attached at notch in leaf.



Cacti and Succulents

Horse crippler

Echinocactus texensis

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=ECTE

Normally 1–2 in above ground and up to 12 in across. Has about 14 spines at each areole, with a central spine that is longer and stronger than the others, 2– 3 in long and straight to slightly curved downward. The inverted, bell-shaped flowers are 1 to 2 ¾-in across and about as tall. Outer petals are salmon-red, inner ones salmon-pink with streaks of red. The edge of each petal has a feathery appearance. Anthers are pinkish to red, and pistil is yellow to pink. Somewhat fragrant. TS&C pg 25/62



Spanish Dagger

Yucca treculeana

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=YUTR

Evergreen shrub to 15 ft. Leaves stiff, sharp pointed, up to 3 ft long by 3 in wide, in large clumps at the ends of stems or branches, dead ones hanging below the live ones. Flowers white, in dense, showy clusters rising above the leaves in March & April. Fruit a capsule up to 4 in long by 1 inch wide. Flowers can be fried or eaten in salads. TS&C pg 123/150



Tasajillo or Turkey pear or Desert Christmas cactus

Cylindropuntia leptocaulis (Syn *Opuntia leptocaulis*)

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=CYLE8

Evergreen shrub 2-5 ft with many branches made up of slender, cylindrical joints. New growth is dark green. With age the branches and trunk develop a scaly bark and turn pale tan. Spines in groups and of 2 types: one, 1/2 to 1 1/2 in long; and the other, about 3/16 inch long. Leaves very small, falling early in the growing season. Small, yellowish-green flowers are followed by fruits that cling to the stem into winter. Fruit fleshy, red or purple, rounded, flattened at the end and tapering toward the base, ripening in late summer eaten by wildlife. TS&C pg 37/74



Texas prickly pear

Opuntia engelmannii var. *lindheimeri*

http://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=OPENL

Cactus to 5 ft; erect or spreading. Pads green to blue-green, round to oval, 4–10 in long. Tubercles are 1 1/2–2 1/2 in apart. The 1–6 spines are yellow, with one longer than the rest. Flowers, 2–5 in across, on the edge of the pad. Petals change from yellow to yellow-orange to red as they age. Fruit matures maroon-purple, very seedy. Pads/fruit eaten by deer, javelina, feral hogs; fruit eaten by mice, rats, rabbits, squirrels, coyotes, raccoons, turtles. Pads and tunas edible by humans. TS&C pg 37/72

