

Herbaceous Vegetation

H-BERM *Cynodon dactylon* Herbaceous Vegetation Bermuda Grass Herbaceous Alliance

Associations and Alliances

Cynodon dactylon Herbaceous Vegetation

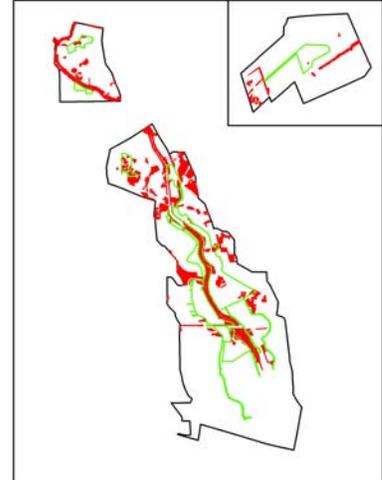
Common Species

Cynodon dactylon
Eragrostis intermedia
Nassella leucotricha
Sorghum halepense
Prosopis glandulosa

Description

This type occurs on undulating uplands and high bottomland terraces along and paralleling the San Antonio River. The presence of this type is likely a result of past management where Bermuda grass was either planted or cultivated for pasture or escaped from these areas. This class is found on the Rancho Unit where it occurs on cultivated pastures along the entry easement and on cleared bottomlands. In addition, on the Missions Unit, this type was used to map large grasslands that were likely mowed and maintained. The vegetation is dominated by the exotic short grass, *Cynodon dactylon*. Native midgrasses (*Eragrostis intermedia*, *Nassella leucotricha*) and the exotic tall grasses, *Sorghum halepense*, are common associates. The remaining associates are a variable and diverse mix of low frequency forbs, especially weedy native species. This type ranged on the color infrared imagery from a pale, smooth grey/blue where it was dormant to a smooth red and pink where it was growing.

Range and Distribution



Representative Ground Photo



Photo Signature Example

NEW *Cynodon dactylon* Herbaceous Vegetation

Translated Name: Bermuda Grass Herbaceous Vegetation

Common Name: Bermuda Grass Herbaceous Vegetation

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

Environment: The environmental factors that influence the composition and structure of this community are: climate, topography, and past management. This community occurs on undulating uplands and high bottomland terraces along and paralleling the San Antonio River and its valley. The community occurs on a variety of soils with good water availability including rock-derived loams and sandy loams and alluvium-derived silty clays. The main determining factor is past management as a cultivated pasture and abandonment of that use.

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Vegetation: The typical canopy does not exceed 0.5 high with a dense cover of about 80-90%, except where scattered shrubs (usually *Prosopis glandulosa*), saplings, and clumps of tall grasses constitute no more than 10% cover. The vegetation is dominated by the exotic short grass, *Cynodon dactylon*. Native midgrasses (*Eragrostis intermedia*, *Nassella leucotricha*) and the exotic tall grasses, *Sorghum halepense*, are common associates. The remaining associates are a variable and diverse mix of low frequency forbs, especially weedy native species.

FLORISTIC COMPOSITION

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Stratum</u>	<u>Lifeform</u>
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Herb (field)	Graminoid
<i>Eragrostis intermedia</i>	Herb (field)	Graminoid
<i>Nassella leucotricha</i>	Herb (field)	Graminoid
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>	Herb (field)	Graminoid
<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i>	Shrub/sapling (tall & short)	Thorn tree

OTHER NOTEWORTHY SPECIES

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>GRank</u>	<u>Animal</u>	<u>Note (specify Rare (geog area), Invasive, Animal, or Other)</u>
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>			Subinvasive alien
<i>Sorghum halepense</i>			Subinvasive alien

CLASSIFICATION & OTHER COMMENTS

Classification Comments:

Other Comments:

ELEMENT DISTRIBUTION

This class is limited to the Rancho Unit where it occurs in the abandoned cultivated pastures along the entry easement and cleared bottomland that is surrounded by a large hairpin loop of the San Antonio River in the northwest part of the unit. In the San Antonio Unit, comparable vegetation is regularly mowed and maintained as lawns and parks.

ELEMENT SOURCES

Inventory Notes:

Plots: SAAN.24, SAAN.30, SAAN.35

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