



# Common Woody Plants and Cacti of South Texas: A Field Guide (Texas Natural History Guides)

By Richard B. Taylor

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Woody plants and cacti are vital staple foods for cattle, deer, and other wildlife in drought-prone South Texas. Ranchers, hunters, and land managers who need to identify these plants relied on *A Field Guide to Common South Texas Shrubs* (published by Texas Parks & Wildlife Press and distributed by UT Press), which is no longer in print. Responding to ongoing demand for the book, Richard B. Taylor has completely updated and expanded it with seven new species, new photographs, and a quick plant identification key.

*Common Woody Plants and Cacti of South Texas* is an easy-to-use plant identification field guide to fifty species that comprise an estimated 90 percent of the region's woody canopy cover north of the Rio Grande Valley. The species accounts include photographs, descriptions, values to livestock and wildlife, and nutritional information. The book also provides historical perspectives and information on brush management techniques and strategies, as well as habitat appraisal. All of these resources will enable readers to analyze stocking rates for deer and cattle, evaluate a prospective hunting lease, or buy property.

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#### **Review**

"This book should attract a wide array of readers. . . It is easy to understand and use, with a simple identification key." (C. Wayne Hanselka, Professor and Extension Range Specialist Emeritus, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Texas A&M University, and coauthor of Brush Management: Past, Present, and Future)

"A very significant contribution to the field. I know of no other treatment that includes such great detail on characteristics, historical uses, and current uses of these plants; and the inclusion of wildlife values and protein contents is excellent." (D. Lynn Drawe, Professor Emeritus, Ranching and Wildlife Management, Texas A&M University–Kingsville, and coauthor of Trees, Shrubs, and Cacti of South Texas)

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#### **About the Author**

Richard B. Taylor is a certified wildlife biologist with over thirty years' experience in natural resource management. He provides technical assistance with white-tailed deer and other game species management, game bird management, non-game wildlife management, livestock management, water management, habitat management, and prescribed burns. He lives in Uvalde, Texas.

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