

Major Land Resource Area 083A Northern Rio Grande Plain

Accessed: 04/17/2026

Ecological site keys

MLRA 83A

I. Depth to densic material less than 40 inches

A. Soils with gravels in epipedon

1 Greater than 15 percent of soil surface covered by large pebbles ... R083AY001TX – Igneous Hill

2 Less than 15 percent of soil surface covered by large pebbles

i. Strongly cemented calcium carbonate less than 20 inches ... R083AY002TX – Shallow Ridge

ii. All others ... R083AY003TX – Gravelly Ridge

B. Soils without gravels in epipedon

1 Soils with sandy loam or loam surface texture ... R083AY004TX – Shallow Sandy Loam

2 All others ... R083AY005TX – Shallow

II. Soils are deep to very deep, greater than 40 inches

A. Soils on depressions, drainageways, or flood plains

1 Soils in a closed depression

i. Permanent water table at/or near surface and ponded for most of year

ii. Soils with fluctuating water table levels and ponded after heavy rains ... R083AY007TX – Lakebed

2 Soils in flood plain or drainageway

i. Visible salts less than 40 inches ... R083AY008TX – Salty Prairie

ii. All others

a. Soils with fine surface textures (clay and silty clay) ... R083AY009TX – Clayey Bottomland

b. All others

1) Soils with deep sands and effervescent throughout profile ... R083AY010TX – Vega

2) All others

a) Soils with a developed argillic horizon ... R083AY011TX – Claypan Prairie

b) All others

i) Upland drainageway without defined, prominent channel ... R083AY012TX – Loamy Draw

ii) Low flood plain with loamy soils and prominent channel ... R083AY013TX – Loamy

Bottomland

B. Soils on other landforms

1 Visible salts less than 24 inches

i. Soils with sandy or sandy loam surface textures

ii. All others

a. Soils classified as vertisols with high shrink?swell potential

b. Soils belonging to other taxonomic orders with low to moderate shrink?swell potential ... R083AY016TX – Saline Clay Loam

2 All others

i. Soils classified as vertisols with high shrink?swell potential

a. Dark?colored surface with value/chroma of 3/1 or darker and non?sodic ... R083AY017TX – Blackland

b. Lighter?colored surface and sodic

ii. All others

a. Soil profile is effervescent to the surface ... R083AY019TX – Gray Sandy Loam

b. All others

1) Soils with fine sandy loam, sandy loam, or loamy sand surface textures

a) Soils with sandy textures greater than 80 inches deep ... R083AY020TX – Sand Hills

b) All others

i) Depth to argillic greater than 14 inches

1) Textural change of argillic greater than 30 inches ... R083AY021TX – Sandy

2) Textural change of argillic less than than 30 inches ... R083AY022TX – Loamy Sand

ii) Depth to argillic less than 14 inches

1) Subsoils slightly deeper, slightly lower in clay content, and more permeable ... R083AY023TX – Sandy Loam

2) Subsoils slightly more shallow, more droughty, higher in clay content, and perch water more readily ... R083AY024TX – Tight Sandy Loam

2) Soils with clay loam, sandy clay loam, or silty clay loam surface textures

a) Soils in MLRAs 83B, 83C, or 83D

b) Soils in MLRA 83A

i) Soils from center of Atascosa County east ... R083AY026TX – Eastern Clay Loam

ii) Soils from center of Atascosa County west ... R083AY027TX – Western Clay Loam