

# Major Land Resource Area 083A Northern Rio Grande Plain

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## Ecological site keys

### MLRA 83A

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#### 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**