

SUGGESTED BOOKS ON VARIOUS HILL COUNTRY ECOLOGY TOPICS

AUTHOR	TITLE	YEAR PUBLISHED	PAGES	PRESS	COMMENTS
	LIFE IN TEXAS, 1500s TO 1970				
Cyclone Covey, Ed & Translator	Cabeza de Vaca's Adventures in the Unknown Interior of America	1961	151	U of NM	Incredible story of de Vaca's 10 year journey from Florida to Mexico in the 1500s, mostly on foot and naked
Jones, C. Allen	Texas Roots. Agriculture and Rural Live Before the Civil War	2005	256	TAMU Press	Detailed accounts of life, mainly in South and East Texas, from the earliest Spanish missions to Mexican rule, to Texas Independence, to Statehood
Roemer, Ferdinand Translated by Oswald Mueller	Roemer's Texas	1967	301	Texian Press	Ferdinand Roemer's account of his travels in Texas, mostly in the Hill Country in the mid-1800's, when European settlement was just beginning on a large scale. Many interesting stories, observations.
Weniger, Del	The Explorer's Texas. the Lands and Waters	1984	224	Eakin Press	Compilation of quotations from early explorers about early Texas
Weniger, Del	The Explorer's Texas. The Animals They Found	1997	200	Eakin Press	Compilation of quotations from early explorers about early Texas
Web, Walter Prescott	The Great Plains	1931	520	U of Nebraska	The author draws on history, anthropology, geography, demographics and climate to explain the differences in life on the plains and areas further east, and how the invention of the revolver, barbed wire and the windmill helped mold life there.
Jordon, Gilbert J	Yesterday in the Texas Hill Country	1979	171	TAMU Press	Description of life in the early to mid 20 th century in a German settlement in Mason Co.
Kelton, Elmer	The Time it Never Rained	1973/1984	377	TCU Press	Historical novel based on the authors personal experience with the drought of the 50s in West Texas
Graves, John	Hard Scrabble. Observation on a Patch of Land	1974	271	SMU Press	Acclaimed author describes his life and the land in the early to middle 20 th century in Central Texas
Graves, John	From a Limestone Ledge	1977	228	SMU Press	A collection of essays on a wide variety of topics about rural Texas
Graves, John	Goodbye to a River	1960	306	Vintage Books	Thoughts and observations on a float trip down the Brazos River in the 1950s before dams were built.
Sitton, Thad Ed.	Harder than Hardscrabble	2003	297	UT Press	Description of life in the first half of the 20 th century from families who were being displaced for the formation of Fort Hood
Duval, John C.	Early Times in Texas	1936	284	U. Nebraska Press	A story of a young man who came to Texas to fight for Independence, survived the massacre at Goliad, and made his way back to Houston dodging Indians and Mexican soldiers
Olmsted, Frederick Law	AS Journey through Texas	2004	539	U. Nebraska Press	A detailed account of a horseback trip across Texas from the Louisiana border to the Mexican border and back to New Orleans in the 1850s, by the man who would later design Central Par in New York.
Mathews, Sally Reynolds	Interwoven: A Pioneer Chronical	1982	230	TAMU Press	An account of living on ranches in Throckmorton and Shackelford counties in in the mid-to late 1800s.

Jordan, Terry	German Seed in Texas Soil	1966	237	UT Press	Account of the life of German immigrants in Texas in the 1800s
Campbell, Randolph B.	Gone to Texas: A History of the Lone Star State	2003	500	Oxford University Press	A detailed, but very readable, history of Texas from the first inhabitants through the 20 th century.
Herring Jr., Joe	Kerrville Stories	2012	181	Herring Printing Co.	A history in pictures and essays of Kerrville, TX from pre settlement times to present
Clothier, Patricia Wilson	Beneath the Window	2005	167	Iron Mountain Press	A story of growing up in the Big Bend area before it was a park in the 1930s and 40s
Goyne, Minetta Altgelt	Live Among the Texas Flora: Ferdinand Lindheimer's Letters to George Englemann	1991	236	TAMU Press	Lindheimer, often called the "Father of Texas Botany" collected plant samples in Texas and sent them as well as the letters from the 1840s in this book to George Englemann of the Missouri Botanical Garden
Doughty, Robin W.	Wildlife and Man in Texas. Environmental Change and Conservation	1983	237	TAMU Press	Discussion of the wildlife in Texas and man's interactions with them, from early settlement times until well into the 20 th century
Egan, Timothy	The Worst Hard Time	2006	340	Houghton Mifflin	Great story of those folks who survived the Dust Bowl in the 1930s
	NATURALIST PHILOSOPHY AND LAND STEWARDSHIP				
	BOOKS BY AND ABOUT ALDO LEOPOLD				
Leopold, Aldo	A Sand County Almanac	1949	295	Ballantine	Often put on the same level as Thoreau and John Muir, Leopold might be described as the first modern naturalist. One reads this and wonders at how prescient he was and also at how little has changed.
Leopold, Aldo	Game Management	1933/1996	479	Natraj Publishers	Leopold's classic text, the first of game management. Not completely consistent with his later views
David Brown & Neil Carmony, Eds.	Aldo Leopold's Southwest	1990	250	U of NM	Twenty-six early writings by Leopold. It is interesting to read the evolution in Leopold's thinking about SW Forest Management
Leopold, Luna B. Ed.	Round River. from the Journals of Aldo Leopold	1953/1993	173	Oxford U. Press	A collection of stories about various hunting trips Leopold took with his sons and/or brothers from the early 20's to the late 30's.
Callicott and Freyfogle, Eds.	Aldo Leopold. For the Health of the Land	1999	243	Island Press	A collection of Leopold's essays mainly about land management.
Flader and Callicott, Eds	The River of the Mother of God and other Essays by Aldo Leopold	1991	384	U. of Wisconsin	A collection of essays by Leopold that stretches from his first essays as a teenager until a year before his death.
Flader, Susan L..	Thinking Like a Mountain. Aldo Leopold and the Evolution of an Ecological Attitude toward Deer, Wolves and Forests	1974		U. of Wisconsin	Chronicles the evolution of Leopold's thinking in a holistic, ecological way about the land and wildlife management.
Meine, Curt	Aldo Leopold. His Life and Work	1988	635	U. of Wisconsin	The Biography of Aldo Leopold. Not just dates and places, but the issues he faced and his responses and philosophy.
Meine and Knight	The Essential Aldo Leopold: Quotations and Commentaries	1999	362	U. of Wisconsin	A thorough collection of quotations from Leopold's writings, organized by general topic, each topic introduced by a different scholar.
	Books by Other Authors				
Bedichek, Roy	Adventures with a Texas Naturalist	1947	327	UT	The Texas version of Leopold, Bedichek was both a contemporary and friend of J. Frank Dobie. Again, one is amazed at

					how long ago our problems began and in many cases how little has changed.
White, Matt	Prairie Time	2006	251	TAMU Press	A vivid description of Tall Grass Prairies in NE Texas and the author's relationship with them and his efforts to save them
Louve, Richard	Last Child in the Woods. Saving our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder	2008	391	Algonquin books	The author decries the lack of experience, knowledge and interest children of today have for nature , and the consequences for the future
Louve, Richard	The Nature Principle	2011	317	Algonquin books	The author expands the Nature-Deficit Disorder idea to adults as well, arguing that a better connection with nature would have beneficial effects on our own well-being
Holechek, Pieper and Herbel	Range Management. Principles and Practices	1995	526	Prentice-Hall	College text, very thorough, covers issues/practices worldwide
Butterfield, Bingham & Savoy	Holistic Management Handbook: Healthy Land, Healthy Profits	2006	248	Island Press	A detailed handbook discussing the "How To" of the Holistic Range Management Philosophy.
Bartlett, Richard C.	Saving the Best of Texas	1995	221	UT	Essays about the different eco systems of Texas by the Chairman of The Nature Conservancy of Texas.
Hart, Garland, Barr, Carpenter, Reagor	Toxic Plants of Texas	2003	243	TCE	Written primarily for livestock managers, it has excellent photos and range maps for over 100 range plants.
Schmidly, David J.	Texas Natural History. A Century of Change	2002	534	TTU	The author was President of Texas Tech and probably the foremost mammologist in Texas. The first half of the book is a reprint of Vernon Bailey's account of his Biological Survey of Texas from 1889 to 1904, which in itself is fascinating reading. The second half is Schmidly's discussion of changes since then.
Lewey, Sky-Jones Ed	Your Remarkable Riparian	2010	92	Nueces River Auth.	A field guide to riparian areas and plants. A must for every landowner with a riparian area.
Nelle, Steve	Managing Riparian Areas	2010	34	Nueces River Auth.	Companion to Your Remarkable Riparian but with specific land management instructions
NRCS Technical Reference 1737-20	Grazing Management Procedures and Strategies for Riparian-Wetland Areas	2006		NRCS	Thorough discussion of managing riparian lands
Hart, Rector, Hanselka, Lyons and McGinty	Brush and Weeds of Texas Rangelands	2008	100 species	TX AgriLife Extension # B-6208 09-08	Multiple, good quality photos for about 100 species, with discussion about each
Haskell, David George	The Forest Unseen: A Year's Watch in Nature	2012	170	Penguin Books	The author visited a small patch of Tennessee forest every week for a year and wrote about his observation of Nature, both large and small.
Tallamy, Douglas	Bringing Nature Home	2007	358	Timber Press	Great advocate for gardening with nature in mind, how to sustain wildlife with native plants
Gunter, Pete and Oelschlaeger, Max	Texas Land Ethics	1997	156	UT Press	Ethical discussion about how we are not taking very good care of Texas and her natural resources
Stanley, Jim	Hill Country Landowner's Guide	2009	204	TAMU Press	Discussion of the changes to the Hill Country caused by settlement, the land management problems, and solutions to those problems
Stanley, Jim	A Beginner's Handbook for Rural Texas Landowners	2014	185	Outskirts Press	What rural Texas landowners need to know about their land and how it is important that they be good land stewards
	WOODY PLANTS				

Vines, Robert A	Trees,. Shrubs and Woody Vines of the Southwest	1960	1104	UT	Out of print, but excellent, comprehensive reference work, very good illustrations, used copies can be expensive.
Stahl, Carmine and Ria McElvaney	Trees of Texas	2003	287	TAMU Press	Organized by leaf shape and type, so good for tree identification, and photos of leaves are life size, but in black and white....too big to carry into the field
Vines, Robert A.	Trees of Central Texas	1984	405	UT	many of same excellent black and white illustrations as in larger book, organized by family, good field identification remarks
Wrede, Jan	Trees, Shrubs and Vines of the Texas Hill Country	2005	246	A & M	Newest book on the subject, by Cibolo Education Director. Organized by family, excellent photographs, useful discussion of local ecology.
Simpson, Benny J.	A. Field Guide to Texas Trees	1999	372	Lone star	organized by family, color photos in center, removed from brief description and map with ranges
Cox, Paul and Patty Leslie	Texas Trees, A Friendly Guide	1988	374	Corona	organized by families, less detailed drawings than some other books, more discussion of tree habit and uses, also shows ranges
Tull, Delena and George O. Miller	A. Field Guide to Wildflowers, Trees and Shrubs of Texas	1991	344	Gulf	small photos in center not much help in identification, but organized around dichotomous key, good for distinguishing similar species
Correll and Johnston	Manual of the Vascular Plants of Texas	1970	1881	TX Research Found.	Reference book, lists over 5000 species of plants, including trees, shrubs forbs and grasses. Detailed descriptions of each species, no illustrations. Out of print.
Diggs, Lipscomb and O'Kennon	Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas	1999	1626	Botanical Research institute of TX	Excellent reference book for the area from the Red River south almost to Austin....obviously many of the same species as are found in the rest of the Hill Country except for the more xeric species of the south and west. Excellent illustrations and some color photos. For trees, shrubs forbs and grasses
Sibley, David Allen	The Sibley Guide to Trees	2009	426	Alfred A. Knopf	Written in the same format a The Sibley Guide to Birds with several excellent illustrations and good descriptions, also shows maps of areas for each species
Linex, Ricky L.	Range Plants of North Central Texas	2014	345	USDA/NRCS	Detailed discussion of the identification, value and management of 161 forbs, 58 grasses and 103 woody species with numerous excellent photos of each great majority of all species also occur in the Hill Country.
Taylor, Richard	Common Woody Plants & Cacti of South Texas	2014	204	U Texas Press	Good photos and a description of the 50most common species of woodies and cacti in South Texas
Gustafson, Mark	A Naturalist's Guide to the Texas Hill Country	2015	349	TAMU Press	Collection of photographs of most common trees, forbs, animals, birds, insects, reptiles, etc. of the Hill Country, brief discussion of each.
Nicholson, Robert A.	Pasture and Range Plants	2006			
	GRASSES				
Shaw, Robert	Guide to Texas Grasses	2012	1080	TAMU Press	Latest, most complete list of over 700 species in Texas. Has drawings and some photos, range maps, but only brier descriptions or discussion about each grass. Newest plant names
Gould, Frank	The Grasses of Texas	1975	652	TAMU Press	Before Shaw, the "bible" of Texas grasses. Detailed descriptions, good

					illustrations, over 500 species fo grasses, older names.
Gould, Frank	Common Texas Grasses	1978	267	TAMU Press	Covers the 150 most common grasses, same descriptions and illustrations as in the Gould's previous book. Indexed by common name—easier to use for beginners than the above two books
Loflin, Brian and Shirley	Grasses of the Texas Hill Country	2006	195	TAMU Press	Best "first book" for Hill Country grasses, arranged by seed head type, photos instead of illustrations, covers over 70 grasses including grasses introduced since Gould's books were published
Hatch, Stephan and Jennifer Pluhar	Texas Range Plants	1993	326	TAMU Press	Illustrations and easy to read descriptions of common grasses, forbs and some shrubs of Texas ranges
Powell, A. Michael	Grasses of the TRans-Pecos and Adjacent Areas	2000	377	Iron Mountain Press	Detailed discussions, small illustrations, grass key. Many species common to Hill Country, but many are not.
Coffey, Chuck and Russell Stevens	Grasses of Southern Oklahoma and North Texas: A pictoral Guide	2004	120	Noble Foundation	Excellent, multiple photos of 116 grasses, many of which are common to the Hill Country as well
Rector, Barron	Know Your Grasses	2003	94	Texas AgriLife Extension	Illustrations and brief descriptions of 80 texas grasses
Linex, Ricky L.	Range Plants of North Central Texas	2014	345	USDA/NRCS	Detailed discussion of the identification, value and management of 161 forbs, 58 grasses and 103 woody species with numerous excellent photos of each great majority of all species also occur in the Hill Country.
Allred, Kelly W.	A Field Guide to the Grasses of New Mexico	2005	388	New Mexico State University	Very detailed drawings of most grasses of New Mexico and maps of their ranges.
Everitt, Drawe, Little and Lonard	Grasses of South Texas	2011	321	Texas Tech University Press	Descriptions, color photos of 175 native and 75 non-native grasses
Nicholson, Robert A.	Pasture and Range Plants	2006	175	Fort Hays State University	Beautiful full page color drawings of grasses and forbs.
	FORBS				
Enquist, Marshall	Wildflowers of the Texas Hill Country	1987	275	Lone Star	The "bible" of Hill Country Flowers to most Hill Country Naturalists. Excellent color photographs of over 200 wildflowers, arranged by families.
Ajilvsgi, Geyata	Wildflowers of Texas	1984	414	Shearer	Over 350 Excellent color photos, but covers the whole state not just the Hill Country.
Niehaul, Ripper and Savage	Southwestern and Texas Wildflowers	1984	449	Houghton/Mifflin	A large number of flowers covered, arranged by color of flower and then shape, some color and some black and white illustrations.
Loughmiller, Campbell and Lynn	Texas Wildflowers, A Field Guide	1999	271	UT	Color photos of 300-400 flowers arranged by family.
Everitt, Drawe and Lonard	Field Guide to the Broad-Leaved Herbaceous Plants of South Texas	1999	277	Texas Tech	Good color photos, well organized descriptions
See also Diggs, Lipscomb and O'Kennon under "Woody Plants"	See also Correll and Johnston under "woody plants"				
	ANIMALS				
Tekiela, Stan	Mammals of Texas Field Guide	2009	416	Adventure Publications	Good, small, fact-filled guide based largely on Schmidley's book below.
Kays, Roland and Don Wilson	Princeton Field Guides: Mammals of North America	2002	240	Princeton	Field guide with brief description, range maps, and color drawings.

Martin, Zim and Nelson	American Wildlife and Plants. A Guide to Wildlife Food Habits	1961	500	Dover	Range maps, discussions and food graphs for birds and animals
Schmidly, David J.	The Mammals of Texas	1994	501	UT	Probably the best book for Texas mammals only. Thorough descriptions, range maps by county. Most photos B & W, but major animals in color.
Schmidly, David J.	Texas Natural History. A Century of Change	2002	534	TTU	The author was President of Texas Tech and probably the foremost mammalogist in Texas. The first half of the book is a reprint of Vernon Bailey's account of his Biological Survey of Texas from 1889 to 1904, which in itself is fascinating reading. The second half is Schmidly's discussion of changes since then.
Nora Bowers, Rick Bowers & Kenn Kaufman	Kaurman Field Guide to Mammals of North America	2004	351	Houghton Mifflin	Well illustrated with good photos
Burton,	Principles of Zoology and Ecology: Fish and Wildlife	2003	470	Delmar	A Low-level college or advanced high school) text. Mixes ecological principles with specific species discussions, easy to read.
Tennant, Alan	A Field Guide to Texas Snakes	1998	291	Gulf	Half page color photos grouped together in the center, full page descriptions and range maps for each species
Conant and Collins	Reptiles and Amphibians, Peterson Field Guide	1998	616	Houghton/Mifflin	Good field guide with color photos, maps and illustrations
Halfpenny, James C.	Scats and Tracks of the Desert Southwest	2000	144	Globe Pequot Press	Black and white drawings of tracks, walks and scat for many animals
Mungall, Elizabeth C.	Exotic Animal Field Guide	2007	285	TAMU Press	Photos, discussion and origin of many introduced exotic mammals introduced to Texas ranges.
	BIRDS				
There are so many good bird books, and most everyone has one that any list will omit a favorite, but here are two that deserve listing.					
Sibley, David A.	The Sibley Guide to Birds (National Audubon Society)	2000	544	Alfred A. Knoph	A little big to carry in the field, but excellent color illustrations and with similar species on the same page to aid in distinguishing.
Rylander, Kent	The Behavior of Texas Birds	2002	431	UT	Kent Rylander is a Professor at Texas Tech/Junction and Fredericksburg, President of Fredericksburg Native Plant Society. This book doesn't help you identify birds, but it is great to help you understand them.
	GEOLOGY				
Lambert, David	The Field Guide to Geology	1998	256	Checkmark	Good beginners book, lots of drawings, concise discussion
Spearing, Darwin	Roadside Geology of Texas	1991	418	Mountain Press	Basic discussion of Texas geology plus discussion of what you are looking at on many roadside cuts across the state.
Fensley, Charles	A Field Guide to Fossils of Texas	1989	209	Gulf	Lots of photos, detailed discussions
Turner, Hester, and Roemer	A Field Guide to Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians	1993	393	Gulf	Hundreds of drawings of arrowheads and other stone tools.
	INSECTS				
Drees, Bastiaan, and John Jackman	A Field Guide to Common Texas Insects	1998	359	Gulf	Organized by order, good descriptions and small color photos
Jackman, John	A Field Guide to Spiders and Scorpions of Texas	1997	201	Gulf	Organized by order, good descriptions and small color photos

Brock, Jim and Kenn Kaufman	Butterflies of North America	2003	384	Houghton/Mifflin	Very large number of butterflies described and small photos of each.
Glassberg, Jeffrey	Butterflies through Binoculars. The West	2001	374	Oxford	Very many good descriptions and color photos, also range maps.
Opler, Paul	Peterson First Guides. Butterflies and Moths	1994	128	Houghton/Mifflin	A concise field guide to the most common butterflies and moths of North America
Wright, Amy Bartlet	Peterson First Guides. Caterpillars	1993	128	Houghton/Mifflin	A concise field guide to 120 common caterpillars of North America
Eaton and Kaufman	Kaufman Field Guide to Insects of North America	2007	391	Houghton/Mifflin	Well illustrated with good photos
	MISCELLANEOUS				
Elpel, Thomas J.	Botany in a Day. the Pattern Method of Plant Identification. 5 th Ed	2006	222	HOPS Press	Illustration and descriptive discussions of the structural characteristics of plant families.
Capon, Brian	Botany for Gardeners	2010	267	Timberline Press	Basic Botany is discussed and illustrated for laymen
Kohnke & Franzmeier	Soil Science Simplified	1995	162	Waveland Press	The basics of soil science and its importance in land management
Loflin, Brian & Shirley	Texas Cacti	2009	287	TAMU Press	Excellent photos of over 200 species as well as discussion about cactus types and how to identify
Powell, A. Michael James Weedin & Shirley Powell	Cacti of Texas, A Field Guide	2008	383	Texas Tech	Detailed descriptions and good photos
Allred, Lance	Enchanted Rock. A Natural and Human History	2009	296	UT Press	Very thorough discussion of Enchanted Rock and probably over a thousand photos of the rock, the plants, the insects, etc that live there.
Turner, Nichols, Denny, and Doron	Atlas of the Vascular Plants of Texas—Vol 1	2003	649	Botanical Research Institute of Texas	A graphic listing of the counties in which each of the approximately 6000 species of dicots have been verified.
Turner, Nichols, Denny, and Doron	Atlas of the Vascular Plants of Texas—Vol 2	2003	239	Botanical Research Institute of Texas	A graphic listing of the counties in which each of the approximately 6000 species of monocots have been verified.