

# TECHNICAL NOTES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE      Portland, Oregon      SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

Range Technical Note No. 14

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The following was issued as Range Technical Note No. 42, in Davis, CA, March 1979.

## THREATENED OR ENDANGERED PLANT SPECIES ON FORM SCS-SOIL-5

The current operational procedure of generating tables for soil survey reports will not transfer any percentage composition quantity less than five percent from a Form SCS-SOILS-5. Therefore, most of the time a threatened or endangered plant will not be shown in a soil survey report. However, if a threatened or endangered plant occurs on a site where we are collecting data to establish or verify vegetation information for a range site description (SCS-RANGE-417), it should be included in the appropriate column on the SCS-SOILS-5 form and footnoted even though it may make up no more than 1 percent. It is very important that the plant be positively identified. A soil scientist should provide a soil profile description located in the immediate vicinity to verify the validity of the soil series and phase and ensure it is not an inclusion within a named soil series. This information will allow the user to identify this soil's potential to produce this plant. This record will act as an alert to project people to watch for these plants. If found, we can use the same data from the SCS-SOILS-5 to evaluate the possibilities of planting this species on another site with the same soil or another soil with the same potential. Or it may give project personnel a handle on where to look for other suitable sites for this plant. It may be found that our work will affect only a small portion of this plant's range and/or population and will therefore be environmentally acceptable.