

What Do Turkey Eat in West Texas?

A study was conducted by TPWD to determine seasonal diets of turkey on two ranches in Sterling and Reagan Counties. The summary below gives the average of spring, summer, fall and winter consumption with the most important items listed first. The second column indicates the season of highest use.

<u>Food Item</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Season of Highest Use</u>	
Insects, spiders, snails	29%	Summer	49%
Rescuegrass	20%	Winter	43%
Bumelia berries	6%	Fall	10%
Tasajillo fruits	5%	Fall	11%
White tridens seedheads	5%	Spring	12%
Milkvetch (peavine)	3%	Winter	9%
Switchgrass seed	3%	Summer	11%
Filaree	2%	Winter	5%
Hackberry fruits	2%	Fall	4%
Pricklypear fruits	2%	Summer	8%
Grains, range cubes	4%		
<u>Other Grasses 5%</u>	<u>Other Forbs 9%</u>	<u>Other Woody Plants 4%</u>	
Vine-mesquite	Ground cherry	Lotebush	
Bristlegrass	Bladderpod	Juniper	
Sand dropseed	Wild onion	Mesquite	
Little barley	Tallow weed	Algerita	
Tobosagrass	Gaura	Ephedra	
Reverchon panic	Primrose	Wolfberry	
Flat sedge	Croton	Old man's beard	
Cedar sedge	Noseburn	Littleleaf sumac	
Texas wintergrass	Bluecurls	Live oak	
Johnsongrass	Wild mercury	Catclaw acacia	
Slim tridens	Copperleaf	Pecan	
Texas cupgrass	Spiderwort	Little walnut	