

62-340 Data Form: Vegetation

Vegetation is split into four different statuses: **obligate**, **facultative wet species**, **facultative species** and **upland** (62-340 Data Form Guide Appendix A & A2 provide a comprehensive plant index that lists plant binomial, common name and wetland status).

Any plant not specifically listed in 62-340 is considered an upland plant except vines, aquatic plants and any plant species not introduced into the state of Florida as of July 1, 1994.



Binomial: *Taxodium distichum*
Common Name: Bald cypress
Status: Obligate



Binomial: *Cyperus spp.*
Common Name: Flat sedge
Status: Facultative wet



Binomial: *Callicarpa americana*
Common Name: American beautyberry
Status: Upland



Binomial: *Rubus spp.*
Common Name: Blackberries
Status: Facultative



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Northeast District • 8800 Baymeadows Way W. • Jacksonville, FL 32256 • 904 256 1700 •

62-340.400 Selection of Appropriate Vegetative Stratum

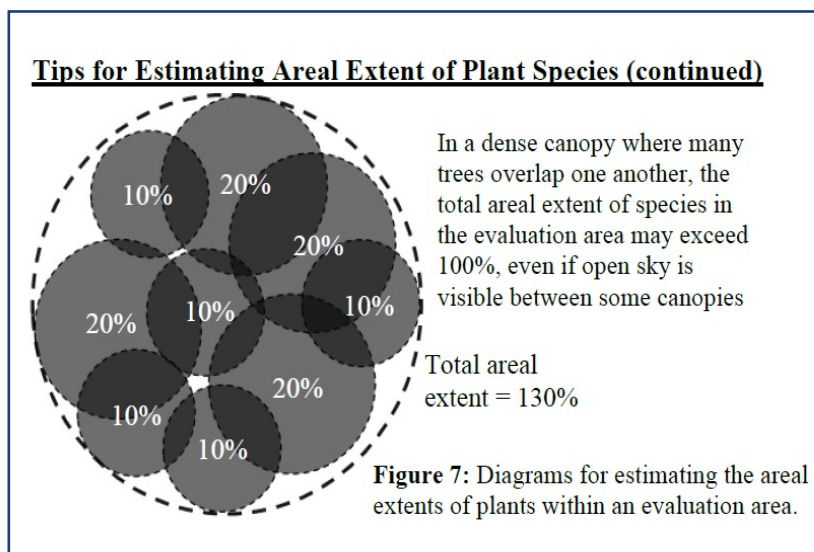
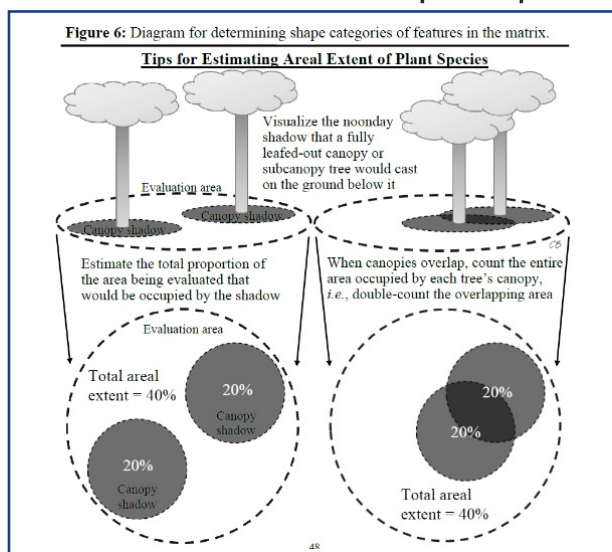
Dominance of plant species shall be determined in one of the three plant strata: **canopy**, **subcanopy** or **ground cover**.

10. Vegetative Stratum §62-340.400: Using §62-340.400, F.A.C. with reasonable scientific judgment, select the appropriate vegetative stratum. (Do not include FAC species when determining 10% minimum areal extent.)

- ☐ Canopy (Min. 10% areal extent) ☐ Subcanopy (Min. 10% areal extent) ☐ Groundcover (No min. areal extent)
☐ Vegetation Absent (skip to #14) ☐ Evaluation Impossible (skip to #14) Why?

The top stratum (canopy) is used to determine dominance unless the top stratum, exclusive of facultative plants, constitutes less than 10-percent areal extent.

Part 11.2 on the 62-340 Data Form guide requires documentation of the percent areal extent in canopy, subcanopy and groundcover. Figure 6 below (62-340 page 48) demonstrates how to estimate the areal extent of plant species.



Altogether, a completed vegetation section of the 62-340 Data Form will look like this:

10. Vegetative Stratum §62-340.400: Using §62-340.400, F.A.C. with reasonable scientific judgment, select the appropriate vegetative stratum. (Do not include FAC species when determining 10% minimum areal extent.) ☒ Canopy (Min. 10% areal extent) ☐ Subcanopy (Min. 10% areal extent) ☐ Groundcover (No min. areal extent) ☐ Vegetation Absent (skip to #14) ☐ Evaluation Impossible (skip to #14) Why? Normal expression									
11. Plant List §62-340.200(2),(6),(16), §62-340.400, §62-340.450, F.A.C.: As is under current conditions, without considering RSJ¹ or the legality of any alterations: Select and identify plants in an area just large enough to represent and classify the plant community at the described point. Do not extend into different communities or hydrologic conditions.								Areal extent estimator: HA	
1. Record the scientific name (binomial) and status of each plant species necessary to identify/delineate and classify the plant community in the selected area.			2. Record the percent areal extent in the canopy, subcanopy, and groundcover columns for each species.			3. For each species present in the stratum selected in #10, transfer the numbers from only that stratum's column into the appropriate status columns.			
#	Binomial of Observed Species	Status	Canopy	Subcanopy	Groundcover	Upland	Facultative	Fac. Wet	Obligate
1.	Acer rubrum	FW		10	5				
2.	Schinus terebinthifolius	F	40				40		
3.	Quercus nigra	FW	70					70	
4.	Myrica cerifera	F		15					
5.	Taxodium distichum	O		10					
6.	Panicum repens	FW			15				
7.	Nuphar luteum	O			50				



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Northeast District • 8800 Baymeadows Way W. • Jacksonville, FL 32256 • 904 256 1700 •

62-340 Data Form: Hydrologic Indicators

The following can be used as evidence of inundation or saturation.

(1) Algal mats

The presence or remains of nonvascular plant material that develops during periods of inundation and persists after the surface water has receded.



(2) Aquatic mosses or liverworts on trees or substrates

The presence of those species of mosses or liverworts tolerant of or dependent on surface water inundation.

(3) Aquatic plants

Plants, including the roots, that typically float on water or require water for their entire structural support or that desiccate outside of water (62-340.200(1), Florida Administrative Code).

(4) Aufwuchs

The presence or remains of the assemblage of sessile, attached or free-living, nonvascular plants and invertebrate animals (including protozoans) that develop a community on inundated surfaces.

(5) Drift lines and rafted debris

Vegetation, litter and other natural or human-made material deposited in discrete lines or locations on the ground or against fixed objects, or entangled above the ground within or on fixed objects in a form and manner that indicate the material was waterborne. This indicator should be used with caution to ensure that the drift lines or rafted debris represent usual and recurring events typical of inundation or saturation at a frequency and duration sufficient to meet the wetland definition of subsection 62-340.200(19), F.A.C.

(6) Elevated lichen lines

A distinct line, typically on trees, formed by the water-induced limitation on the growth of lichens.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central District • 3319 Maguire Blvd. • Orlando, FL 32803 • 407-897-4100 • FloridaDEP.gov/Central

(7) Evidence of aquatic fauna

The presence or indications of the presence of animals that spend all or portions of their life cycle in water. Only those life stages that depend on being in or on water for daily survival are included in this indicator.

(8) Hydrologic data

Reports, measurements or direct observation of inundation or saturation that support the presence of water to an extent consistent with the definition of wetlands and the criteria within this rule, including evidence of a seasonal high-water table at or above the surface according to methodologies set forth in Soil and Water Relationships of Florida's Ecological Communities (Florida Soil Conservation Staff 1992).

(9) Morphological plant adaptations

Specialized structures or tissues produced by certain plants in response to inundation or saturation that normally are not observed when the plant has not been subject to conditions of inundation or saturation.

(10) Secondary flow channels

Discrete and obvious natural pathways of water flow landward of the primary bank of a stream watercourse and typically parallel to the main channel.

(11) Sediment deposition

Mineral or organic matter deposited in or shifted to positions indicating water transport.

(12) Vegetated tussocks or hummocks

Areas where vegetation is elevated above the natural grade on a mound built up of plant debris, roots and soils so that the growing vegetation is not subject to the prolonged effects of soil anoxia.

(13) Water marks

A distinct line created on fixed objects, including vegetation, by a sustained water elevation.



62-340 Data Form: Soils

Documenting the Soil Profile

Soil features are recorded on the following chart. Use one row for every layer.

Horizon	beginning to ending Depth (inches)	Matrix Texture	moist condition Matrix Hue Value/ Chroma	for sandy matrix horizons w/ value ≤ 3 : % Organic Coating	- Describe soil features: DA (areas darker than matrix), LA (areas lighter than matrix), RC (redox concentrations): Record in moist condition hue value/chroma; % volume in horizon; boundaries (sharp/clear/diffuse); shape (rounded/linear/angular). - OB (organic bodies): Record texture (muck or mucky mineral), % volume in horizon. - H₂S (hydrogen sulfide odor): Indicate shallowest depth where detected - Note if horizon is Physically Mixed (PM), Nonsoil (any material not listed in "Textures" above), or Fill and describe.
1	1	2	3	4	5
2					

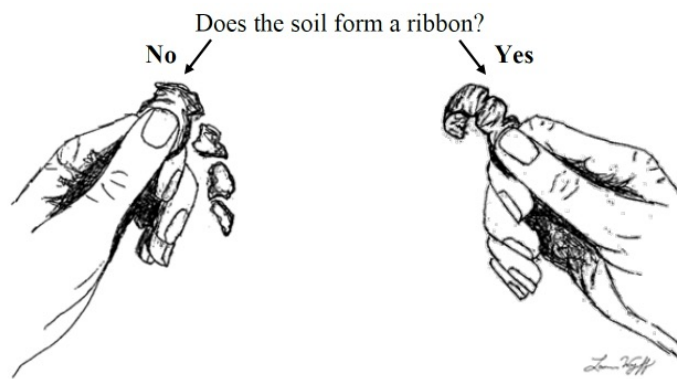
1 Depth

Observe differences in color and texture to determine the layers in your soil profile. Peat, mucky peat or nonsoil material at the top of the profile is considered to be above the soil surface. For example, a 2-inch nonsoil layer will be written +2-0. Soil layers will begin at 0.



2 Texture

The 62-340 Data Form classifies soils as peat; mucky peat; muck; mucky mineral (S or F); sand; fine; or marl. Soil that forms a ribbon is more likely to have a fine or muck texture. Other tests include the five-rub texture test, the 10-rub fiber test and the volume tests. Instructions for all of these can be found on pages 38 to 39 of the 62-340 Data Form guide.



Sandy Texture Soil
Use only A or S indicators

Fine Texture Soil
Use only A or F indicators

# of Rubs	Feeling	Texture
≤ 2	Gritty	Sandy Mineral ¹
2	Greasy	Continue to next rows
3 to ≤ 5	Gritty	Sandy Mucky Mineral ¹
3 to ≤ 5	Plastic ²	Check % Organic Carbon ³ to determine if Fine Mineral ¹ or Fine Mucky Mineral ¹
5	Greasy	Muck ¹

Proportion of visible fibers ⁴	Organic soil texture
Less than 1/6 (<17%)	Sapric (Muck)
1/6 to 3/4 (17% - 75%)	Hemic (Mucky Peat)
More than 3/4 (>75%)	Fibric (Peat)



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Northeast District • 8800 Baymeadows Way W. • Jacksonville, FL 32256 • 904 256 1700 •

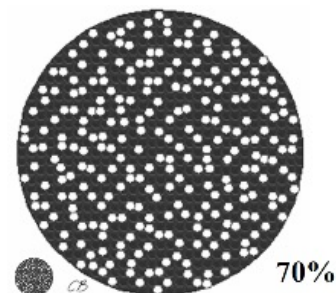
62-340. Data Form: Soils

3 Matrix Hue Value/Chroma

The matrix is the color with the highest percent volume in the layer. Use a Munsell Soil color book to determine the most accurate Munsell color for the matrix.

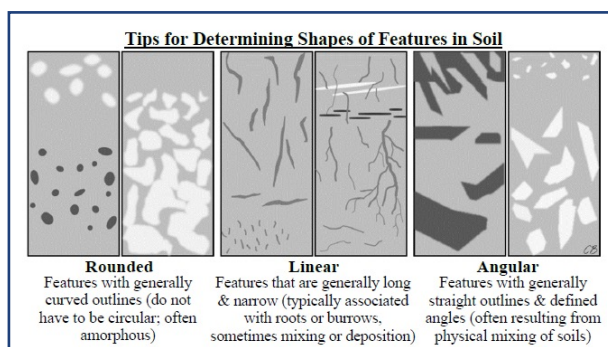
4 Percent Organic Coating

Organic coating is measured for a sandy or sandy mucky mineral soil when the matrix value is less than or equal to three. Observe the matrix under a 10x hand lens and compare to the organic coating guide on pages 42 to 43 of the 62-340 Data Form guide.



5 Soil Features

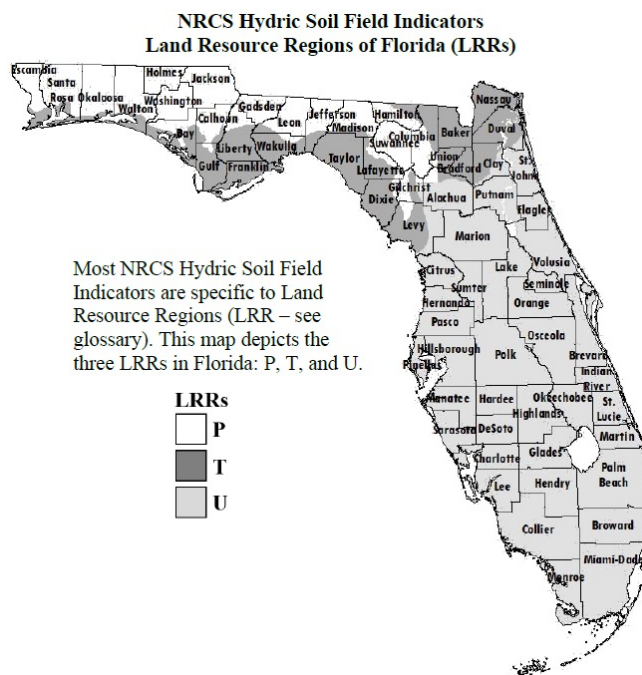
DA, LA and RC all require the recording of color, percent volume, boundaries and shape. A guide for boundaries can be found on page 40 of the 62-340 Data Form guide, and guides for percent volume and shape can be found on pages 43 to 48.



Identifying Hydric Soil Indicators

Once these steps are complete for all soil layers, check pages 51 to 59 of the 62-340 Data Form guide to see if any of the hydric soil indicators are met. Hydric soil indicators are classified as A, for use in all soils; S, sandy; and F, fine. Refer to the soil texture recorded in the field to determine which indicators can potentially apply.

Some indicators are also specific to a particular land resource region. Check page 49 of the 62-340 Data Form guide to verify the LRR.



Note that hydric soil indicators with an asterisk (*) next to the name on the data form and any indicator that begins at the soil surface also count as hydrologic indicators.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Central District • 3319 Maguire Blvd. • Orlando, FL 32803 • 407-897-4100 • FloridaDEP.gov/Central