

# Blackwood scrubs on massive soils



## Landform

Level to gently undulating plains.

## Woody vegetation

Blackwood scrubs associated with Reid river box and blackbutt, and occasional gidgee. Understorey, if present, of currant bush, false sandalwood, bauhinia, yellowwood and whitewood.

## Expected pasture composition

*\* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*

### Preferred

Desert bluegrass, brigalow grass, bull Mitchell grass, windmill grasses.

### Intermediate

Rice grass.

### Non-preferred

Wiregrasses, winged chloris, lovegrasses, fairy grass.

### Annuals

Ray grass, dropseed, button grass, Flinders grass, small burr grass, native/spider couch, winged chloris, purpletop Rhodes, ruby saltbush, soft roly poly, pigweed.

## Suitable sown pastures

Marginal for sown pastures.

## Introduced weeds

Parkinsonia, harrisia cactus.

<b>Soil</b>	Uniform, massive dark grey to brown clays (dermosol). Thin sand veneer on the surface. Highly dispersive subsoils. Slight gilgai occurrence.
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Tendency to seal; <b>Surface texture:</b> sand veneer over light to medium clay; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> medium to heavy clay.
Water availability	Low
Fertility	Low
Salinity	High salinity throughout profile.
Sodicity	Highly sodic subsoils.
pH	Slightly alkaline to neutral at surface, acid at depth.
<b>Utilisation</b>	15%
<b>Enterprise</b>	Breeding
<b>Land use and management recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.</li> <li>• Maximise ground cover at end of dry season to reduce soil surface sealing and development of scalds.</li> <li>• Heavy grazing can lead to loss of preferred pasture species, increases of currant bush, and pastures dominated by undesirable forbs (e.g. gidgee burr).</li> </ul>
<b>Land use limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragile land type.</li> <li>• Low fertility, high salinity and highly dispersive subsoils.</li> <li>• Low soil phosphorus may necessitate use of supplementation for cattle.</li> <li>• Very high soil erosion hazard. Particularly prone to scalding, gully and tunnel erosion along tracks, fence lines and on sloping lands.</li> </ul>
<b>Conservation features and related management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This land type has been extensively cleared for pasture.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional ecosystems</b>	11.3.8.
<b>Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations</b>	Land units (Gunn <i>et al</i> 1967) Somerby 3, Blackwater 3; AMU (DPI 1993) Lonesome; Soil Associations (Roger <i>et al</i> 1999) Scartwater, Wambiana, Powlathanga, Victoria Downs.