

# Brown basalt



## Landform

Level to gently undulating plains.

## Woody vegetation

Narrow-leaved ironbark open woodland associated with silver-leaved ironbark, mountain coolibah, ghost gum and bloodwood.

## Expected pasture composition

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

### Preferred

Desert bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, curly bluegrass, giant speargrass, plume and brown sorghum.

### Intermediate

Golden beard grass, Indian couch\*.

### Non-preferred

Pitted bluegrass, dark wiregrass, lovegrasses, fairy grass.

### Annuals

Button grass, annual lovegrasses (e.g. delicate, soft, stinkgrass, weeping, drooping), liverseed grass\*.

## Suitable sown pastures

Buffel grass, urochloa, creeping bluegrass, Shrubby stylo, Caribbean stylo, Caatinga stylo. Butterfly pea on deeper soils >90 cm.

## Introduced weeds

Rubbervine, parthenium, giant rat's tail grass, calotrope, chinee apple, Captain Cook bush, grader grass.

<b>Soil</b>	Very shallow to moderately deep brown clay loam grading to yellow brown structured clay (ferrosol). Variable basalt rock and surface stone cover.
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Variable stone cover; <b>Surface texture:</b> clay loam; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> light medium clay.
Water availability	Low to moderate.
Fertility	Moderate
Salinity	Non-saline
Sodicity	Non-sodic
pH	Slightly acidic (pH 6.6).
<b>Utilisation</b>	30%
<b>Enterprise</b>	Fattening and growing.
<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>• Heavy grazing encourages domination of Indian couch and reduced productivity.</li> <li>• Maintain at least 50% ground cover at end of dry season to maximise infiltration and reduce soil erosion.</li> </ul>
<b>Land use limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shallow soils.</li> <li>• Use of fire (4–5 years) after storm rain to address woodland thickening and maintain desirable pasture composition.</li> <li>• Weed invasion (chinee apple, giant rat's tail grass).</li> <li>• Establishment problems with improved pastures (stylos) due to high incidence of frosts.</li> <li>• Limited soil erosion hazard. Prone to rill and gully erosion along tracks and fence lines and on sloping lands.</li> </ul>
<b>Conservation features and related management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These extensively thinned, cleared or cultivated areas provide habitat for rare and threatened flora (<i>Atalaya calcicola</i>, <i>Croton magneticus</i>, <i>Ehretia grahamii</i> and <i>Wrightia versicolor</i>) and fauna species.</li> <li>• Important seasonal wetland habitats associated with this ecosystem.</li> <li>• Lava tunnels with endemic fauna and significant bat maternity sites.</li> <li>• Some areas are subject to invasion by <i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional ecosystems</b>	9.8.11, 9.8.1b, 9.8.4c.
<b>Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations</b>	Soil Associations (Rogers <i>et al</i> 1999) Conjuboy, Glencoe.