

Clayey alluvials



Landform	Level plains.
Woody vegetation	Coolibah or blackbutt woodland with blackwood, brigalow, gidgee, or Reid river box as co-dominants. Understorey of false sandalwood, bauhinia and saplings of overstorey trees.
Expected pasture composition	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Queensland bluegrass, desert bluegrass, curly bluegrass, curly and hoop Mitchell grass, tall cup grass, native millet, green couch* (naturalised).
Intermediate	Bull Mitchell grass, golden beard grass, silky browntop, Angleton bluegrass*.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, canegrasses, tussocky sporobolus, sheda grass*, fairy grass.
Annuals	Flinders grass, button grass, native/spider couch.
Suitable sown pastures	Bambatsi panic, buffel grass, Angleton bluegrass, urochloa, butterfly pea, Caatinga stylo, Desmanthus. Leucaena where not frequently flooded.
Introduced weeds	Rubbervine, bellyache bush, chinee apple, parkinsonia, parthenium, Captain Cook bush, calotrope, grader grass, harrisia cactus, prickly acacia, prickly mimosa bush, mother of millions, noogoora burr, Mexican poppy.
Soil	Self-mulching black, brown or grey cracking clay (black, brown or grey vertosol).
Description	Surface: Strong and fine self-mulching; Surface texture: medium to heavy clay; Subsoil texture: medium to heavy clay.

Water availability

Moderate to high.

Fertility

Moderate

Salinity

Non-saline

Sodicity

Slightly sodic at surface, moderate to high in subsoil.

pH

Neutral at surface, alkaline subsoils.

Utilisation

30% (native); 35% (sown).

Enterprise

Growing and finishing.

Land use and management recommendations

- When in poor condition can be rehabilitated with sown pastures.
- Suitable for cropping in areas that have access to irrigation.
- When mixed with other less fertile land types in a paddock, alluvial areas are at risk of overgrazing. Land condition should be monitored carefully and management adjusted if necessary to reduce grazing pressure in these areas.
- Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Use of fire may have a role in suppressing woody plants.
- Heavy grazing encourages germination of introduced weeds, particularly parthenium, parkinsonia.
- Maintain at least 50% ground cover at end of dry season to maximise infiltration and reduce soil erosion.

Land use limitations

- Flooding and waterlogging.
- Restricted access in wet conditions.
- Weed invasion (parthenium, parkinsonia).
- Establishment problems with improved pastures due to crusting / cracking or coarse self-mulching surface.
- Variable soil erosion hazard. Prone to rill and gully erosion, highly erodible along tracks, fence lines and drainage lines.

Conservation features and related management

- These communities provide habitat for a diverse range of fauna, in particular high numbers of nesting birds that use the hollows in mature trees, and herbivores such as macropods and arboreal mammals.
- Some areas of these land types have been extensively cleared for cropping or modified by heavy grazing pressure.
- *Hydrocharis dubia* is a vulnerable waterplant that occasionally occurs in these land types. The rare and threatened *Aponogeton queenslandicus* may occur on heavy clays.
- Subject to invasion by weeds such as rubbervine and parkinsonia.

Regional ecosystems

11.3.13, 11.3.27, 11.3.33, 11.3.34, 11.3.3x1, 9.3.19b, 9.3.23, 9.3.23, 9.3.26, 9.3.26a, 9.3.8.

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

Land units (Gunn *et al* 1967) Alpha 3 & 4, Funnel 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5, Comet 2, 4 & 6; AMU (DPI 1993) Moramana; Soil Associations (Rogers *et al* 1999) Yarraman, Manoa.