Downs

Landform	Level to gently undulating plains.					
Woody vegetation	Treeless plains fringed by coolibah, Reid river box, blackwood, brigalow and gidgee.					
Expected pasture composition	* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.					
Preferred	Hoop and curly Mitchell grass, curly bluegrass, king bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, native millet, buffel grass*.					
Intermediate	Yabila grass, silky browntop, bull Mitchell grass.					
Non-preferred	Feathertop wiregrass, white speargrass, fairy grass.					
Annuals	Flinders grass, button grass, native/spider couch.					
Suitable sown pastures	Angleton bluegrass, Bambatsi panic, Desmanthus, leucaena, butterfly pea, Caatinga stylo.					
Introduced weeds	Parthenium, parkinsonia, mimosa, prickly acacia, rubbervine, mother-of-millions.					
Soil	Black or brown cracking clay (black or brown vertosol).					
Description	<i>Surface</i> : Strong and fine self-mulching; <i>Surface texture</i> : medium to heavy clay; <i>Subsoil texture</i> : medium to heavy clay.					
Water availability	High					
Fertility	Moderate					
Salinity	Moderate					





Sodicity

Slightly sodic at surface, moderate to high in subsoil.

Neutral at surface, increasing alkalinity with depth.

pН

Long-ter capacity info

Long-term carrying Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day							
capacity information (A	Median annual rainfall 502 – 765 mm						
conditiony	Pasture type	Median tree cover	Median annual pasture growth	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth	LTCC		
		(TBA m²/ha) (FPC %)	(DM kg/ha)	(%)	(ha/AE)		
	Native species	0 TBA/FPC	1970 - 3550	25%	3.3 – 5.9		
		8 TBA 20 FPC	1130 - 2120	25%	5.5 – 10		
Enterprise	Finishing						
Land use and management recommendations	 Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition. Maintain vigorous pasture to prevent parthenium invasion. Use fire to suppress feathertop wiregrass and encroachment of woody species. 						
Land use limitations	 Establishment problems with improved pastures due to cracking or coarse self-mulching surface. Limited soil erosion hazard. Prone to rill and gully erosion along tracks and fence lines and on sloping lands. 						
Conservation features and related management	• These grass for many a pinguicolla, damelii), ma	slands commun animals includir five-clawed wo acropods and a	ities support a dive ng reptiles (grass rm skink <i>Anomalop</i> rboreal mammals.	erse range of plant land earless dra ous mackayi and g	s and provide habitat gon <i>Tympanocryptis</i> rey snake <i>Hemiaspis</i>		
	These grasslands are readily infested with parthenium, especially when ground cover becomes too low.						
	 Manage grazing pressure and use rotational grazing practices to ensure healthy vigorous pastures and minimise the risk of weed invasion. 						
Regional Ecosystems	11.12.1c, 11.3.31, 11.4.11, 11.4.4, 11.8.11, 11.9.3, 2.9.3x1a, 2.9.3x1b.						
Land units; Agricultural	Land units (Gunn <i>et al</i> 1967) Avon 1 & 3; AMU (DPI 1993) Dooruna; Soil Associations Victoria Downs, Powlathanga, Wambiana, Yarraman, Egera.						

management unit; Soil

associations



BD09 Downs



Area of land type in region: 2% Median rainfall (region): 440 – 981 mm Average rainfall (region): 476 – 1112 mm Area of land type with FPC: 22% Median FPC: 20% Median TBA: 8 m2/ha

