## Red basalt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Landform</th>
<th>Level to gently undulating plains.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Woody vegetation</td>
<td>Narrow-leaved ironbark open woodland associated with ghost gum, bloodwood and grevilleas. Rainforest to wet sclerophyll forest in high rainfall areas in north-east.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expected pasture composition</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preferred</td>
<td>Desert bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, curly bluegrass, giant speargrass, plume and brown sorghum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Indian couch*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-preferred</td>
<td>Pitted bluegrass, dark wiregrass, lovegrasses, fairy grass.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annuals</td>
<td>Button grass, annual lovegrasses (e.g. delicate, soft, stinkgrass, weeping, drooping), liverseed grass*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Suitable sown pastures</strong></td>
<td>Buffel grass, urochloa, creeping bluegrass, Rhodes grass, Shrubby stylo, Caribbean stylo, Caatinga stylo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduced weeds</strong></td>
<td>Rubbervine, parthenium, giant rat’s tail grass, calotrope, chinee apple, Captain Cook bush, grader grass, lantana.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Soil

Shallow, occasionally moderately deep, reddish brown clay loam grading to light clay (ferrosol). Basalt rock and surface stone are common features.

**Description**

*Surface:* Variable stone cover; *Surface texture:* clay loam; *Subsoil texture:* light medium clay.

Water availability

Moderate

Fertility

Moderate

Salinity

Non-saline

Sodicity

Non-sodic

pH

Slightly acidic (pH 6.6).

**Utilisation**

30%

Enterprise

Fattening and growing.

**Land use and management recommendations**

- Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Heavy grazing encourages domination of Indian couch and reduced productivity.

**Land use limitations**

- Use of fire (4–5 years) after storm rain to address woodland thickening and maintain desirable pasture composition.
- Weed invasion (chinee apple, giant rat’s tail grass).
- Establishment problems with improved pastures (stylos) due to high incidence of frosts.
- 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 woodlands, particular more mature hollow-bearing trees, provide important habitat and nesting sites for arboreal mammals including yellow-bellied gliders and koalas. Also provide habitat for the Eungella hairy daisy *Ozothamnus eriocephalus*.
- Areas may have been subject to clearing/timber harvesting and grazing and, hence, are vulnerable to invasion by weeds such as grader grass, lantana, rubbervine.

**Regional ecosystems**

7.5.4f, 7.8.10a-b, 7.8.15a-b, 7.8.16a-c, 7.8.17a-c, 7.8.18a-d, 7.8.7a, 7.8.8b, 9.12.16, 9.8.1a, 9.8.1c, 9.8.4a-b, 11.8.14.

**Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations**

Soil Associations (Rogers *et al* 1999) Hillgrove, Felspar, Nulla, Pin Gin, Newlands.