

# Granite plains and rises with mixed grassy woodlands



<b>Landform</b>	Gently undulating plains to undulating rises. Large areas occur in the south-east of the region around Ballandean, Eukey and Stanthorpe. Some patches occur south-west of Graymare.
<b>Woody vegetation</b>	New England blackbutt, tumbledown gum, Caley's ironbark, Youman's stringybark, broad-leaved stringybark, blue gum.
<b>Expected pasture composition</b>	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species</i>
Preferred	Pitted bluegrass, wallaby grass, silky browntop, paspalum*, weeping grass.
Intermediate	Barbwire grass, plume grass, forest hedgehog grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, weeping lovegrass, blady grass.
Annuals	Awnless barnyard grass*, summer grass.
Legumes	Cluster clover*, glycine.
Common forbs	Fringe rushes. Non-preferred species include bracken fern.
<b>Suitable sown pastures</b>	Digit grass, Brunswick grass, tall fescue, annual ryegrass. White clover, sub clover, serradella (on deeper sands).
<b>Introduced weeds</b>	Blackberry, African lovegrass, cosmos weed, whiskey grass.
<b>Soil</b>	Deep, bleached dark grey to yellowish brown sandy clay loam texture-contrast soil (kurosols, sodosols).
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Hard-setting; <b>Surface texture:</b> bleached, sandy clay loam to loamy sand; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> coarse sandy light clay to sandy clay loam.

Water availability

Fertility

Salinity

Sodicity

pH

**Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)**

Very low to low, PAWC 36–58 mm, depending on surface soil depth (30–60 cm).

Low to medium; medium organic C and P, low N, high K and Zn.

High below 50 cm.

Sodic to strongly sodic subsoils.

Surface neutral to slightly acid, strongly acid at depths.

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 624 – 748 mm				
Pasture type	Median tree cover (TBA m <sup>2</sup> /ha) (FPC %)	Median annual pasture growth (DM kg/ha)	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%)	LTCC (ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	2770 - 2770	20%	5.3 – 5.3
	14 TBA 35 FPC	720 - 1490	20%	10 – 20

**Enterprise**

**Land use and management recommendations**

Breeding and fattening.

- Suitable for grazing on native and sown pastures.
- Suitable for horticulture on lower slopes.
- Minimal ground disturbance as dispersive soils erode easily.
- Manage grazing pressure to maximise ground cover and minimise soil loss.
- Spelling of pastures to maintain cover, vigour and limit undesirable species.
- Use conservation cropping measures, implementing runoff control measures on slopes >1%, and rotate between pasture (3–6 years) and fodder cropping (up to 3 years).

**Land use limitations**

- Hard-setting surfaces.
- Low fertility and very low to low water holding capacity.
- Poorly structured and drained subsoils that may cause waterlogging (particularly in winter).
- Rocky outcrops restrict cultivation opportunities.

**Conservation features and related management**

- Habitat for a number of rare and threatened plant species including patchily distributed *Eucalyptus interstans*; the uncommon Baker’s and green mallees in the Inglewood-Warwick area; species at the northern limit of their geographical range (*E. magnificata*, *Pterostylis woollsii*, *Grevillea scortechinii*, *Persoonia daphnoides*); species with very limited distributions (*Macrozamia viridis*) and the only known Queensland population of *Grevillea juniperina*.
- Extensively cleared or thinned for pasture, agriculture and horticulture, particularly on the lower slopes with deeper soils, with remaining areas subject to dieback and invasion by blackberry.
- Remaining areas of this land type should be retained to establish connection with other areas of remnant vegetation and provide wildlife corridors.

**Regional Ecosystems**

11.9.9, 11.9.9a, 13.12.3, 13.12.5, 13.12.8, 13.12.9

**Land Resource Areas; Land types; Soil associations**

Land type (Maher 1996) 9 Undulating granite plains, 10 Granite rises – texture contrast soils.

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Area of land type in region: 2%  
Median rainfall (region): 469 – 748 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 516 – 758 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 60%  
Median FPC: 33%  
Median TBA: 14 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland**  
Government