

# Poplar box on red soils



## Landform

Gently undulating plains and rises, occasionally low hills.

*Extensive areas occur in the west of the region around Weengallon, Geralda and Wandibingie.*

## Woody vegetation

Poplar box woodlands with silver-leaved ironbark, cypress pine, mulga (in patches) and kurrajong associated species. An understorey of false sandalwood and/or wilga is usually present.

## Expected pasture composition

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

### Preferred

Mulga Mitchell grass, curly windmill grass, kangaroo grass, cotton panic grass, pitted bluegrass, hairy panic, buffel grass\*, black speargrass, barbwire grass.

### Intermediate

Tall chloris, windmill grass, slender bottlewashers, small mulga Mitchell grass.

### Non-preferred

Purple wiregrass, rough speargrass.

### Annuals

### Legumes

Glycine pea, slender tick tree foil.

## Suitable sown pastures

Digit grass, tall finger grass, creeping bluegrass, buffel grass.

Woolly pod vetch, Caatinga stylo, barrel and hybrid disc/strand medics (where pH >6).

## Introduced weeds

African boxthorn, African lovegrass, tree pear.

## Soil

Red earth (kandosols) or solodic (sodosols).

## Description

**Surface:** Hard-setting; **Surface texture:** clay loam to loam; **Subsoil texture:** clay loam, medium clay sometimes with shot gravel layer.

## Water availability

Low to moderate; effective rooting depth 50–100 cm, PAWC 80–135 mm.

## Fertility

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

## Salinity

Generally very low salinity (red earth); some areas low to medium salinity below 80 cm (solodic).

## Sodicity

Non-sodic (red earth); some areas slightly sodic below 80 cm (solodic).

## pH

Acid (6.0 at surface to 4.5 at depth) (red earth); neutral to alkaline at depth (solodic).

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

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 469 – 547 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	1440 - 1590	25%	7.4 – 8.1
	8 TBA 20 FPC	750 - 780	25%	15 – 16

## Enterprise

Breeding and growing out.

## Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for short-term rotational dryland cereal and forage cropping.
- Use spelling and rotational grazing practices to encourage pasture vigour and desirable species, to suppress wiregrasses and obtain fuel loads.
- Maintain land in good condition with high groundcover to limit pimelea poisoning (St George disease) in cattle
- Use of forage crops is an option every 8–10 years to renovate sown pastures and control regrowth.

## Land use limitations

- Low fertility.
- Low PAWC.
- Adverse seedbed conditions.
- Woody regrowth.

## Conservation features and related management

- Poplar box woodlands have been extensively cleared and modified.
- These woodlands can support a high diversity of fauna including mammals, birds and insectivorous bats.
- Regrowth can cause high understorey shrub densities.
- Use of fire could assist in controlling regrowth and enhance productivity and habitat potential of the land type.

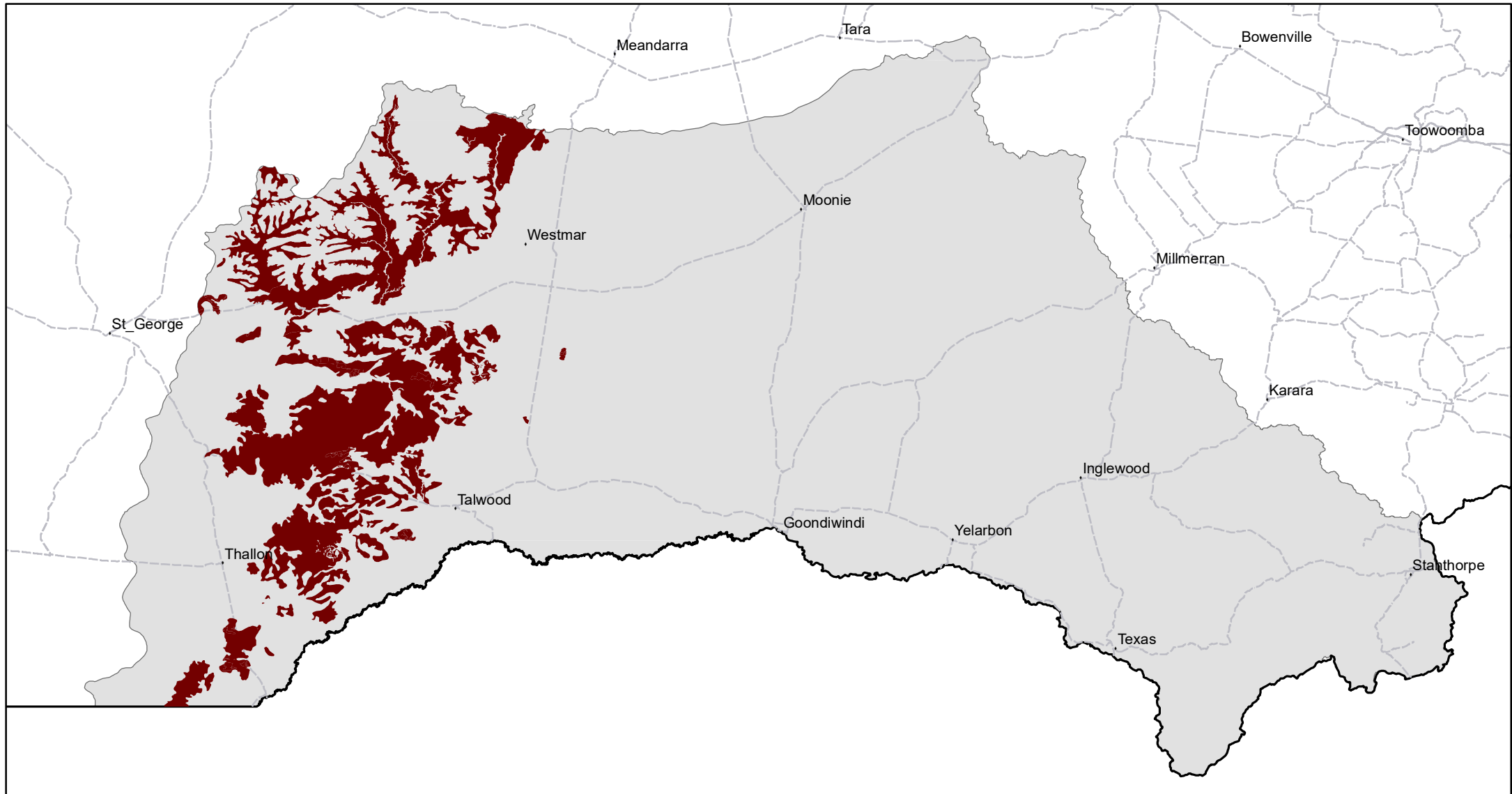
## Regional Ecosystems

11.5.13.

## Land Resource Areas; Land types; Soil associations

Land Resource Area (Thwaites and Macnish 1991) Geralda. Soils associations (Lloyd 1980) My5.

# BR10 Poplar box on red soils



Area of land type in region: 10%  
Median rainfall (region): 469 – 748 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 516 – 758 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 29%  
Median FPC: 21%  
Median TBA: 8 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland**  
Government