

# Traprock plains with grassy box woodlands



## Landform

Gently undulating plains and lower hillslopes.  
Scattered areas occur through the east of the region around Karara and Thane.

## Woody vegetation

Grey box, fuzzy box and yellow box grassy woodland. Understory of varying densities of peach bush, wild rosemary and wattles.

## Expected pasture composition

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

### Preferred

Queensland bluegrass, pitted bluegrass, wallaby grass, weeping grass, paspalum\*, windmill grass.

### Intermediate

Barbwire grass, slender chloris, hairy panic, forest hedgehog grass.

### Non-preferred

Wiregrasses (purple, dark), shorthair plume grass, five-minute grass.

### Legumes

Cluster clover\*, haresfoot clover, glycine, *Desmodium*.

### Common forbs

Kidneyweed (non-preferred).

## Suitable sown pastures

Digit grass, forest bluegrass, pertusa.

Barrel and burr medics (pH >6), rose clover, cluster clover, sub clovers, lucerne, Biserrula.

## Introduced weeds

Coolatai grass, African lovegrass, tree pear.

## Soil

Shallow to moderately deep, gravelly loams and clay loams (sodosols).

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| Description   | <b>Surface:</b> Hard-setting, gravelly; <b>Surface texture:</b> clay loam; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> clay.   |
| Water availability  | Very low to low; effective rooting depth 50 cm, PAWC 22–64 mm (depending on gravel and rock content).  |
| Fertility   | Low; medium organic C and N, very low P, medium K and Zn.  |
| Salinity  | High salinity in subsoil below 50 cm.  |
| Sodicity  | Sodic to strongly sodic subsoils.  |
| pH  | Medium acid surface, slightly acid to mildly alkaline subsoils.  |
| Utilisation   | 20%  |
| Enterprise  | Sheep and cattle breeding.   |
| <b>Land use and management recommendations</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable for grazing native pastures and beekeeping.</li> <li>• Limited suitability for establishing and grazing sown pastures on the lower sloping, deeper soils.</li> <li>• Manage grazing pressure to maximise ground cover and to minimise erosion of dispersive soils and formation of scalds.</li> <li>• Use spelling and rotational grazing practices to encourage vigour and desirable pasture species, allow seed-setting and to suppress wiregrasses.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Land use limitations</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surface stone and gravelly subsoil.</li> <li>• Low fertility, very low water holding capacity.</li> <li>• Impermeable, erodible subsoils.</li> <li>• Overgrazed and over-cleared areas are susceptible to scalding, especially at break of slope above flats.</li> <li>• Shrub regrowth.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Conservation features and related management</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These grassy woodlands have been extensively cleared and modified.</li> <li>• Potential habitat for rare and threatened flora species including <i>Eucalyptus terrica</i>, a species with a localised distribution, wattles (<i>Acacia pubifolia</i>, <i>A. latisepala</i>, <i>A. brunioides</i> subsp. <i>Granitica</i>), <i>Grevillea scortechinii</i>, <i>Olearia gravis</i>, <i>Cryptandra lanosiflora</i>, <i>Macrozamia viridis</i>.</li> <li>• The woodlands are also important for honey flora.</li> <li>• Remaining areas of this land type should be retained to establish connection with other areas of remnant vegetation and provide wildlife corridors.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Regional Ecosystems</b><br><b>Land Resource Areas;</b><br><b>Land types; Soil associations</b> | 13.3.1, 13.3.3, 13.3.4, 13.3.7, 13.11.1, 13.11.8, 13.11.8a, 13.12.2.<br>Soils association (Lloyd 1977) D10 shallow gravelly loams over clay. Land types (Maher 1996) 19 Low traprock hills, 20 Traprock plains.  |