

Traprock hills with narrow-leaved ironbark and tumbledown gum



Landform

Rolling to undulating traprock hills

This land type occurs in the west of the region between Inglewood and Stanthorpe shires with large areas near Glenylon dam and Pikedale.

Woody vegetation

Woodlands of narrow-leaved ironbark, tumbledown gum, spotted gum, silver-leaved ironbark, cypress pine, grey box, fuzzy box, yellow box, and black pine. Understory of wild rosemary, hopbush and peach bush.

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, corkscrew grass, hedgehog grass.

Non-preferred

Wiregrasses (purple, dark), shorthair plume grass.

Annuals

Legumes

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

Common forbs

Kidneyweed (non-preferred).

Suitable sown pastures

Digit grass, forest bluegrass, pertusa.

Sub clover, rose clover, cluster clover, barrel and burr medics, and lucerne (on alkaline soils).

Introduced weeds

African lovegrass.

Soil	Shallow to very shallow, gravelly clay loams with rock fragments in subsoils (tenosols).
Description	Surface: Hard-setting, gravelly; Surface texture: clay loam; Subsoil texture: clay loam above weathered rock (at various depths).
Water availability	Very low, effective rooting depth 20 cm, PAWC 29 mm.
Fertility	Low; low organic C and N, medium P and Zn, high K.
Salinity	Non-saline
Sodicity	Non-sodic
pH	Neutral surface with mildly alkaline subsoil.
Utilisation	20%
Enterprise	Sheep and cattle breeding.
Land use and management recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for light grazing of native and sown pastures, and horticulture (stone fruit). • Shelter belts and windbreaks are essential. • Darling pea may cause poisoning in livestock. • Maintain maximum ground cover to minimise erosion and formation of scalds. • Implement rotational grazing and spelling of pastures to maintain pasture vigour, suppress wiregrasses and limit woody weed growth. • Control of regrowth with fire if possible.
Land use limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep slopes. • Surface stone, gravel and rock fragments in subsoils. • Regrowth (e.g. <i>Callitris</i>) and woody shrubs. • Overgrazed areas are susceptible to scalding.
Conservation features and related management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensively cleared or thinned for pasture leaving this land type highly fragmented. • This land type, particularly in relation to elevation and aspect, provides habitat for the rare and threatened fauna, regent honeyeater <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i> and some flora with very restricted distributions. • Localised occurrences of <i>Eucalyptus terrica</i>, the mallees (<i>E. bakeri</i>, <i>E. viridis</i>) and <i>Melaleuca decora</i>. • Habitat fragments, particularly with honeyeater nesting sites, should be retained to develop a network of wildlife corridors. Conservation value of these habitat corridors could be enhanced through controlled grazing to allow for the retention of ground vegetation and cover, and encourage regeneration of favoured habitat trees.
Regional Ecosystems	13.11.2, 13.11.3, 13.11.3a, 13.11.3b, 13.11.4, 13.11.5, 13.11.6, 13.11.9.
Land Resource Areas; Land types; Soil associations	Soils association D9 (Shallow gravelly loams) (Lloyd 1977). Land type (Maher 1996) 18 Undulating to rolling traprock hills, 19 Low traprock hills.