## Pebbly downs



General description	Flat gently undulating open Mitchell grass plains on moderately cracking clay soils with ironstone or gidgee stone cover prominent. Can be dominated by sparse forbland (often saltbush or copperburr) or annual grassland. Generally drain into open or wooded alluvia and adjacent to soft mulga and/or hard gidgee.				
Landform	Flat gently undulating plains.				
Woody vegetation	Mimosa bush, beefwood, whitewood, vine tree, western bloodwood, desert gum, boonaree, bauhinia.				
Expected pasture composition	* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.				
Preferred	Barley Mitchell grass, Queensland bluegrass, katoora.				
Intermediate	Lovegrasses, silky browntop (along drainage lines), stargrass/native millet, bottlewasher grasses.				
Non-preferred	Feathertop wiregrass.				
Annual grasses	Button grass, Flinders grass, downs couch, comb windmill grass.				
Common forbs	Native legumes (e.g. rattlepod), sida, daisy burrs, wild carrot, galvanised burr, gidgee burr, copperburrs, sida, lamb's tongue, potato bush, saltbush, pigweed, soda bush, tarvine.				
Suitable sown pasture	Not suitable for sown pastures.				
Introduced weeds	None				
Soil	Deep weakly gilgaied, stony surfaced, red cracking clays. May have a weak surface crust and some deep desert loams.				
Description	<b>Surface</b> : Weakly self-mulching to weakly crusting clay with light to moderate stone cover, <b>Surface texture</b> : medium clay, <b>Subsoil texture</b> : medium clay.				



Features	Desert varnished stone, gypsum present at depth, areas of abundant silcrete.
Water availability	Medium
Rooting depth	Low to moderate.
Infiltration	Moderate initially on a dry soil profile, slowing to low levels after 35 mm of rain as topsoil is saturated. High run-off following 50 mm of rain. Estimates based on low to moderate intensity storm rain.
Fertility	Moderate to high.
Salinity	Very low at the surface increasing to very high at depth.
Sodicity	Sodic at depth.
рН	Neutral to mildly alkaline with gypsum at depth.

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

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day								
Median annual rainfall 151 – 283 mm								
Pasture type	Median tree cover	Median annual pasture growth	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth	LTCC				
	(TBA m²/ha) (FPC %)	(DM kg/ha)	(%)	(ha/AE)				
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	150 - 630	18%	26 - 108				
	2 TBA 5 FPC	30 - 300	18%	54 – 541				

## Enterprise

Breeding and seasonal growing out of weaners.

Land use and	Suitable for grazing of native pastures.						
management recommendations	Rotational wet season spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.						
	Maintain adequate ground cover to minimise soil erosion.						
	Avoid disturbing stone cover to minimise erosion risk.						
Land use limitations	<ul> <li>Best pasture growth from gilgais and depressions.</li> <li>Where very low, phosphorous can limit plant and animal growth.</li> <li>Susceptible to erosion along stockpads, fencelines, roads and near water points.</li> </ul>						
						-	
Conservation features and related management	<ul> <li>Habitat</li> </ul>	for threatened faun	a including ko	owari.			
Regional Ecosystems	5.9.1b, 5.9.3, 5.9.3x2, 5.9.3x3.						
WARLUS Part	I	II	Ш	IV	V	VI	
Land systems	F1, F2, F3, F4	F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8				F4	



## **CC09 Pebbly downs**



Area of land type in region: 10% Median rainfall (region): 151 – 390 mm Average rainfall (region): 187 – 429 mm Area of land type with FPC: 4% Median FPC: 5% Median TBA: 2 m2/ha

