

Cypress pine sands



Landform

Flat to gently undulating sandy alluvial plains.

Woody vegetation

Open forest of cypress pine, rusty gum and tumbledown gum. Often associated with rough-barked apple, Queensland blue gum and Moreton Bay ash and occasionally with bullock on shallower soils.

Expected pasture composition

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

Preferred

Black speargrass, forest bluegrass and golden beard grass.

Intermediate

Pitted bluegrass, lovegrasses, barbwire grass, tall chloris, bottlewasher grasses, poverty grass and beetle grass.

Non-preferred

Many-headed wiregrass, dark wiregrass, Jericho wiregrass, purple wiregrass and rough speargrass.

Common forbs and legumes

Yellow daisy burr, yellow buttons, woolly glycine.

Suitable sown pastures

Digit grass, tall finger grass, Rhodes grass (Katambora types) and buffel grass in western areas. Yellow serradella (with phosphorus applied).

Introduced weeds

African lovegrass, tree pear, Chilean needle grass, harrisia cactus and tiger pear, cottontails.

Soil

Generally deep (100 – 150 cm) sands and deep bleached sands over mottled yellow, grey or brown clays.

Description

Surface: Loose; **Surface texture:** sand to sandy loam; **Subsoil texture:** light medium clay, coarse sand (chromosol).

Water availability

Low; plant available water capacity (PAWC) in root zone <50 mm.

Rooting depth

Effective rooting depth 80 - 120 cm.

Fertility

Very low carbon and nitrogen, medium to low phosphorus.

Salinity

Very low.

Sodicity
pH

Non-sodic at surface; sodic subsoils.

Slightly acid (5.7) to neutral at surface; neutral (6.8) down the profile.

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

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 580 – 655 mm				
Pasture type	Median tree cover (TBA m ² /ha) (FPC %)	Median annual pasture growth (DM kg/ha)	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%)	LTCC (ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	2150 - 2520	20%	5.8 – 6.8
	14 TBA 35 FPC	720 - 560	20%	20 – 26
Sown			25%	

Enterprise

Breeders.

**Land use and
management
recommendations**

- Suitable for forage crops (mostly oats).
- Limited suitability for winter crops in deeper topsoils and for horticultural crops (some olives) where the surface soils are deep and there is adequate irrigation water.
- Suitable for grazing of native and improved pastures.
- Cultivated soils on sloping lands are at risk of erosion. It is important to protect soils with surface cover and to use runoff control measures on these fragile soils.
- Conservative stocking practices; judicious use of fire and clearing methods; and appropriate location of tracks, fencing, firebreaks and watering points on native and sown pasture lands can minimise runoff and reduce the risk of sheet, rill and gully erosion.
- If regrowth is dense and limiting pasture growth control by burning every 3 – 5 years.

Land use limitations

- Establishing sown pastures can be difficult because of low fertility and low water holding capacity of soils.
- Sodic, dispersive subsoils.
- If pimelea is present livestock access to country needs to be restricted to prevent animal husbandry problems occurring.
- Use of phosphate when growing serradella is recommended.

**Conservation features
and related management**

- Cypress pine forests provide extensive habitat for a range of insectivorous birds and cockatoos.
- They are prone to structural changes depending on fire regimes.
- Maintaining timbered areas can allow connectivity of remnants through habitat corridors and greatly increase the value of these areas of land to wildlife and the overall health of the system.
- Maintaining ground cover and using conservation soil practices in these areas are important to minimise soil erosion and help protect the wildlife habitat.

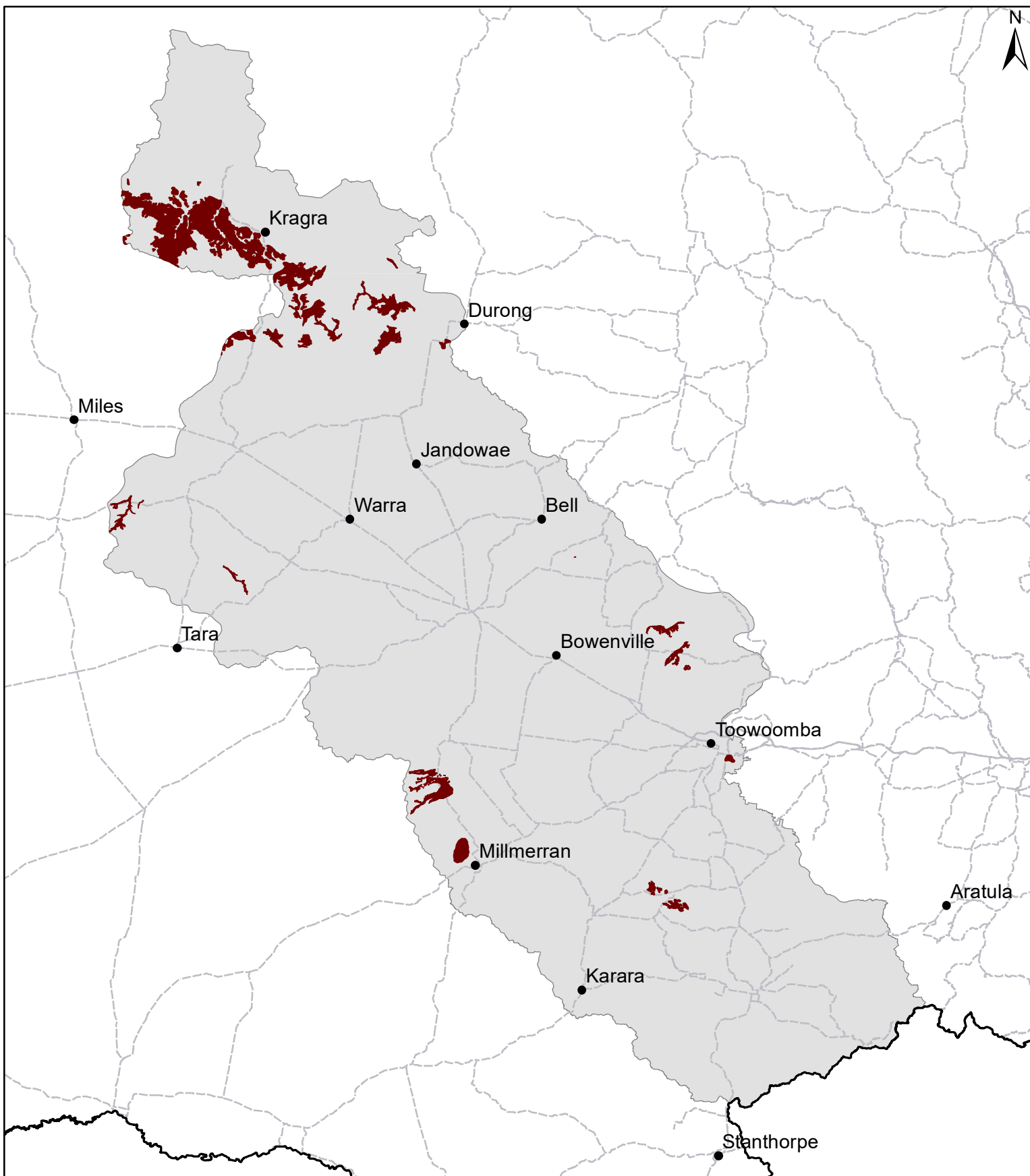
Regional Ecosystems

11.3.14, 11.3.18, 11.5.21, 11.5.2a, 11.5.4

**Land units; Agricultural
management unit; Soil
associations**

Central Darling Downs Land Management Manual: 4a, 11a (*Chinchilla, Combidiban, Davy*); Understanding and Managing Soils in the Murilla, Tara and Chinchilla Shires: 3b (*Chinchilla, Combidiban, Davy*).

DD06 Cypress pine sands



Area of land type in region: 3%
Median rainfall (region): 580 – 909 mm
Average rainfall (region): 585 – 927 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 87%
Median FPC: 35%
Median TBA: 14 m²/ha



Queensland
Government