Coastal flats with mixed eucalypts on grey clay

Landform	Alluvial plains with variable terraces, levees, swamps and channels.
Woody vegetation	Swamp box, poplar gum, pink bloodwood and blue gum woodlands with broad-leaved tea tree understorey.
Expected pasture composition	** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*
Preferred	Native sorghum, forest bluegrass, early spring grass, silky browntop, black speargrass, giant speargrass, kangaroo grass.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, golden beard grass, large bluegrass.
Non-preferred	Blady grass, purpletop chloris*, couch grass, reedgrass, crowsfoot grass, lovegrass, five-minute grass.
Annual grasses	
Common forbs	Sedges.
Suitable sown pastures	Rhodes grass, creeping bluegrass, pangola grass, Gatton panic, Green panic, shrubby stylo, Caribbean stylo, Caatinga stylo, Desmanthus, siratro on better soils, and para grass grows on swampy plains.
Introduced weeds	Giant rat's tail grass, sicklepod.
Soil	Bleached silty loam (dermosols and kandosols) but including clays, earths and poorly developed alluvial soils.
Description	***Surface:*** Hard-setting; ***Surface texture:*** silty loam; ***Subsoil texture:*** light to medium clay.

Water availability	Low
Rooting depth	0.5 m
Fertility	Low total nitrogen; low phosphorus.
Salinity	Low to moderate.
Sodicity	Low
pH	Neutral to acid.
Utilisation	20%
Enterprise	Breeding; fattening where soils deeper and with high fertiliser application.
Land use and management recommendations	• Many areas can be developed to sown pastures with high inputs.
Land use limitations	• Underlain by hardpans and susceptible to summer waterlogging (poorly drained). • Surface turns to bulldust. • Regrowth when cleared.
Conservation features and related management	• Mature coastal woodlands with hollow habitat trees. These areas support sugar gliders, brush tailed possums, hollow breeding bird species (e.g. treecreepers) and micro bats (e.g. Gould's long-eared bat, *Nyctophilus gouldi*). • Microbats and small woodland birds have a vital role in maintaining the balance of insects and other invertebrates in the system while the larger fruit bats and some birds serve as pollinators of the eucalypts and bloodwoods. • Nectar resources from the melaleucas are very important seasonally for nomadic honeyeaters from all across eastern Australia. • Uncommon bird species in coastal mixed eucalyptus woodland include grey goshawk, square-tailed kite, and glossy black-cockatoo. • Retention of litter and dead timber on the ground is important for the little known blind snakes and collared delma (legless lizard). • Seasonal small wetlands, sometimes with a fringe of paperbark tea tree (*Melaleuca* spp.), are important breeding areas for frogs and aquatic invertebrates. Avoid stock concentrations around these areas. • With relatively low fertility and physically difficult soils coastal woodland areas need careful management to minimise erosion and avoid abundant growth of *Acacia* spp.(wattle) and other shrub species. • Overgrazing, machine clearing or poor placement of tracks can trigger degradation. • Pasture decline and erosion associated with salinity can occur on foot slopes of hills following clearing. Over-clearing can lead to regrowth problems with the melaleuca species. • Locking up to allow pasture to bulk up and burning at 3–7 year intervals can be the most effective tool to maintain healthy ground cover.
Regional ecosystems	8.11.3c, 11.3.29, 11.3.29a, 11.3.35, 11.5.8a-c, 11.11.20.
Land resource area	Alluvial plain – mixed eucalypts on bleached massive earths (Forster in prep).