

Gum-topped box flats



Landform	Alluvial plains
Woody vegetation	Gum topped box open forest/woodland with occasional blackbutt and yapunyah. <i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Expected pasture composition	
Preferred	Forest bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, shot grass.
Intermediate	Golden beard grass, barbwire grass, pitted bluegrass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrass, lovegrass, poverty grass, reedgrass.
Annual grasses	
Suitable sown pastures	Rhodes grass, creeping bluegrass, Angleton grass, shrubby stylo, Caribbean stylo, pangola, Green panic, and siratro on better soils.
Introduced weeds	Giant rat's tail grass.
Soil	Grey or brown, bleached, silty-surfaced texture contrast soils (sodosols, kurosols).
Description	Surface: Hard-setting; Surface texture: silty loam Subsoil texture: mottled, medium clay.
Water availability	Low
Rooting depth	0.5 m

Fertility	Low to moderate total nitrogen; low to moderate phosphorus.
Salinity	Low to moderate (0.5 m).
Sodicity	High (0.5 m).
pH	Alkaline, sometimes acid.
Utilisation	20%
Enterprise	Breeding and growing.
Land use and management recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure dam banks are compacted. • Fence dam walls to keep stock off.
Land use limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prone to gully erosion, particularly if subsoil exposed. • Sensitive to over-stocking. • Subject to local flooding.
Conservation features and related management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gum-topped box (<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>) provides important linkages through the landscape for resident and dispersing fauna species. • These tall open forests are abundant in arboreal mammals (brushtail possum, koala, sugar gliders, greater gliders, squirrel gliders, powerful owls); species rich in avifauna, and many rare and threatened plant species. • The 'hanging bark' of the box provide favoured food resources for birds like tree creepers and ground-foraging birds such as speckled warblers also frequent these woodlands. • Maintain good ground cover and never overgraze these land types as the soils are sodic, dispersive and prone to gully erosion.
Regional ecosystems	8.11.8b, 9.12.26, 11.5.20, 11.9.13, 11.11.3c, 11.11.4c, 11.11.10a.
Land resource area	Alluvial plain – gum-topped box on sodic duplex soils (Forster in prep).