

Poplar box with shrubby understorey



Landform	Plains and rises.
Woody vegetation	Poplar box woodland with an understorey of false sandalwood, currant bush, brigalow, Leichhardt bean, and scrub leopardwood.
Expected pasture composition	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Desert bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, cotton panic grass.
Intermediate	Golden beard grass, pitted bluegrass, curly windmill grass, native millet.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, purple lovegrasses, bottlewasher grasses, five-minute grass.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass.
Common forbs	Pigweed, flannel weeds (non-preferred).
Suitable sown pastures	Buffel grass, creeping bluegrass, shrubby stylo, Caribbean stylo.
Introduced weeds	Giant rat's tail grass.
Soil	Grey (or occasionally brown) texture contrast soils (sodosols).
Description	Surface: Firm to hard-setting; Surface texture: sand to sandy clay loam; Subsoil texture: light to medium clay.
Water availability	Low

Rooting depth	60 cm
Fertility	Low to moderate total nitrogen, low to moderate phosphorus.
Salinity	Low
Sodicity	Strongly sodic >60 cm.
pH	Neutral to acid.

Utilisation 20%

Enterprise Breeding and growing (occasionally finishing).

Land use and management recommendations

- Whoa boys are required on roads/tracks to control erosion.
- Unsuitable for any clearing due to severe regrowth problems.
- Unsuitable for cropping.

Land use limitations

- High levels of regrowth.
- Low soil fertility.
- Very highly erodible soils with dispersible subsoils in some cases.
- Construction of dams can be a problem due to the tendency of the soil to disperse/tunnel when wet.
- Low soil moisture storage.
- Hard-setting surface soils.

Conservation features and related management

- These woodlands, with large hollow-bearing trees, associated fallen timber, and floristically diverse understorey, provide habitat for a range of fauna.
- Many of the declining woodland bird species (e.g. hooded robin, grey-crowned babbler, brown treecreeper, granivorous birds); bats; terrestrial and arboreal mammals (e.g. koalas, squirrel gliders, sugar gliders, common brushtail possum, rufous bettong); and some restricted reptiles all reside in this land type.
- Should thinning occur, it is important to leave some areas undisturbed to provide multiple layers and variety of shrubs that are vital habitat component for fauna.
- Overgrazing should be avoided as the subsoils are very dispersive and erosive.

Regional ecosystems

11.5.3b, 11.8.15, 11.9.7, 11.9.7a, 11.10.12, 11.11.9, 11.12.17.

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

Land units (Gunn *et al* 1967) Monteagle 4, Skye 3, Disney 2, Degulla 3, Craven 2; AMU (DPI 1993) Lascelles; Soil Associations (Shields *et al* 1993; Burgess 2003) Collawmar, Foxleigh clay loamy phase, Emoh, Honeycomb, Lebanon, Heyford.