

Ironbark on basalt upper slopes and benches



Landform	Upper slopes and crests, including those on ridges, of undulating to low rises to steep hilly terrain and stony knolls.
Woody vegetation	Woodland or open forest of silver-leaved and/or narrow-leaved ironbarks in association with Queensland blue gum, variable-barked bloodwood, mountain coolibah and Moreton Bay ash. Understorey is usually absent.
Expected pasture composition	<i>Southern black speargrass pastures.</i> <i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Black speargrass, forest bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, scentedtop, hairy panic.
Intermediate	Spring grass, liverseed (urochloa) grass, bamboo speargrass, umbrella grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (e.g. dark), slender chloris.
Legumes	Rhynchosia, creeping tick trefoil, glycine pea, woolly glycine.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass.
Suitable sown pastures	Rhodes grass, panic (green), creeping bluegrass, buffel grass, Angleton grass, Caatinga stylo, Desmanthus.
Introduced weeds	
Soil	Generally deep (<150 cm), but occasionally shallow (<45 cm), black to brownish black self-mulching clays (black earths).
Description	Surface: Self-mulching and cracking; sometimes weakly to crusting; Surface texture: light to medium clay; Subsoil texture: predominantly medium to heavy clay.
Features	Variable stone cover on surface and gravel though profile. Abundant calcium carbonate veins in subsoils. Decomposing rock may be present from 30 cm depth.

Water availability	Moderate to high PAWC.
Drainage	Moderately to well drained.
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth variable 30 cm to >100 cm.
Fertility	High; moderate to high nitrogen; low or variable phosphorus; moderate to very high potassium.
Salinity	Non-saline or very low to low throughout.
Sodicity	Non-sodic.
pH	Alkaline soil reaction trend with surface slightly acidic or neutral (6.5–7.0), increasing alkalinity (pH 8.0) to strongly alkaline (pH 9.5) in subsoils >60 cm depth.
Utilisation	30%
Enterprise	Breeding and fattening.
Land use and management recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for grazing of native and improved pastures and cropping. • Adopt practices such as minimum tillage and maintain maximum surface cover to retain organic matter, maintain soil structure and reduce erosion. • Retain timber on ridges, along drainage lines, and at changes of slope at base of hills to lower watertable and control erosion and salinity. • Use a coordinated drainage strategy of contour banks (narrow base type), waterways, diversion banks and dams to minimise risk of erosion (sheet, rill, gully). Avoid trafficking when wet to reduce soil compaction.
Land use limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrow moisture range for successful cultivation. • Surface crusting may occur with continual cultivation. • Moderate to high erosion hazard, high risk of gully erosion where water is concentrated. • Shallow soils and rockiness may restrict cultivation and harvesting of specific crops. Rock picking may be required to grow crops. • Effective rooting depth reduced by weathered rock.
Conservation features and related management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This woodland is an important wildlife habitat in providing tree hollows for possums, koalas and gliders; rough fissured bark for skinks and geckoes; grassy understorey for ground fauna such as small marsupials (betongs), reptiles (frilled-neck lizards) and birds (quail); and important food resource for the large macropods (whip-tailed wallabies, eastern grey kangaroos). • The health of the landscape can be enhanced through appropriate fire regimes, grazing management and allowing regrowth to develop into effective wildlife corridors.
Regional ecosystems	12.5.1e, 12.8.17.
Land resource area	Basalt rises.