Narrow-leaved ironbark

Landform	Plains to rises.
Woody vegetation	Narrow-leaved ironbark, cypress pine, bulloak, silver-leaved ironbark, rusty gum, budgeroo and quinine.
Expected pasture composition	** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*
Preferred	Desert bluegrass, forest bluegrass, native oatgrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, golden beard grass, bottlewasher grasses, barbwire grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (curled, kerosene, purple, many-headed), poverty grass, buck spinifex.
Legumes	Native indigo, Birdsville indigo, glycine pea, slender tick trefoil.
Suitable sown pastures	Not suitable for sown pastures.
Introduced weeds	African lovegrass.
Soils	A mix of shallow earths, deep sands and texture contrast soils.
Description	***Surface*:** Hard-setting or loose; ***Surface texture*:** sandy loam; ***Subsoil texture*:** sandy loam to medium heavy clay.
Water availability	Very low.
Rooting depth	Less than 80 cm.

Fertility	Very low to low total nitrogen; very low to low phosphorus.
Salinity	Low
Sodicity	Subsoils sodic to strongly sodic.
pH	Acid to strongly acid throughout.
Utilisation	20%
Enterprise	Breeding
Land use and management recommendations	• Low intensity grazing of cattle on mainly native pastures. • Not suitable for cropping. • Suitable in some areas for pasture improvement with careful management.
Land use limitations	• Main limitation is the gravel and stone throughout the profile. • Shallow soil. • Subsoils are sodic to strongly sodic, highly dispersible and prone to erosion if exposed. • Hard-setting surface. • Regrowth. • Dense stands of burrs (galvanised) and broad-leaved plants (mulga fern, pimelea, weir vine, pigweed) may limit pasture growth, productivity and be toxic to stock.
Conservation features and related management	• These woodlands provide habitat for rare and threatened flora species (e.g. *Dodonaea macrossanii*, Chinchilla wattle) and fauna (e.g. glossy black-cockatoo, brigalow scaly-foot, collared delma and little pied bat). • The areas support a high diversity of birds (e.g. honeyeaters, thornbills, flycatchers, babblers, varied sittella, yellow-tailed black cockatoo), and ground-dwelling mammals (e.g. native mice and red-necked wallabies), particularly where a good cover of native grasses is maintained. Koalas, brushtail possums and gliders (e.g. yellow-bellied, squirrel, sugar and feathertail) can also be found where there are mature, hollow-bearing trees available for nesting. • Use of a combination of soil conservation techniques will help minimise the risk of soil erosion on these skeletal, sodic soils. • Careful management of grazing pressure and maintenance of ground cover is important to minimise risk of sheet and gully erosion, reduce runoff and protect the wildlife habitat.
Regional ecosystems	11.5.1, 11.5.2a, 11.5.9, 11.10.1d, 11.10.4.
Land units; Map units; Land resource areas; Soil associations	Land Units (Galloway *et al* 1974) 20, 2; LRA, Soil Associations (DPI 1996) Light Forests, 9b; LRA (DPI 1987) 3 - Amby (along dividing range).