

# Ironbark and bloodwood on non-cracking clay



<b>Landform</b>	Predominantly mid to upper slopes (slopes up to 40%) in hilly country.
<b>Woody vegetation</b>	Open forest of silver-leaved and narrow-leaved ironbarks, and pink and variable-barked bloodwoods. Often associated with Moreton Bay ash, spotted gum, Queensland blue gum commonly on lower slopes, and rough bark apple along drainage lines.
<b>Expected pasture composition</b>	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Forest bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, black speargrass, scentedtop, Rhodes grass*, creeping bluegrass*, paspalum*.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, tambookie grass, umbrella grass, couch grass*, bottlewasher grasses.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, poverty grass, slender chloris, woodland lovegrass.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, rhynchosia, emu-foot, creeping tick trefoil.
<b>Suitable sown pastures</b>	Rhodes grass, creeping bluegrass, Shrubby stylo, fine stem stylo, Caatinga stylo, siratro.
<b>Introduced weeds</b>	
<b>Soil</b>	Shallow, texture contrast soils with loamy surfaces overlying reddish brown, well structured clays (non-calcic brown soils).
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Usually thin (0.20 m), hard-setting; <b>Surface texture:</b> clay loam, occasionally more sandy; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> light to medium clay.
Features	Subsoil of well structured clay (0.25 m to 0.50 m thick) over permeable fractured rock. Sometimes mottled at depth due to weathering.

<b>Water availability</b>	Low, PAWC 50–100 mm in root zone.
<b>Rooting depth</b>	Effective rooting depth <0.6 m.
<b>Fertility</b>	Very low to low nitrogen; very low to low phosphorus; medium potassium; medium zinc; medium copper.
<b>Salinity</b>	Very low.
<b>Sodicity</b>	Non-sodic
<b>pH</b>	Medium acid (6.0) to neutral (7.0); neutral to slightly alkaline (6.7 to 7.2) at depth.
<b>Utilisation</b>	30%
<b>Enterprise</b>	Breeding and fattening.
<b>Land use and management recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not suitable for cropping.</li> <li>• Suitable for grazing of native and, on better slopes, improved pastures.</li> <li>• Maintain adequate grass cover at all times, and timber cover on steeper slopes and ridges, to reduce risk of erosion.</li> <li>• Control dense regrowth (ironbarks, wattles) by burning every 2–3 years.</li> </ul>
<b>Land use limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective rooting depth limited by depth to bedrock.</li> <li>• Low plant available water capacity due to shallow soil depths.</li> <li>• Hard-setting reduces infiltration rate.</li> <li>• Often occur on very steep slopes.</li> <li>• Risk of erosion on steep slopes if surface is disturbed.</li> </ul>
<b>Conservation features and related management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This woodland is an important wildlife habitat. Mature stands with numerous tree hollows are home to possums, koalas and gliders. The rough fissured bark of the ironbarks is ideal habitat for skinks and geckoes.</li> <li>• The grassy understorey provides habitat for ground fauna such as small marsupials (bettongs), reptiles (frilled-neck lizards) and birds (quail) and is an important food source for the large macropods (whip-tailed wallabies, eastern grey kangaroos).</li> <li>• While large areas of this land type have been thinned for grazing, reasonably sized remnants remain.</li> <li>• The health of the landscape can be enhanced through appropriate fire regimes, grazing management and allowing regrowth to develop into effective wildlife corridors.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional ecosystems</b>	12.11.8.
<b>Land resource area</b>	Basaltic Uplands 2b, Forest Walloons, 6a (Noble, 1996).