

# Ironbark on granite



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| <b>Landform</b>                     | Rolling hills and mountains.                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Woody vegetation</b>             | Narrow-leaved / grey ironbark and silver-leaved ironbark woodland. Pink bloodwood, spotted gum, wattles and red ash may also occur.                              |
| <b>Expected pasture composition</b> | <i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>                                                                                              |
| Preferred                           | Forest bluegrass, barbwire grass, black speargrass, tambookie grass.                                                                                             |
| Intermediate                        | Pitted bluegrass, silky umbrella grass, golden beard grass, red Natal grass*.                                                                                    |
| Non-preferred                       | Wiregrasses, reedgrass, slender chloris.                                                                                                                         |
| Legumes                             | Glycine pea, Birdsville indigo, rattlepod.                                                                                                                       |
| Annual grasses                      | Small burr grass, feathertop Rhodes grass.                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Suitable sown pastures</b>       | Shrubby stylo, fine stem stylo, Wynn cassia.                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Introduced weeds</b>             |                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Soil</b>                         | Deep sandy soils showing very little texture change with depth; or sandy loams overlying red or yellow strongly structured clays.                                |
| Description                         | <b>Surface:</b> Loose to hard-setting; <b>Surface texture:</b> coarse loamy sand or sandy loam; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> clayey sand or medium to heavy clay.     |
| Features                            | Hard-setting surface on earthy sands, still usually high permeability. Podzolics have pale, but not bleached, subsurface; may be mottled and sometimes gravelly. |

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| <b>Water availability</b>                           | Low, PAWC 50–100 mm in root zone.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Rooting depth</b>                                | Effective rooting depth >1 m (earthy sands) to <1.5 m (podzolics).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Fertility</b>                                    | Low nitrogen; very low phosphorus; variable (very low to high) potassium; low to medium zinc; low to high copper.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Salinity</b>                                     | Very low.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Sodicity</b>                                     | Non-sodic                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>pH</b>                                           | Soil surface strongly acid (5.2) to slightly acid (6.5) or neutral (earthy sands 7.0); podzolic subsoils very strongly acid (5.0) to slightly acid (6.5) or occasionally neutral to mildly alkaline (up to 7.8).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Utilisation</b>                                  | 30%                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Enterprise</b>                                   | Breeding and stores.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Land use and management recommendations</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitable for grazing of native and oversown pastures.</li> <li>• Timber reserves.</li> <li>• Scattered areas of low slope and suitable soils will support horticulture and limited cropping.</li> <li>• Maintain adequate surface cover at all times to reduce erosion.</li> <li>• Spell pastures when flowering and seeding.</li> <li>• Do not cultivate on slopes &gt;8%.</li> <li>• Burn every 2–3 years to help control weeds and regrowth (ironbarks, wattles, red ash).</li> </ul> |
| <b>Land use limitations</b>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plant available water capacity is low (even considering deep rooting depth).</li> <li>• Nutrient status is low, especially phosphorus and nitrogen.</li> <li>• Highly erodible on slopes if ground cover is inadequate.</li> <li>• Hard-setting soils inhibit seed germination, infiltration and increase runoff.</li> <li>• Root development and nutrient uptake may be impeded in more acid subsoils.</li> </ul>                                                                       |
| <b>Conservation features and related management</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensively cleared for native pasture in some areas; whilst relatively intact in others.</li> <li>• These are generally grassy woodlands that provide habitat for larger marsupials.</li> <li>• Hollow bearing habitat trees are important nesting sites for birds and arboreal mammals.</li> <li>• Landscape health can be enhanced through appropriate fire regimes, grazing management and allowing regrowth to develop into effective wildlife corridors.</li> </ul>                |
| <b>Regional ecosystems</b>                          | 12.12.3a, 12.12.9, 12.12.14.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Land resource area</b>                           | Granite Hills, 5 (Noble, 1996).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |