Softwood vine scrub

Landform	Mid to upper slopes of rolling hills (3–30% slopes).
Woody vegetation	Largely cleared open softwood scrub with vine species. Other trees that may occur include crow's and southern silver ash, blush tulip oak, broad-leaved leopardwood, red ash, rose satinash, red and white cedar, white beech, silky oak and hoop pine.
Expected pasture composition	*Minimal grassy understorey.* ** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*
Preferred	Forest bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, Rhodes grass*, green panic*.
Intermediate	Early spring grass, couch grass*, red Natal grass*.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, blady grass, slender chloris.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, glycine pea.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass.
Suitable sown pastures	Rhodes grass, green panic, leucaena, Shrubby stylo, fine stem stylo, siratro, medics.
Introduced weeds	Lantana, African boxthorn, wild tobacco tree.
Soil	Friable, well drained loamy soils that are brown, yellowish brown or reddish brown (brown earths). Some soils are shallow dark, clay loams over weathered parent rock (prairie soils).
Description	***Surface*:** Firm to loose, occasionally hard-setting*; **Surface texture:*** sandy loam to clay loam to medium clay; ***Subsoil texture:*** light to medium clay.
Features	Bedrock 0.3–0.8 m in shallow clays.
Water availability	Low; PAWC 50–100 mm in root zone.

Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth <1 m.
Fertility	Low (brown earths) to medium to high nitrogen; medium (shallow clays) to high phosphorus; medium to high (shallow clays) to very high potassium; medium zinc and copper.
Salinity	Very low to low.
Sodicity	Non-sodic
pH	Soil surface slightly acid (6.5) to neutral (7.0) (brown earths) to mildly alkaline (7.4); medium acid (6.0) to mildly alkaline (brown earths 7.5) to strongly alkaline (8.5).
Utilisation	30% (sown)
Enterprise	Breeding and fattening.
Land use and management recommendations	• Suitable for grazing of improved pastures, timber reserves, softwood plantations. • Not suitable for irrigation; duplex soils are not suitable for agricultural development. • In better drained areas short-term forage crops may be grown. • Adopt practices such as minimum tillage, stubble mulching, and weed control to maintain soil structure and reduce erosion. Include cover crops in crop rotations and retain crop residues. • Maintain adequate surface cover at all times. Spell pastures when flowering and seeding. • Control weeds and regrowth (lantana, scrub species).
Land use limitations	• Moderate to high risk of erosion on all slopes if bare or cultivated. • Shallow and stony soils, low plant available water capacity. • Susceptible to compaction, hard-setting and rapid decline in soil fertility if cultivated. • Areas may act as intake for groundwater recharge, thereby contributing to salinity problems in lower areas.
Conservation features and related management	• Very few scrub remnants remain; remnants are small and isolated. • Habitat for rare and threatened flora and fauna. • Remnants are threatened by weed invasion and fire on their margins. • The use of fire breaks and cool season burns reduce this risk. • Natural regeneration should be encouraged to develop connectivity with other areas of remnant vegetation.
Regional ecosystems	12.8.6, 12.8.7, 12.8.18, 12.9-10.15, 12.9-10.16, 12.11.1, 12.11.11, 12.12.1, 12.12.13.
Land resource area	Marburg Scrub, 7c (Noble, 1996).