

# Silver-leaved box



## Landform

Timbered to lightly timbered inland plains.

## Woody vegetation

Silver-leaved box low woodlands with occasional whitewood, beefwood, and western bloodwood. Paperbark, winged nut tree and gutta-percha occur in higher rainfall areas. Sparse shrub cover may include currant bush, wait-a-while and wattles.

## Expected pasture composition

*\* Denotes non-native species*

### Preferred

Black speargrass, kangaroo grass, forest bluegrass, desert bluegrass, Gulf bluegrass (on heavier soils)

### Intermediate

Bottlewashers, cotton panic, five-minute grass, silky browntop, golden beard grass, silky oil grass, soft spinifex.

### Non-preferred

Wiregrasses.

### Annual grasses

Button grass, slender wanderrie grass, long-awn wanderrie grass, native couch, Australian dropseed, small burr grass, comb chloris, fire grass.

### Common forbs

Tickweed, sidas, flannel weed, common bonamia, tropical speddwell, soft roly poly.

## Suitable sown pastures

Buffel grass, shrubby stylo (e.g. Seca), Caribbean stylo (e.g. Verano).

## Introduced weeds

Calotrope.

## Soil

Red and yellow earths.

### Description

**Surface:** massive. (Generally hard setting with some areas of softer). Areas of surface ironstone occur. **Surface texture:** sand, sandy loam or sandy clay loam; **Subsoil texture:** ranges from sandy clay to a medium clay.

### Features

Subsoil structure is hard to very hard. Variable amounts of ironstone nodules in profile of some soils and decreasing with depth.

### Water availability

Moderate.

### Rooting depth

Moderate, limited by hard subsoils.

### Infiltration

Ranges dramatically depending on soil surface characteristics. Generally moderately drained, some soils poorly drained and prone to periodic waterlogging. The sandier the soil the higher the infiltration rates. Areas of ironstone are generally less permeable.

### Fertility

Very low to low.

### Salinity

Very low.

### Sodicity

Non-sodic.

### pH

Neutral to medium acid at the surface. Some sub-soils are alkaline.

## Utilisation

18%

## Enterprise

Breeding.

## Land use and management recommendations

- Use fire judiciously as management tool to control wattles and timber thickening.
- Maintenance of ground cover to minimize shrub invasion and erosion.

## Land use limitations

- Areas of scalding due to overuse.
- Hard to very hard subsoils.
- Regrowth and high shrub densities can limit productivity.

## Conservation features and related management

- Periodic wildfires can lead to changes in woody vegetation and pasture composition.

## Regional ecosystems

1.3.15, 1.5.10a-b, 1.5.11, 1.5.13, 1.5.14a-b, 2.3.32, 2.5.31, 2.5.33a-d, 2.7.5a-b, 2.7.5x1, 2.7.5x50b.

## Land systems

Korong (46), Manrika (20) (Perry 1964)