Black soils on basalt and granite

Landform	Undulating to gently undulating plains and rises formed on predominantly basalt.
Woody vegetation	Predominantly treeless plains. Occasionally ghost gum and black tea tree occur.
Expected pasture composition	** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.* *Bare ground or little grass cover occurs on the hard rock rubble of lava flows.*
Preferred	Angleton grass*, green couch, desert bluegrass, kangaroo grass, black speargrass.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, silky browntop, canegrass, golden beard grass, lemon-scented grass, native millet.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, northern wanderrie grass.
Annual grasses	Comet grass, Flinders grass, two-coloured panic. Non-preferred species include asbestos grass.
Suitable sown pastures	Angleton grass, Indian couch, creeping bluegrass, butterfly pea.
Introduced weeds	Mimosa bush, rubbervine, Noogoora burr, grader grass.
Soil	Massive black and brown earths; sometimes cracking.

Description	***Surface:*** Self-mulching; ***Surface texture:*** medium clay; ***Subsoil texture:*** medium to heavy clay.
Features	Slight gilgai development. High moisture holding capacity. Slow internal drainage. Carbonate concretions at depth.
Water availability	High
Fertility	High; moderate nitrogen (5 mg/kg); moderate phosphorus (11 mg/kg); high potassium (1.0 $cmol_c/kg$), occasionally zinc deficiency.
Salinity	Non-saline
Sodicity	Non-sodic
pH	Neutral (7.0) surface increasing alkalinity at depth.
Utilisation	30%
Enterprise	Breeding and growing.
Land use and management recommendations	• Suitable for grazing of native pastures. • Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition. • Manage grazing pressure to ensure at least 50% ground cover at break of season. • Strategic burning (late dry hot burn) to manage woody weeds (e.g. rubbervine).
Land use limitations	• Internal drainage may be slow leaving soils prone to water logging. • Basalt soils have rocky profile throughout. • Narrow range of optimum moisture for tillage and traffic.
Conservation features and related management	• Subject to high grazing pressure. • Subject to weed infestation by rubbervine (*Cryptostegia grandiflora)* and grader grass *(Themeda quadrivalvis*).
Regional ecosystems	7.8.7b, 9.8.2a-b.
Soil associations	BELB, BCELB, BERG, BEAL, GCAL, BCAL, BCPL (Grundy and Bryde 1989).