Brigalow with blackbutt (Dawson gum)



Landform

Woody vegetation

Undulating plains, lowlands, downs, low tablelands and hills.

Brigalow scrub with emergent blackbutt or yapunyah. Solid patches of blackbutt or yapunyah tend to occur in this land type where there is a high soil salt load. Understorey commonly of false sandalwood, yellowwood or wilga; occasionally leopardwood, sally wattle or currant bush.

Expected pasture composition

Preferred

* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.

Queensland bluegrass, desert bluegrass, forest bluegrass, black speargrass, bull Mitchell grass, kangaroo grass.

Intermediate

Native millet, curly windmill grass, brigalow grass, pitted bluegrass, tall chloris, yabila/star grass, barbwire grass.

Non-preferred

Dark wiregrass, fairy grass, slender chloris, bottlewasher grasses, purple lovegrass.

Annual grasses

Flinders grass, small burr grass.

Suitable sown pastures

Buffel grass, Gatton panic, creeping bluegrass, butterfly pea (>90 cm), shrubby stylo, Caatinga stylo, Caribbean stylo.

Introduced weeds

Parthenium.

Soil

A hard-setting, red to brown, texture contrast soil with a sodic B horizon (brown sodosol).

Description

Surface: Hard-setting; **Surface texture:** sandy clay loam; **Subsoil texture:** light to medium clay.

Water availability

Low to moderate.



Rooting depth

Fertility

Salinity

Sodicity pH 60 cm

Low to moderate total nitrogen; moderate phosphorus.

Moderate to high (below 60 cm).

Strongly sodic (below 40 cm).

Strongly alkaline.

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 521 – 653 mm				
Pasture type	Median tree cover	Median annual pasture growth	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth	LTCC
	(TBA m²/ha) (FPC %)	(DM kg/ha)	(%)	(ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	2340 - 3260	30%	3.0 – 4.2
	9 TBA 23 FPC	1020 - 1830	30%	5.3 – 10
Buffel		4280 - 5240	35%	1.6 – 2.0

Enterprise

Finishing

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for sown pastures as the light surface texture responds to small and infrequent rainfall.
- Maintain surface cover to reduce sheet erosion, nutrient loss and pasture rundown.
- Erosion of roads and dams where subsoil left exposed.

Land use limitations

- Sodic subsoil.
- · Poorly drained.
- Hard-setting surface.
- Regrowth problems.

Conservation features and related management

- The key features of this habitat include a highly diverse reptile community that uses
 fallen timber, dead trees and exfoliating bark, particularly gecko species (Gehyra spp.
 and Oedura spp.), dragons (Agamidae spp.) and skinks (Egernia striolata, Morethia
 boulengeri).
- A number of woodland bird species declining in south-eastern woodlands such as the bush stone-curlew, squatter pigeon, brown treecreeper and grey-crowned babbler live in these woodlands.
- Retain all fallen timber and dead trees in the land type as these provide valuable habitat for birds and reptiles. Also the gradual decomposition of this timber is important in the nutrient cycling of the ecosystem.
- It is important to maintain ground cover in the form of litter and pasture where possible as the soil B horizon is very sodic, dispersive, erosive and hard to repasture.

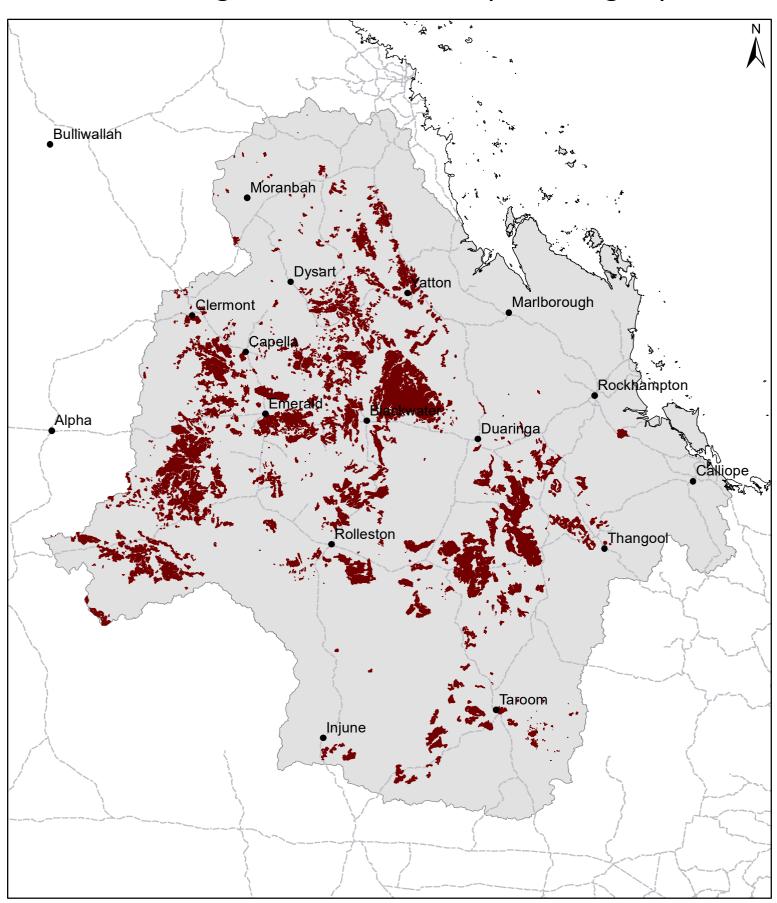
Regional ecosystems

11.4.7, 11.4.8, 11.9.1, 11.11.16, 11.11.19.

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations Land units (Gunn *et al* 1967; Story *et al* 1967; Speck *et al* 1968; Gillespie 1991) Disney 3, Humboldt 3 & 6, Skye 4, Pinehill 3, Wharton 4, Thornby 3, Aldis; Agricultural Management Units (Thwaites and Maher 1993) Turkey Creek, College, Glengallan; Soil associations (Burgess 2003; Shields *et al* 1993) Stateschool, Racetrack, Racetrack shallow phase, Hazelbrae, Honeycomb, Winvic.



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Area of land type in region: 8%

Median rainfall (region): 494 – 830 mm Average rainfall (region): 560 – 869 mm

Area of land type with FPC: 18%

Median FPC: 23% Median TBA: 9 m2/ha

