Narrow-leaved ironbark woodlands



Landform

Eucalypt duplex plains.

Woody vegetation

Narrow-leaved ironbark, lemon-scented (spotted) gum, large-fruited bloodwood, pink bloodwood and ghost gum woodland. Paperbark tea tree, quinine tree, red ash, heath myrtle and occasional lancewood, bulloak, rosewood and wattles occur in the understorey.

Expected pasture composition

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

Preferred

Black speargrass, kangaroo grass, desert bluegrass, hairy panic, forest bluegrass.

Intermediate

Golden beard grass, pitted bluegrass, windmill grasses, barbwire grass, brigalow grass.

Non-preferred

Many-headed wiregrass, dark wiregrass, wanderrie grass, bottlewasher grasses, summer grass, fairy grass, five-minute grass, lovegrasses.

Annual grasses

Small burr grass, armgrass.

Suitable sown pastures

Oversow with legumes; shrubby and Caribbean stylos.

Introduced weeds

Soil

Hard-setting, loamy surfaced texture contrast soil (chromosol).

Description

Surface: Firm to hard-setting; **Surface texture:** sandy; **Subsoil texture:** sandy to sandy clay loam.

Water availability

Very low.

Rooting depth

Less than 0.60 m.



Fertility

Low to moderate total nitrogen; low phosphorus.

Salinity

Low

Sodicity

Non-sodic

pН

Neutral to strongly acid.

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 – 755 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	2830 - 3640	20%	4.0 – 5.2
	10 TBA 25 FPC	700 - 1940	20%	7.6 – 21

Enterprise

Breeding

Land use and management recommendations

- Not suitable for clearing.
- Commercial timber species are useful for construction purposes.

Land use limitations

- Shallow soil.
- Hard-setting surface.
- Prone to erosion if disturbed.

Conservation features and related management

- This woodland is an important wildlife habitat with a surprisingly wide range of fauna including koalas that eat narrow-leaved ironbark leaves; whiptail wallabies; possums and gliders that use tree hollows; for skinks, geckoes and dragons that use rough fissured bark; and ground dwelling fauna (e.g. painted button-quail, rufous bettongs, frilled-neck lizards) that use good grass cover which also protects slopes and hillsides from erosion.
- Burning too frequently can result in eucalypts never developing beyond the sapling stage; increased wattle undergrowth with a loss of grass cover; and a reduction in mature trees.
- Burning should not occur more frequently than once every three years and should take place in winter or just prior to summer rains.
- To maintain a diversity of habitat for wildlife it is better to burn patches rather than large areas.
- Where these woodlands are grazed it is better to burn at a paddock level to prevent overgrazing of fresh growth.

Regional Ecosystems

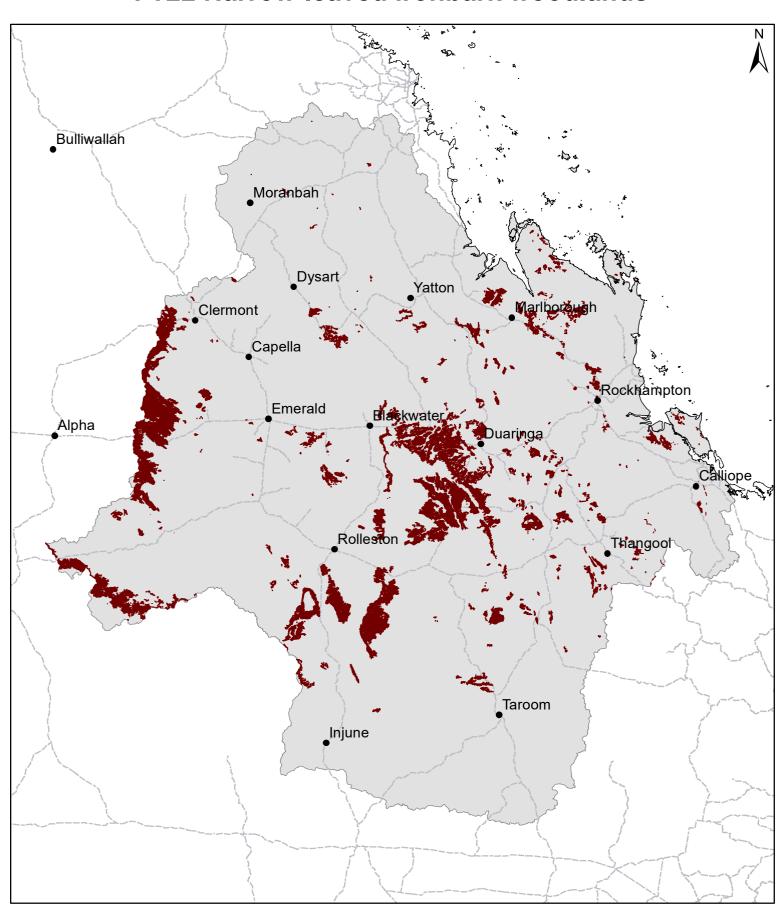
8.12.14d, 11.10.4, 11.3.36, 11.5.2, 11.5.9, 11.9.9, 11.11.4, 11.11.4b, 11.11.4d, 11.11.15, 11.11.15a, 11.12.3, 12.11.7.

Land units; Agricultural management unit; Soil associations

Land units (Gunn *et al* 1967; Story *et al* 1967) Copperfield 2 and 3, Hope 1, Cotherstone 1, Durandella 6, Rewan 1 and 2; AMU (DPI 1993) Highlands; Soil Associations (Burgess 2003) Maywin, Red-one, Anncrouye.



FT22 Narrow-leaved ironbark woodlands



Area of land type in region: 6%

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

Area of land type with FPC: 72%

Median FPC: 25% Median TBA: 10 m2/ha

