

Blue gum on loam and duplex



Landform	Levees and levee backslopes along major streams and rivers, and the upper slopes of gently undulating relict alluvial plains and high terraces.
Woody vegetation	Tall open forest to woodland of Queensland blue gum and Moreton Bay ash or Queensland blue gum and rough-barked apple with occasional silver-leaved ironbark and narrow-leaved ironbark. Understorey usually absent.
Expected pasture composition	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Black speargrass, Queensland bluegrass, kangaroo grass, hooky grass, leafy panic.
Intermediate	Slender chloris, slender rat's tail grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (e.g. dark), purple lovegrass, reedgrass.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, glycine pea.
Suitable sown pastures	Rhodes grass, creeping bluegrass, digit grass, tall finger grass, shrubby stylo, Wynn cassia.
Introduced weeds	Chinese elm, broad-leaved pepper tree, cat's claw creeper.
Soil	Deep brown sandy loam (earthy sands) and clay loams (prairie), and brown texture contrast soils (solodics).
Description	Surface: Hard-setting and crusting, some friable and sandy; Surface texture: sandy clay loam; Subsoil texture: light medium to medium clay.
Features	Hard-setting and crusting surfaces. Some soils may be impeded by buried clay layers.
Water availability	Low to moderate PAWC.
Drainage	Imperfect (solodic) to well (prairie) and rapidly (earthy sand) drained.
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth <35 cm (solodic) to >100 cm (earthy sand, prairie).

Fertility	Medium. Low nitrogen; very low to high phosphorus; very low to high potassium.
Salinity	Non-saline, moderate salinity below 50 cm (solodic).
Sodicity	Sodic to strongly sodic below 70 cm.
pH	Acid surface (pH 6.0–6.5) to neutral; neutral to slightly alkaline (7.0–7.5, prairie) to moderately alkaline (earthy sand) to strongly alkaline (9.0–9.5, solodic) in subsoils.

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 629 – 754 mm				
Pasture type	Median tree cover (TBA m ² /ha) (FPC %)	Median annual pasture growth (DM kg/ha)	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%)	LTCC (ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	2330 - 2520	30%	3.9 – 4.2
	9 TBA 23 FPC	1350 - 1800	30%	5.4 – 7.2

Enterprise

Breeding and fattening.

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native and improved pastures and cropping.
- Use of minimum tillage and maintenance of effective ground cover (>70%) and conservative stocking practices (spelling pastures, flexible stocking rates) are important to retain organic matter, maintain soil structure, reduce runoff and minimise risk of erosion.
- Retain timber in drainage lines and at changes of slope at base of hills to lower watertable and control salinity.
- Burning is recommended every 3–4 years to control regrowth (ironbarks, wattles) and to enhance preferred pasture species.

Land use limitations

- Shallow effective rooting depth due to impermeable and saline subsoils.
- Hard-setting surface affects ease of cultivation.
- Low fertility and low to moderate PAWC will restrict dryland plant growth.
- Surface sealing and structure breakdown can occur when cultivated.
- Moderate to high erodibility, but moderate erosion hazard due to low slopes.

Conservation features and related management

- The large hollows often found in old blue gums are important nesting sites and habitat for birds and marsupials. Prone to invasions by weeds such as Chinese elm, broad-leaved pepper tree and cat's claw creeper.
- Blue gum regenerates readily in the absence of grazing and regular fire.
- Regrowth can be encouraged to allow remnants to expand and establish connection with other areas of remnant vegetation.
- Regrowth has hardwood potential.
- Many freshwater wetlands in the Burnett are associated with this land type.

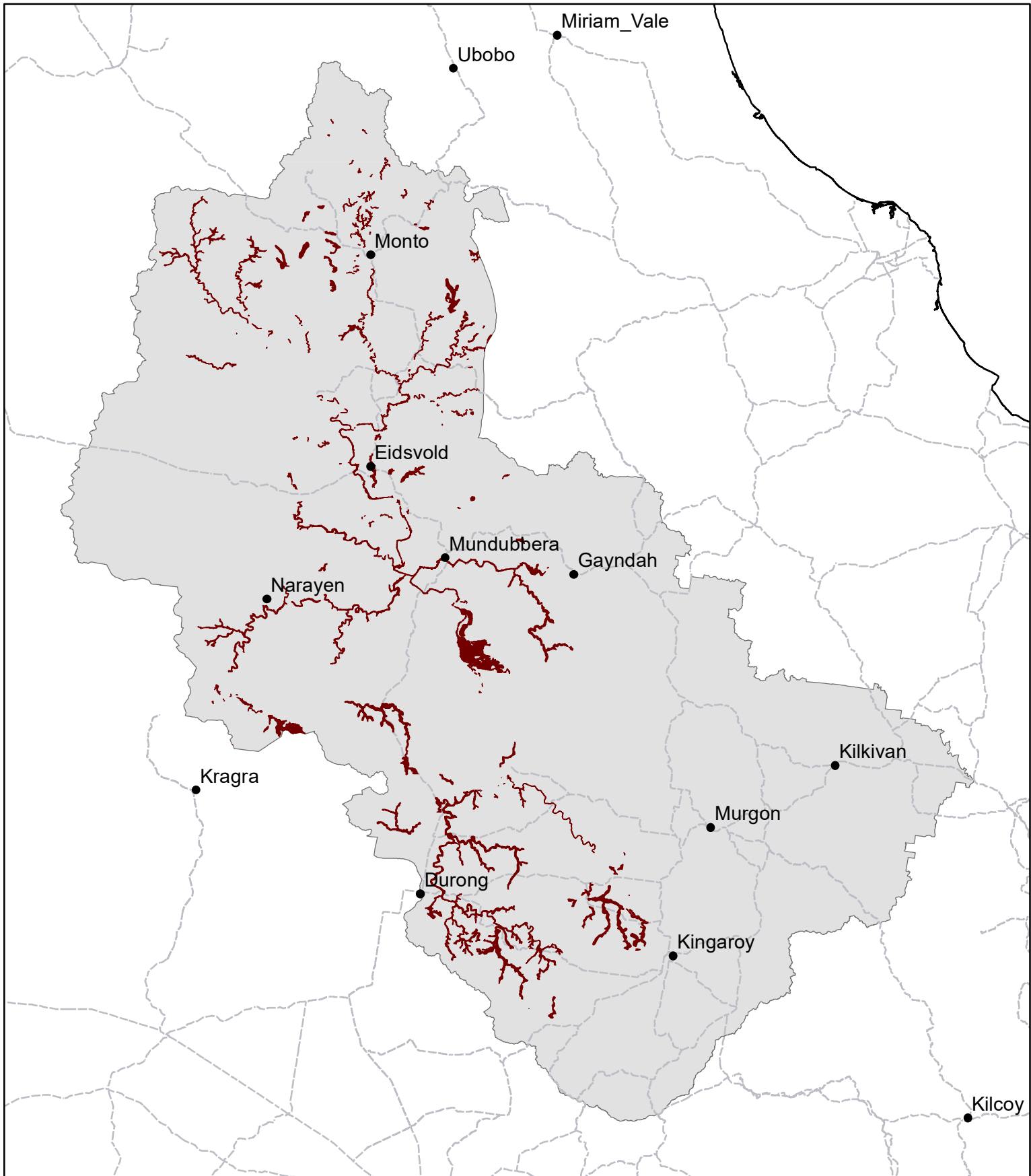
Regional Ecosystems

11.5.17.

Land resource area

Floodplains, Terraces.

IB04 Blue gum on loam and duplex



Area of land type in region: 2%
Median rainfall (region): 529 – 1018 mm
Average rainfall (region): 560 – 1070 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 62%
Median FPC: 23%
Median TBA: 9 m²/ha



Queensland
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