

Box on clay



Landform	Backplains and levee backslopes of alluvial plains and creek flats.
Woody vegetation	Tall open woodland to open forest of poplar box, gum-topped box, broad-leaved apple. Understorey often absent.
Expected pasture composition	<i>Southern black speargrass pastures.</i> <i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
Preferred	Black speargrass, forest bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, scentedtop, paspalum*.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, barbwire grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (e.g. dark).
Legumes	Woolly glycine, rhynchosia, glycine pea.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass.
Suitable sown pastures	Creeping bluegrass, Rhodes grass, Angleton grass, Bambatsi panic, leucaena, butterfly pea, Caatinga stylo, Desmanthus.
Introduced weeds	
Soil	Deep (>150 cm) dark grey or brown cracking clays (black earths).
Description	Surface: Self-mulching; Surface texture: medium clay; Subsoil texture: medium heavy clay.
Features	Some small quantities of calcium carbonate and iron/manganese nodules and segregations.
Water availability	High PAWC.
Drainage	Moderate

Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth >100 cm.
Fertility	Low to moderate; low nitrogen; variable phosphorus; moderate potassium.
Salinity	Low below 80 cm.
Sodicity	Slightly sodic below 80 cm.
pH	Slightly acidic to neutral at surface; increasing to moderately alkaline at depth.

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 631 – 707 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	3990 - 4190	30%	2.3 – 2.4
	10 TBA 26 FPC	2700 - 2740	30%	3.6

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 (>50%) 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.
- Avoid trafficking when wet to reduce soil compaction.
- Burning is recommended every 2–3 years to control regrowth (poplar box, currant bush, false sandalwood) and to enhance preferred pasture species.

Land use limitations

- Subject to periodic flooding and waterlogging.
- Imperfect internal drainage on low slopes and moderate erosion hazard.
- Low fertility except for potassium.

Conservation features and related management

- Large poplar box trees often have hollows that are home to arboreal marsupials and provide nest sites for a wide range of birds such as owlet nightjars, owls and parrots.
- Generally, the good grass cover provides shelter and food for ground dwelling animals such as wallabies and rufous bettongs.

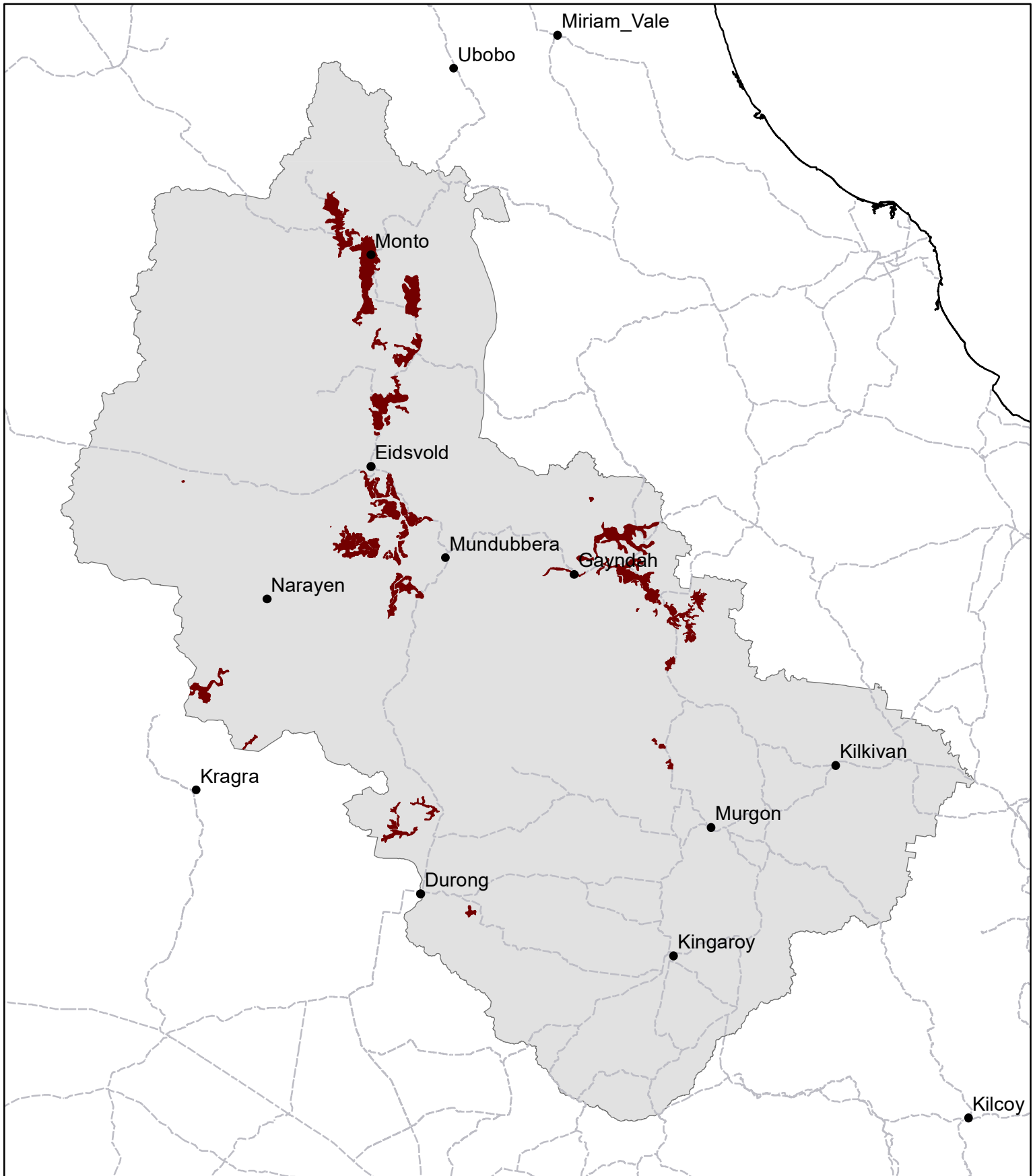
Regional Ecosystems

12.3.10.

Land resource area

Floodplains.

IB05 Box on clay



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: 23%
Median FPC: 26%
Median TBA: 10 m²/ha



Queensland
Government