

Ironbark and spotted gum on duplex and loam



Landform	Gently to moderately inclined, undulating plains to slopes and rises of low hills (slopes 3–12%), with areas of steep hills (up to 40%).
Woody vegetation	Woodland to open forest of narrow-leaved ironbark and spotted gum, occasionally bloodwood, with an understorey of wattle and whitewood.
Expected pasture composition	<p><i>Southern black speargrass pastures.</i></p> <p>* Denotes non-native “Expected Pasture Composition” species.</p>
Preferred	Black speargrass, forest bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, scentedtop, paspalum*.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, Indian couch*, barbwire grass, silkyheads.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (e.g. dark, erect kerosene), woodland lovegrass, slender chloris.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, emu foot, creeping tick trefoil, rhynchosia.
Suitable sown pastures	Rhodes grass, creeping bluegrass, shrubby stylo.
Introduced weeds	
Soil	Shallow (50 cm) to moderately deep (<120 cm) texture contrast soils and shallow sandy and loamy soils. Some areas of dark clay soils, and red and yellow earths and deep sands (sandstone and siltstone).
Description	Surface: Hard-setting; Surface texture: sandy loam to clay loam; Subsoil texture: medium to medium heavy clay.
Features	Bleached or partially bleached subsurface layers. Mottling of subsoils. Stone free.
Water availability	Low PAWC.
Drainage	Poorly or imperfectly drained subsoils.
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth 35–40 cm.

Fertility	Low to moderate; low nitrogen, very low to low phosphorus, moderate to very high potassium.
Salinity	Very low (soloths); moderate to high below 60 cm (solodics).
Sodicity	Sodic subsoils (soloths); sodic (35 cm) to strongly sodic (below 50 cm) (solodics).
pH	Acid soil reaction trend, occasionally neutral (soloths), Alkaline to neutral soil reaction trend (solodics).

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 663 – 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	4840 - 5100	30%	1.9 – 2.0
	11 TBA 27 FPC	2180 - 2970	30%	3.3 – 4.5

Enterprise Land use and management recommendations

- Breeding and fattening.
- Suitable for grazing of native and improved pastures.
 - 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 on ridges and at changes of slope at base of hills to control erosion.
 - Burning is recommended every 2–3 years to control regrowth (spotted gum, ironbarks, wattles) and to enhance preferred pasture species.

Land use limitations

- Shallow effective rooting depth, low fertility, low PAWC restricts dryland crop growth.
- Small seeded pasture difficult to establish due to rapid drying and sealing of sandy surface.
- Very high erosion hazard, particularly prone to scalding, gully and tunnel erosion.

Conservation features and related management

- Habitat for rare flora (*Perseonia* spp. and cycads) and provide valuable resources for forest dependent fauna such as possums, gliders, forest owls, microbats, insectivorous birds and arboreal and ground dwelling reptiles.
- In areas with moderate to low slopes, these land types are generally been cleared or thinned for grazing.
- Areas that have been extensively managed for timber have been modified through selective thinning and frequent fire resulting in even aged stands with minimal habitat trees and poor stand succession.
- Retaining adequate numbers of habitat trees is important for forest health and biodiversity.
- The careful use of fire (especially following disturbance such as thinning or harvesting) allows forest regeneration and can be pro-actively used to promote biodiversity values within the land type and across the landscape.

Regional Ecosystems

12.9-10.18, 12.9-10.18a-b, 12.11.22.

Land resource area

Uplands sediments.

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Area of land type in region: 0.4%
Median rainfall (region): 529 – 1018 mm
Average rainfall (region): 560 – 1070 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 43%
Median FPC: 27%
Median TBA: 11 m²/ha



Queensland
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