

Narrow-leaved ironbark on granite



Landform	Undulating rises to rolling hills.
Woody vegetation	Open forest to woodland of narrow-leaved ironbark, silver-leaved ironbark and Queensland blue gum and wattles.
Expected pasture composition	<i>Southern black speargrass pastures.</i> * Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.
Preferred	Black speargrass, red Natal grass*, barbwire grass, silky umbrella grass, hairy panic.
Non-indicator	Pitted bluegrass grass, niggerheads, bottlewasher grasses, woodland lovegrass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses (e.g. dark, erect kerosene), reedgrass, golden beard grass.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, emu foot, glycine pea.
Suitable sown pastures	Oversow with legumes: fine stem stylo, shrubby stylo, Wynn cassia.
Introduced weeds	Quinine berry
Soil	Shallow to moderately deep yellow, red or brown sandy duplex soils.
Description	Surface: Hard-setting; Surface texture: loamy sand to sandy clay loam; Subsoil texture: medium clay.
Features	Stone free.
Water availability	Low (yellow) to moderate (brown) to high (red) PAWC.
Drainage	Poorly (yellow) or imperfect (brown) to moderately drained (red).
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth 20 cm (yellow), 35 cm (brown) to 60 cm (red).
Fertility	Low; low nitrogen, very low to low phosphorus, very low to moderate potassium.
Salinity	Non-saline (red), very low (yellow), low to moderate below 50 cm (brown).
Sodicity	Non-sodic (red), strongly sodic below 50–70 cm (yellow, brown).

pH

Alkaline soil reaction trend. Slightly acidic at surface, increasing alkalinity (pH 6.0–7.5) upper subsoils and moderately alkaline (7.8–9.5) in lower 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 – 816 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	2870 - 3250	25%	3.7 – 4.1
	8 TBA 20 FPC	1430 - 1990	25%	5.9 – 8.2

Enterprise

Breeding and stores.

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native and improved pastures, short-term cropping only on red soils.
- 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 stony ridges, in drainage lines and at changes of slope at base of hills to control erosion (particularly tunnel erosion).
- Burning is recommended every 2–3 years to control regrowth (blue gum, ironbarks, wattles) and to enhance preferred pasture species.

Land use limitations

- Shallow effective rooting depth and poor internal drainage (yellow, brown).
- Low fertility. Low PAWC will restrict dryland crop growth.
- Hard-setting surface affects infiltration and cultivation.
- Small seeded crops and pasture difficult to establish due to rapid drying and sealing of sandy surface.
- Moderate erosion hazard on low to moderate slopes (red, brown).
- Very high erosion hazard and particularly prone to tunnel erosion (yellow).

Conservation features and related management

- Extensively cleared for native pasture in some areas; relatively intact in others.
- These are generally grassy woodlands that provide habitat for larger marsupials.
- Hollow-bearing habitat trees are important nesting sites for birds and arboreal mammals.
- Landscape health can be enhanced through appropriate fire regimes, grazing management and allowing regrowth to develop into effective wildlife corridors.

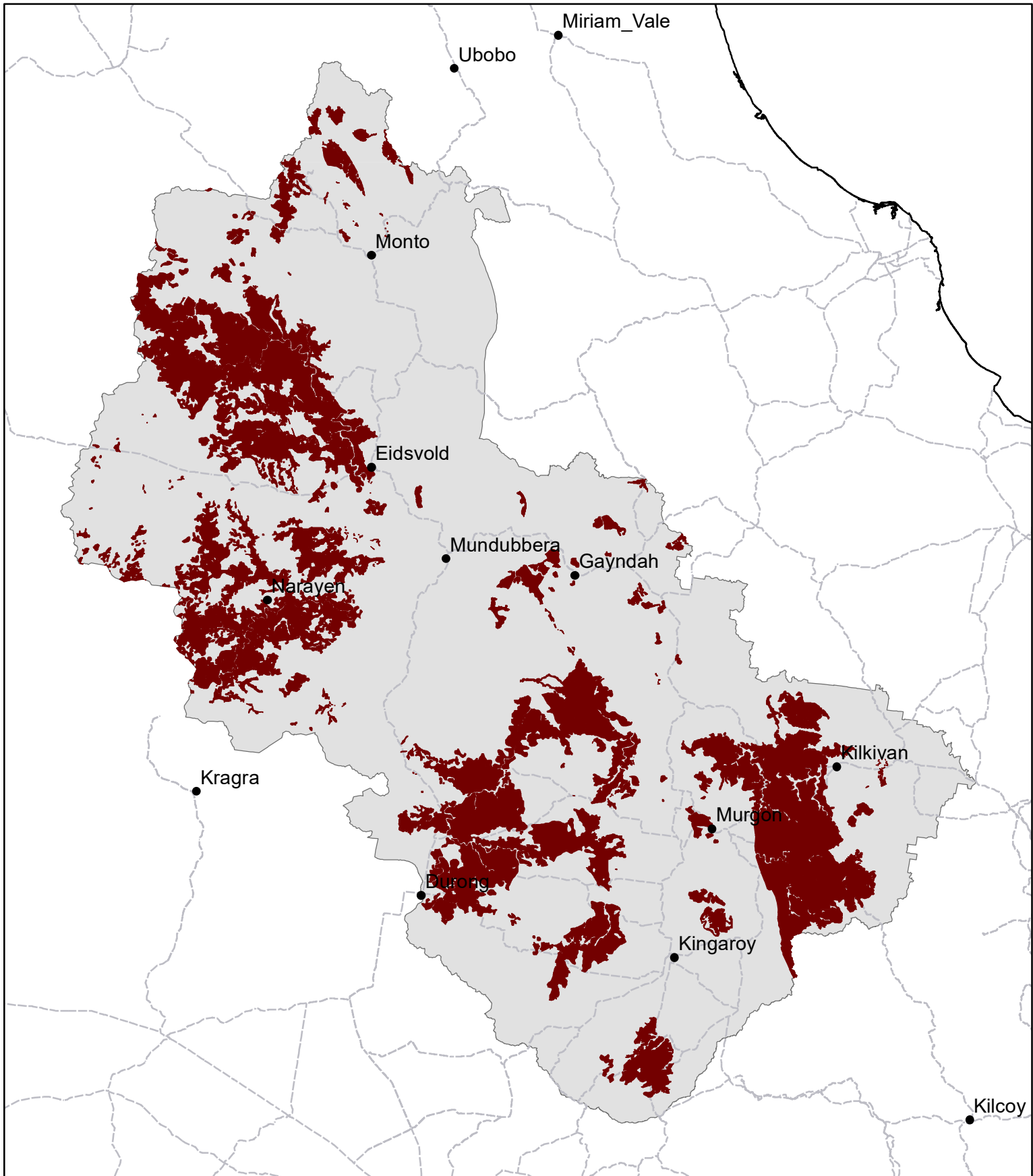
Regional Ecosystems

11.12.1, 12.12.7, 12.12.24.

Land resource area

Granite Hills.

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Area of land type in region: 21%
Median rainfall (region): 529 – 1018 mm
Average rainfall (region): 560 – 1070 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 55%
Median FPC: 20%
Median TBA: 8 m²/ha



Queensland
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