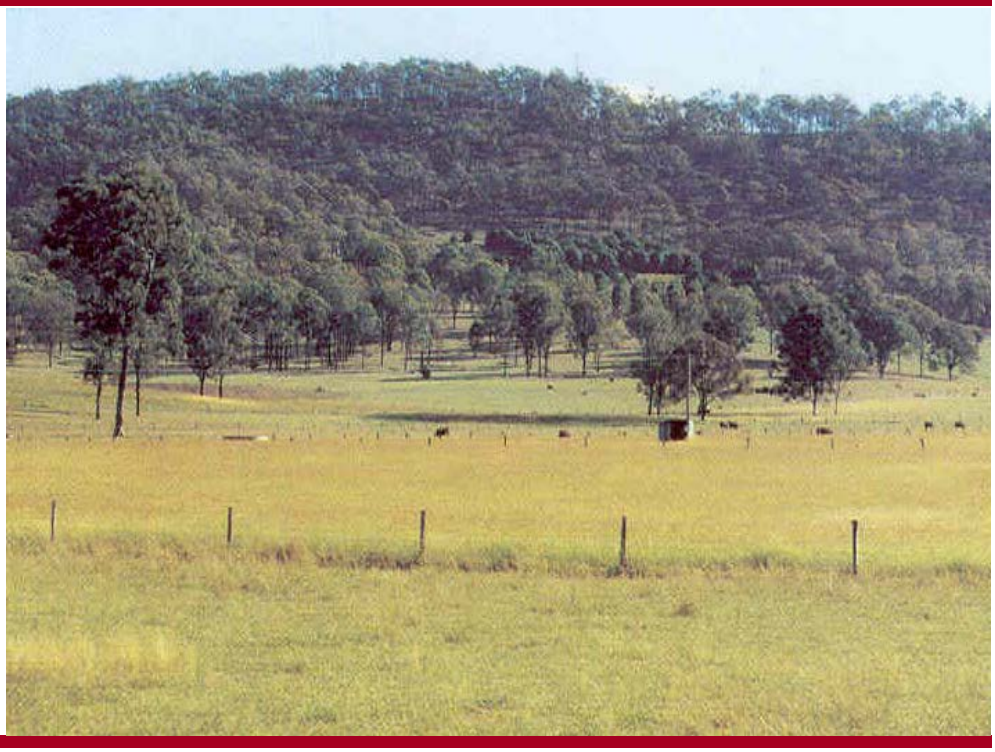
Ironbark on granite



Landform	Rolling hills and mountains.
Woody vegetation	Narrow-leaved / grey ironbark and silver-leaved ironbark woodland. Pink bloodwood, spotted gum, wattles and red ash may also occur.
Expected pasture composition	** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.*
Preferred	Forest bluegrass, barbwire grass, black speargrass, tambookie grass.
Intermediate	Pitted bluegrass, silky umbrella grass, golden beard grass, red Natal grass*.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, reedgrass, slender chloris.
Legumes	Glycine pea, Birdsville indigo, rattlepod.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass, feathertop Rhodes grass.
Suitable sown pastures	Shrubby stylo, fine stem stylo, Wynn cassia.
Introduced weeds	
Soil	Deep sandy soils showing very little texture change with depth; or sandy loams overlying red or yellow strongly structured clays.
Description	***Surface*:** Loose to hard-setting; ***Surface texture:*** coarse loamy sand or sandy loam; ***Subsoil texture:*** clayey sand or medium to heavy clay.
Features	Hard-setting surface on earthy sands, still usually high permeability. Podzolics have pale, but not bleached, subsurface; may be mottled and sometimes gravelly.
Water availability	Low, PAWC 50–100 mm in root zone.
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth >1 m (earthy sands) to <1.5 m (podzolics).

Fertility

Low nitrogen; very low phosphorus; variable (very low to high) potassium; low to medium zinc; low to high copper.

Salinity

Very low.

Sodicity

Non-sodic

pH

Soil surface strongly acid (5.2) to slightly acid (6.5) or neutral (earthy sands 7.0); podzolic subsoils very strongly acid (5.0) to slightly acid (6.5) or occasionally neutral to mildly alkaline (up to 7.8).

Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 744 – 815 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	2930 - 2960	30%	3.3
	24 TBA 55 FPC	< 730 - 1000	30%	> 10 – 13

Enterprise

Breeding and stores.

Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native and oversown pastures.
- Timber reserves.
- Scattered areas of low slope and suitable soils will support horticulture and limited cropping.
- Maintain adequate surface cover at all times to reduce erosion.
- Spell pastures when flowering and seeding.
- Do not cultivate on slopes >8%.
- Burn every 2–3 years to help control weeds and regrowth (ironbarks, wattles, red ash).

Land use limitations

- Plant available water capacity is low (even considering deep rooting depth).
- Nutrient status is low, especially phosphorus and nitrogen.
- Highly erodible on slopes if ground cover is inadequate.
- Hard-setting soils inhibit seed germination, infiltration and increase runoff.
- Root development and nutrient uptake may be impeded in more acid subsoils.

Conservation features and related management

- Extensively cleared for native pasture in some areas; whilst 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.

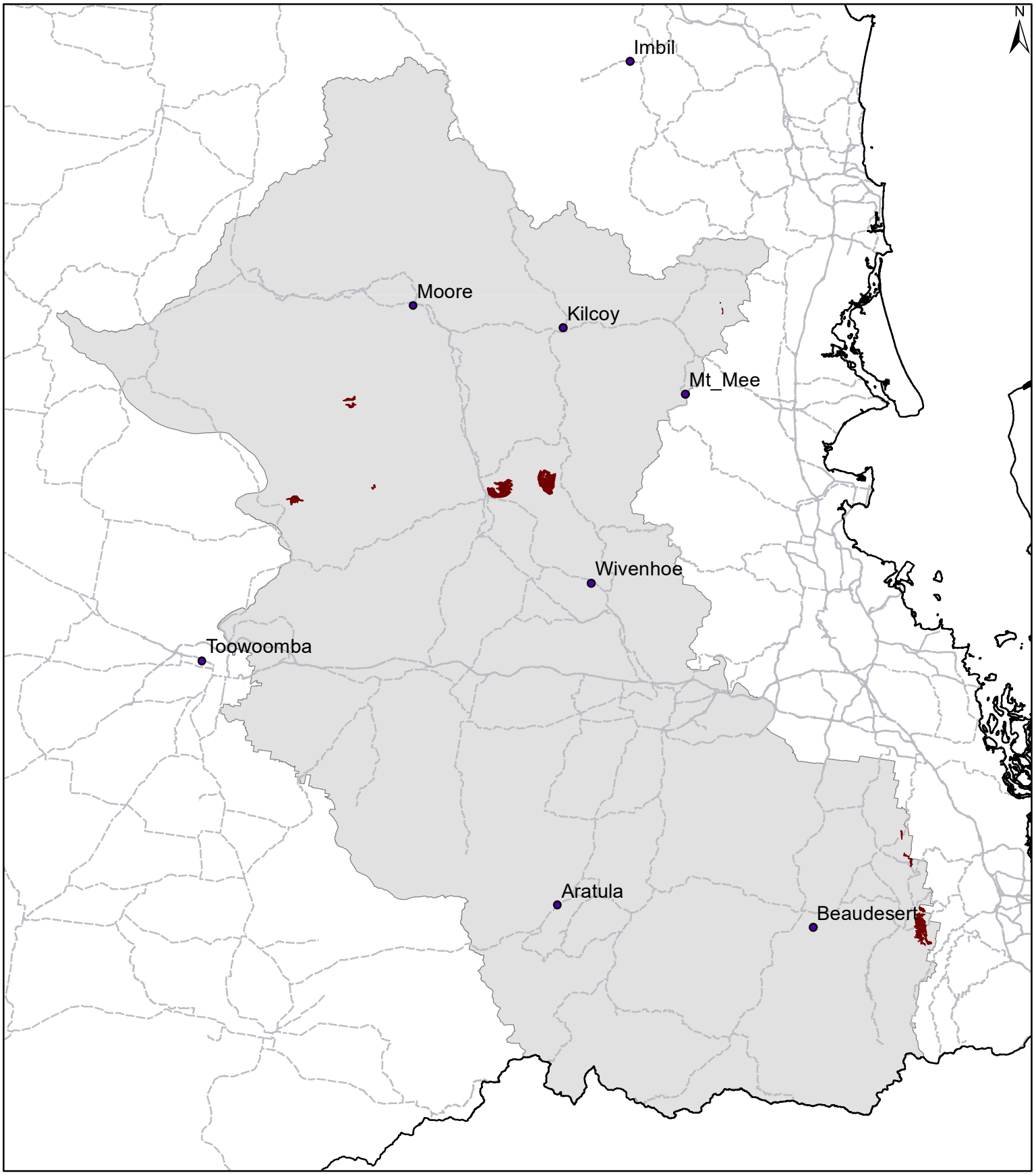
Regional Ecosystems

12.12.3a, 12.12.9, 12.12.14.

Land resource area

Granite Hills, 5 (Noble, 1996).

MO07 Ironbark on granite



Area of land type in region: 0.2%
Median rainfall (region): 632 – 1372 mm
Average rainfall (region): 637 – 1536 mm
Area of land type with FPC: 0.2%
Median FPC: 55%
Median TBA: 24 m2/ha

Queensland Government