

# Softwood vine scrub



<b>Landform</b>	Mid to upper slopes of rolling hills (3–30% slopes).
<b>Woody vegetation</b>	Largely cleared open softwood scrub with vine species. Other trees that may occur include crow's and southern silver ash, blush tulip oak, broad-leaved leopardwood, red ash, rose satinash, red and white cedar, white beech, silky oak and hoop pine.
<b>Expected pasture composition</b>	<i>Minimal grassy understorey.</i> * Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.
Preferred	Forest bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, Rhodes grass*, green panic*.
Intermediate	Early spring grass, couch grass*, red Natal grass*.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses, blady grass, slender chloris.
Legumes	Woolly glycine, glycine pea.
Annual grasses	Small burr grass.
<b>Suitable sown pastures</b>	Rhodes grass, green panic, leucaena, Shrubby stylo, fine stem stylo, siratro, medics.
<b>Introduced weeds</b>	Lantana, African boxthorn, wild tobacco tree.
<b>Soil</b>	Friable, well drained loamy soils that are brown, yellowish brown or reddish brown (brown earths). Some soils are shallow dark, clay loams over weathered parent rock (prairie soils).
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Firm to loose, occasionally hard-setting; <b>Surface texture:</b> sandy loam to clay loam to medium clay; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> light to medium clay.
Features	Bedrock 0.3–0.8 m in shallow clays.
Water availability	Low; PAWC 50–100 mm in root zone.
Rooting depth	Effective rooting depth <1 m.

Fertility	Low (brown earths) to medium to high nitrogen; medium (shallow clays) to high phosphorus; medium to high (shallow clays) to very high potassium; medium zinc and copper.
Salinity	Very low to low.
Sodicity	Non-sodic
pH	Soil surface slightly acid (6.5) to neutral (7.0) (brown earths) to mildly alkaline (7.4); medium acid (6.0) to mildly alkaline (brown earths 7.5) to strongly alkaline (8.5).

**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 – 1372 mm				
Pasture type	Median tree cover (TBA m <sup>2</sup> /ha) (FPC %)	Median annual pasture growth (DM kg/ha)	Safe annual utilisation pasture growth (%)	LTCC (ha/AE)
Native species	0 TBA/FPC	4390 - 5780	30% (sown)	1.7 – 2.2
	18 TBA 43 FPC	1590 - 2500	30% (sown)	3.9 – 6.1

**Enterprise**

Breeding and fattening.

**Land use and management recommendations**

- Suitable for grazing of improved pastures, timber reserves, softwood plantations.
- Not suitable for irrigation; duplex soils are not suitable for agricultural development.
- In better drained areas short-term forage crops may be grown.
- Adopt practices such as minimum tillage, stubble mulching, and weed control to maintain soil structure and reduce erosion. Include cover crops in crop rotations and retain crop residues.
- Maintain adequate surface cover at all times. Spell pastures when flowering and seeding.
- Control weeds and regrowth (lantana, scrub species).

**Land use limitations**

- Moderate to high risk of erosion on all slopes if bare or cultivated.
- Shallow and stony soils, low plant available water capacity.
- Susceptible to compaction, hard-setting and rapid decline in soil fertility if cultivated.
- Areas may act as intake for groundwater recharge, thereby contributing to salinity problems in lower areas.

**Conservation features and related management**

- Very few scrub remnants remain; remnants are small and isolated.
- Habitat for rare and threatened flora and fauna.
- Remnants are threatened by weed invasion and fire on their margins.
- The use of fire breaks and cool season burns reduce this risk.
- Natural regeneration should be encouraged to develop connectivity with other areas of remnant vegetation.

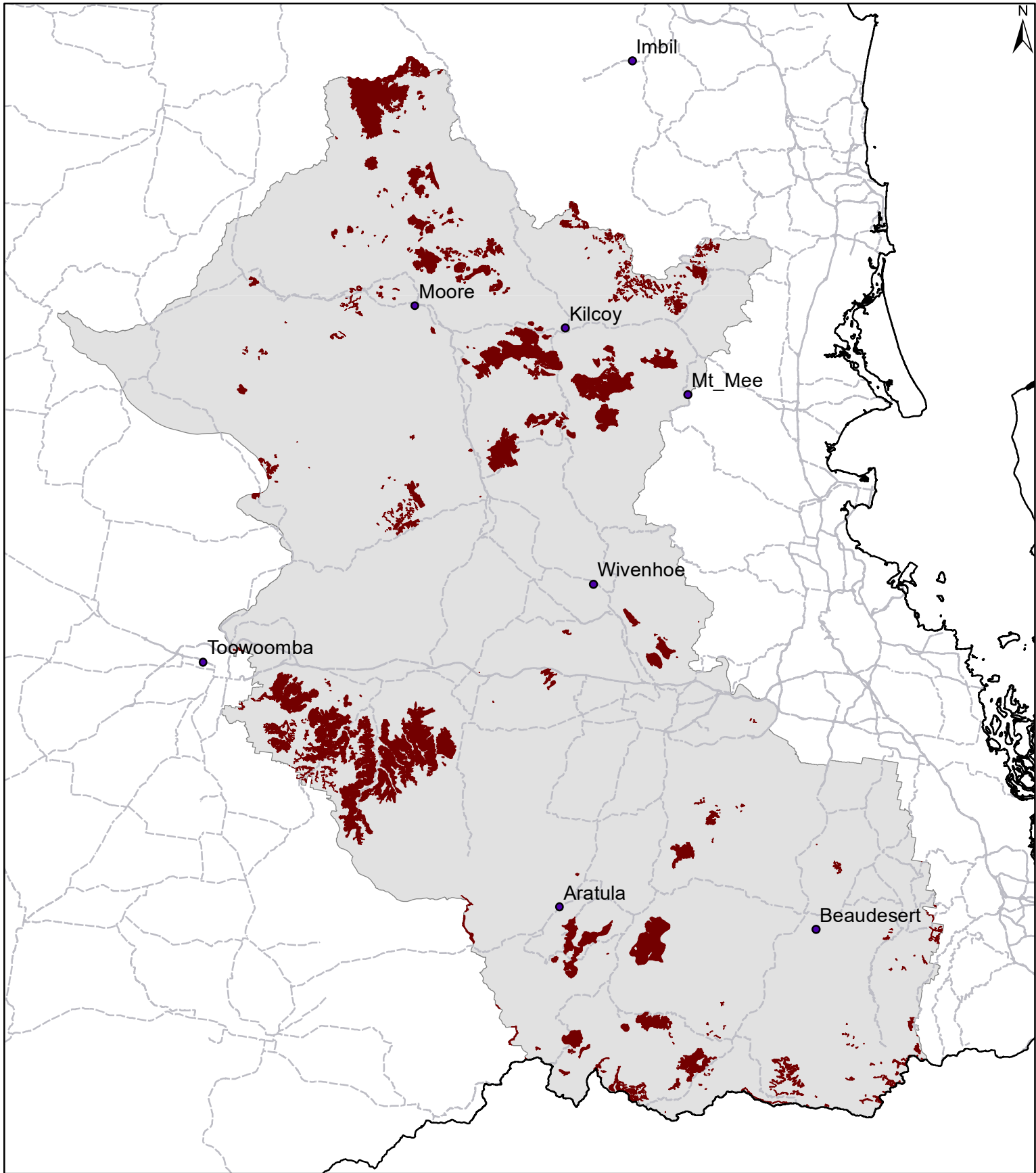
**Regional Ecosystems**

12.8.6, 12.8.7, 12.8.18, 12.9-10.15, 12.9-10.16, 12.11.1, 12.11.11, 12.12.1, 12.12.13.

**Land resource area**

Marburg Scrub, 7c (Noble, 1996).

# MO10 Softwood vine scrub



Area of land type in region: 5%  
Median rainfall (region): 632 – 1372 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 637 – 1536 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 3%  
Median FPC: 43%  
Median TBA: 18 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland  
Government**