

# Yellow earths



<b>Landform</b>	Mid to lower slopes of level to gently undulating plains.
<b>Woody vegetation</b>	Grey box and narrow-leaved ironbark woodland with understorey of breadfruit, tea trees, wattles and quinine.
<b>Expected pasture composition</b>	* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.
Preferred	Golden beard grass, forest bluegrass, black speargrass, kangaroo grass.
Intermediate	Cotton panic, silky browntop, lemon-scented grass, gulf bluegrass, plume sorghum, bottlewasher grasses, giant speargrass, northern wanderrie grass.
Non-preferred	Wiregrasses.
Annual grasses	Fire grass, comet grass, fairy grass, lovegrasses.
<b>Suitable sown pastures</b>	Shrubby and Caribbean stylos.
<b>Introduced weeds</b>	
<b>Soil</b>	Yellow brown texture contrast soils (solodics).
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Loose or soft; <b>Surface texture:</b> sandy loam or sandy clay loam; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> light to medium heavy clay.
Features	Subsoils can have very hard consistence. Impeded drainage leading to bogginess when wet. Mottling of soil at depth. Dispersive subsoils.

Water availability

Low to moderate.

Fertility

Variable, generally low. Low nitrogen (0.08%); low phosphorus (6 mg/kg); low potassium (0.17 cmol /kg).

Salinity

Non-saline

Sodicity

Low at depth.

pH

Slightly acidic (6.1) at surface; increasing to medium acidity down the profile.

### Long-term carrying capacity information (A condition)

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 723 – 961 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	1160 - 1820	20%	8.0 - 13
	6 TBA 15 FPC	450 - 860	20%	17 – 33

### Enterprise

Breeding

### Land use and management recommendations

- Suitable for grazing of native pastures.
- Rotational wet seasons spelling to maintain perennial pasture composition.
- Manage grazing pressure to ensure at least 50% ground cover at break of season.
- Strategic burning (late dry hot burn) to manage woody thickening (e.g. breadfruit, wattles).
- Native pastures need to be burnt prior to over-sowing with stylos.

### Land use limitations

- Timber thickening limits pasture productivity.
- Low fertility limits possibilities for sown grasses.
- Phosphorus supplements are required in wet season.
- Limit mechanical disturbance (nothing more severe than crocodile seeder) due to the fragile nature of the duplex soils.

### Conservation features and related management

- Provincial refuge for some flora and fauna species.

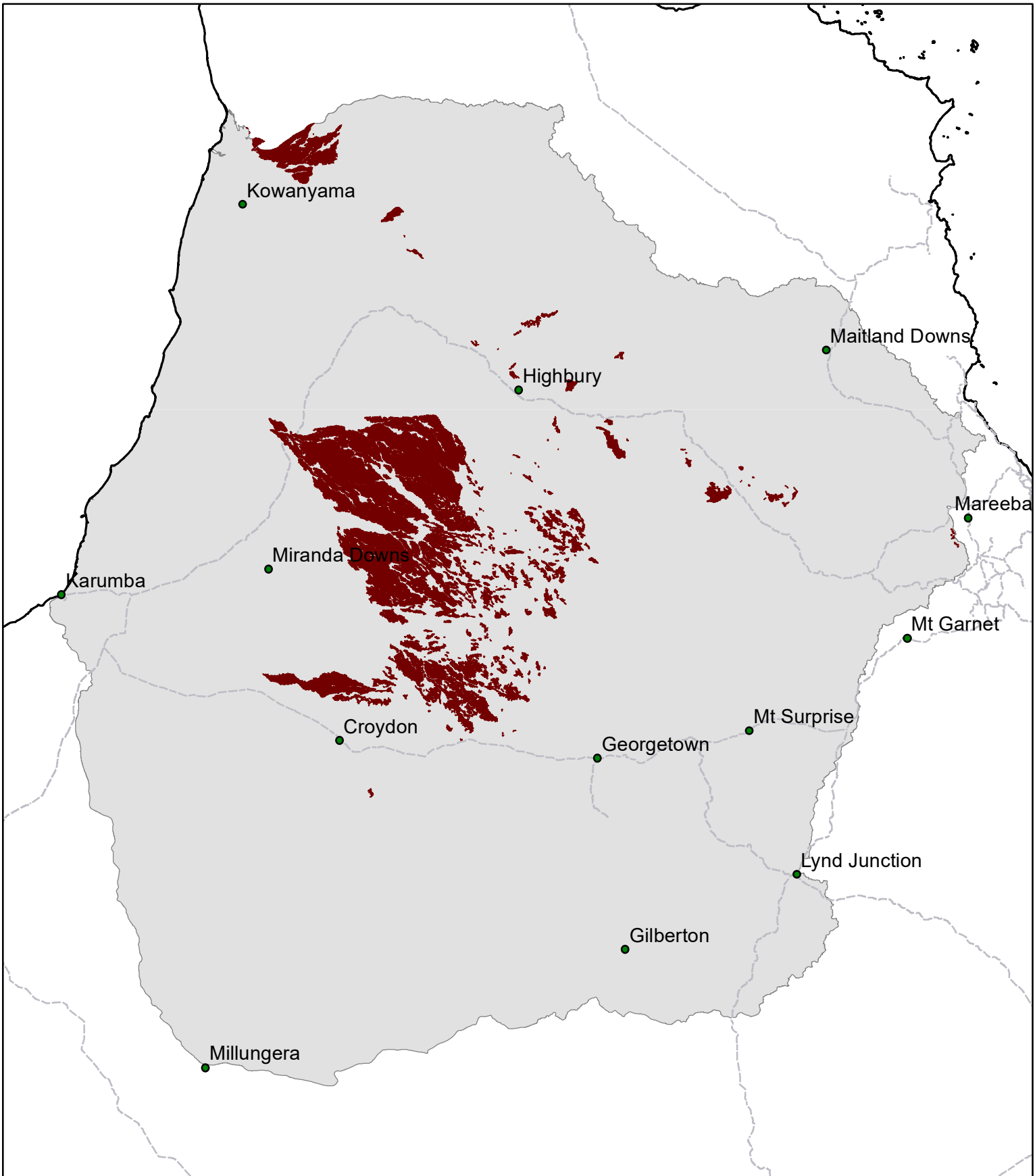
### Regional Ecosystems

2.3.64, 2.5.14c, 2.5.26, 3.3.61b, 9.12.40.

### Land system, Local Pasture Unit

Karoon (2), Yanman (25) (Perry *et al* 1964); LPU 28, 41 (Tothill and Gillies 1992).

# NG15 Yellow earths



Area of land type in region: 4%  
Median rainfall (region): 544 – 1297 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 580 – 1370 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 97%  
Median FPC: 15%  
Median TBA: 6 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland**  
Government