

# Mitchell grass



<b>Landform</b>	Flat to undulating plains. Often adjoins and sometimes mixed in with bluegrass browntop plains and/or flooded plains.
<b>Woody vegetation</b>	Predominantly treeless plains with whitewood, vine tree/supplejack and areas of gidgee and corkwood wattle and coolibah and guttapercha on the edge of flooded areas.
<b>Expected pasture composition</b>	<i>* Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species.</i>
<b>Preferred</b>	Mitchell grass, gulf bluegrass, Queensland bluegrass, buffel grass*, forest bluegrass, desert bluegrass.
<b>Intermediate</b>	Cupgrass/spring grass, silky browntop, umbrella canegrass, lovegrass, native millet.
<b>Non-preferred</b>	Feathertop.
<b>Annual grasses</b>	Australian dropseed, summer grass, pepper grass, Flindersgrass, native couch, button grass, annual sorghum. Non preferred species include asbestos grass.
<b>Common forbs</b>	Sidas, pigweed, sensitive plants, tarvine, chain pea, annual verbine/native lucerne, glycine, rattlepod, cow vine, camel bush/cattle bush(wet areas), onion vine/paper rose, desmodium, sesbania pea, rhynchosia, tick weed, goathead, flinders poppy, speedyweed.
<b>Suitable sown pastures</b>	Generally not suitable for sown pastures.
<b>Introduced weeds</b>	Prickly acacia, parkinsonia, mesquite, potentially parthenium.
<b>Soil</b>	Grey-brown heavy cracking calcareous clays with uneven, self-mulching and often ashy surfaces, and with some areas of pebbly downs.
<b>Description</b>	<b>Surface:</b> Self-mulching with some crusting, ashy in areas and minor occurrences of stone; <b>Surface texture:</b> heavy clay; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> heavy clay.

Features	Uniform colour and a self-mulching surface.
Water availability	Moderate to high.
Rooting depth	Deep to moderate.
Infiltration	High initially on a dry soil profile, slowing to moderate levels after 75 mm of rain as cracks close and to low levels after 100 mm of rain. Increasing run-off following 100 mm of rain. Estimates based on low to moderate intensity storm rain.
Fertility	Moderate.
Salinity	Non-saline at surface. In some areas increasing to high to very high values with depth.
Sodicity	Non-sodic at surface; subsoils can be sodic.
pH	Alkaline to very alkaline.

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

Based on fully watered area for 1AE = 450 kg animal consuming 8kg DM/day				
Median annual rainfall 391 – 761 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	980 - 4250	22%	3.1- 14
	4 TBA 10 FPC	520 - 3100	22%	4.3 – 26

**Enterprise**

Breeding and fattening.

**Land use and management recommendations**

- Use fire judiciously as management tool to control woody weeds and feathertop.

**Land use limitations**

- Heavier claysoils require 75-100 mm of rain for Mitchell grasses to grow.
- Regrowth and high densities of shrubs such as prickly acacia and guttapercha can limit productivity.

**Conservation features and related management**

- Protected areas include Camooweal Caves and Lawn Hill National Park.

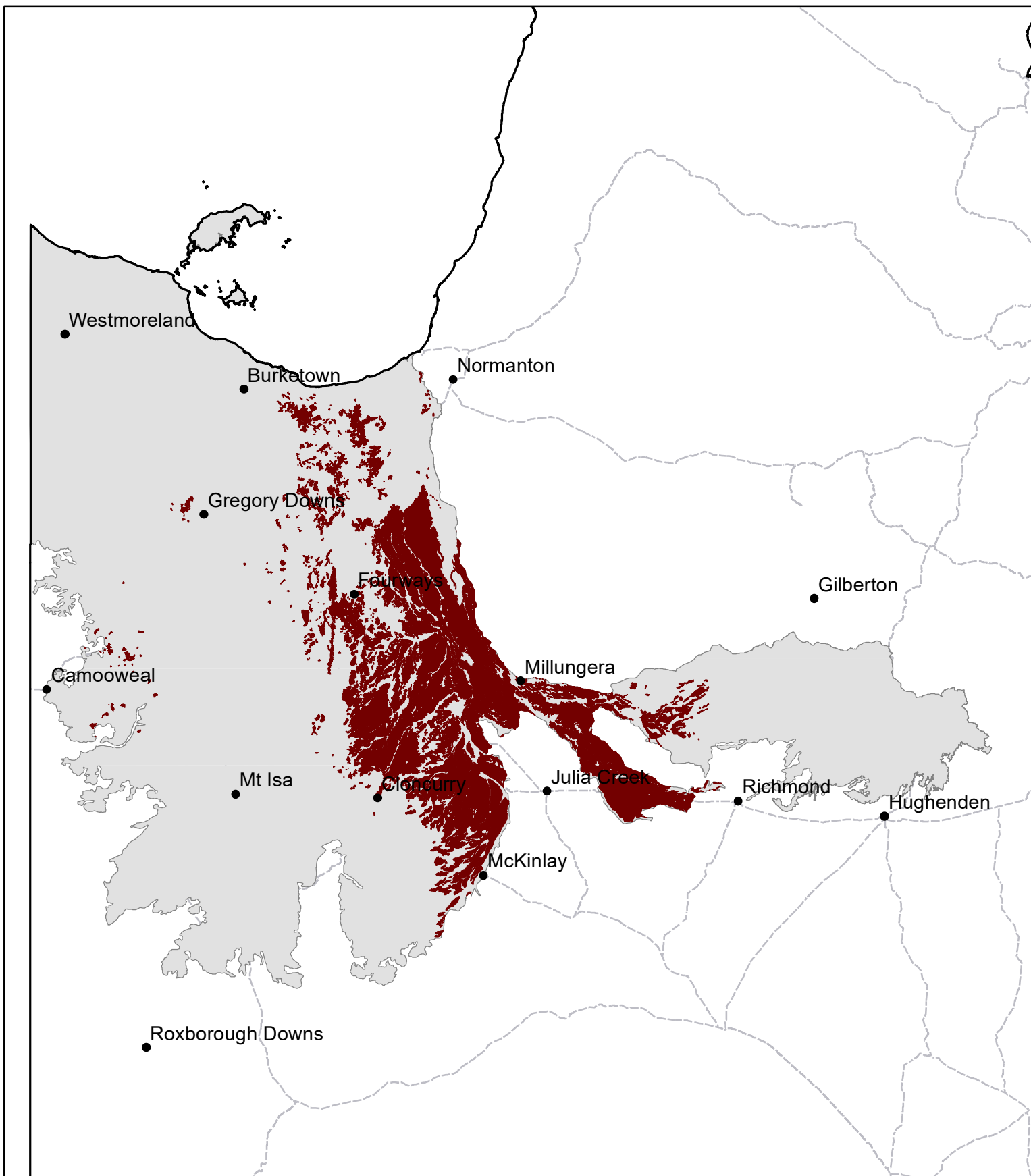
**Regional Ecosystems**

1.11.13, 1.5.1, 1.5.2a-c, 1.5.3, 1.5.4a, 1.5.4c-d, 1.5.7, 1.9.1, 2.4.2a-b, 2.5.2, 2.5.32, 2.9.1.

**Land Systems**

Julia (27), Monstraven (49), Gregory (52), Wonardo (30) (Perry 1964).

# SG09 Mitchell grass



Area of land type in region: 13%  
Median rainfall (region): 233 – 831 mm  
Average rainfall (region): 271 – 952 mm  
Area of land type with FPC: 11%  
Median FPC: 10%  
Median TBA: 4 m<sup>2</sup>/ha



**Queensland**  
Government