

Mitchell grass



Landform

Flat to undulating plains. Often adjoins and sometimes extends into active alluvial plains.

Woody vegetation

Scattered whitewood, vine tree/supplejack, western bloodwood, coolibah, bauhinia and wattles.

Expected pasture composition

** Denotes non-native "Expected Pasture Composition" species*

Preferred

Mitchell grass, black speargrass, gulf bluegrass, kangaroo grass, Queensland bluegrass, buffel grass* (naturalised), forest/desert bluegrass.

Intermediate

Cupgrass/spring grass, bottlewashers, silky browntop, Australian wild rice, golden beard grass/ribbon grass, pitted bluegrass, spinifex (buck, pincushion), lovegrass, pepper grass, comb windmill grass, native millet.

Non-preferred

Wiregrasses (feathertop), reed grass.

Annual grasses

Fairy grass, Australian dropseed, summer grass, Flinders grass, downs couch, button grass.

Common forbs

Queensland bluebush, Flemings bush, Mueller's saltbush, gidyea burrs, red spinach, caustic weed, soft roly-poly, yellow cress, sensitive plant, tick weed, tar vine, hibiscus, bushy fan flower, native rosella, rhynchosia, cow vine.

Suitable sown pastures

Introduced weeds

Prickly acacia, parkinsonia, mesquite.

Soil	Grey-brown heavy clays, deep, self mulching uneven surface often with ashy surfaces and with areas of pebbly downs.
Description	Surface: Self-mulching with some crusting, ashy in areas and minor occurrences of stone; Surface texture: heavy clay; Sub-soil texture: 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, increasing to high to very high values with depth.
Sodicity	Non-sodic at surface; subsoils often sodic.
pH	Alkaline to very alkaline.
Utilisation	22%.
Enterprise	Breeding and fattening.
Land use and management recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use fire judiciously as management tool to control woody weeds and feathertop. • Maintenance of ground cover to minimise shrub invasion and wind erosion.
Land use limitations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavier clay soils 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protected areas include Camooweal Caves and Lawn Hill National Park.
Regional ecosystems	1.3.1, 1.3.1x1, 1.9.1, 1.9.1a-c, 2.3.3, 2.3.3a-c, 2.3.3x40, 2.9.1, 2.9.1a, 2.9.1ax40, 2.9.1ax42-44, 2.9.4x1a, 4.3.14-18, 4.4.1, 4.4.1b, 4.4.1x1, 4.9.1, 4.9.1a, 4.9.2, 4.9.4, 4.9.5, 4.9.7, 4.9.7a, 4.9.8, 4.9.12x1, 4.9.14.