

# Rough spinifex hills



## Landform

Spinifex hummock grassland and mixed open woodland on low rocky hills.

## Woody vegetation

Predominantly snappy gum with scattered Cloncurry box, turpentine, Reid River box, paperbark species, bloodwoods, wild plum, bauhinia, north-west ghost gum, wattles, cassia, currant bush/conkerberry, whitewood, vine tree/suplejack, beefwood, witchetty bush, false sandalwood, quinine, broom bush, crimson turkey bush, corkwood, helicopter tree.

## Expected pasture composition

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

### Preferred

Kangaroo grass, black spear grass, forest/desert bluegrass, silky browntop, golden beard grass/ribbon grass, soft spinifex, Cloncurry buffel grass\* (naturalised), plume sorghum.

### Intermediate

Bottlewashers, white grass, wanderrie grass, hard spinifex, porcupine spinifex, pincushion spinifex, lemon-scented grass/silky oil grass, native millet, katoora grass, mountain wanderrie grass, fringe rush, sandstone panic.

### Non-preferred

Wiregrasses, small burrgrass, bunched kerosene grass,

### Annual grasses

Button grass, downs couch, Australian dropseed, fire grass.

### Common forbs

Tick weed, pigweed, bushy fan flower, soft roly-poly, tephrosia, velvet hibiscus, silver tails, gidyea burrs, mint bush, hill hibiscus, flannel weed, desert spurge, tropical speedwell, foptails, kapok bush\*, sidas.

## Suitable sown pastures

Buffel grass.

## Introduced weeds

Calotrope, bellyache bush, rubbervine.

<b>Soil</b>	Red and yellow earths, skeletal and rock outcrops, poorly drained deeper soils along drainage lines.
<b>Description</b>	<b>Surface:</b> Fine sandy or sandy loams; <b>Surface texture:</b> sandy loam; <b>Sub-soil texture:</b> grading to clays at depths varying from 15 to 120 cm.
<b>Features</b>	Deeper soils occur along drainage lines. Soils drain poorly at depth. Surface soil tends to seal.
<b>Water availability</b>	Low to moderate.
<b>Rooting depth</b>	Low.
<b>Infiltration</b>	High on the steeper country until surface wets up after 25 mm. On the deeper soils along drainage lines, light rain will be required to allow water to infiltrate down to the deeper clays once profile is wet, little through drainage is likely to occur, rest will run off.
<b>Fertility</b>	Low.
<b>Salinity</b>	Low.
<b>Sodicity</b>	Low.
<b>pH</b>	Neutral to slightly acidic.
<b>Utilisation</b>	15%.
<b>Enterprise</b>	Breeding country.
<b>Land use and management recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steepness of slope may limit available grazing areas.</li> <li>• Due to the tendency of the surface to seal on the deeper soils, maintenance of perennial pastures is required to allow sufficient infiltration.</li> <li>• Maintenance of ground cover to minimise shrub invasion and wind and water (gully) erosion.</li> <li>• Strip clearing is preferable to clearing of large areas to minimise erosion and degradation.</li> </ul>
<b>Land use limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steepness of slope may limit available grazing areas.</li> <li>• Regrowth and high shrub densities can limit productivity.</li> </ul>
<b>Conservation features and related management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject to mining.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional ecosystems</b>	1.5.1, 1.7.1, 1.7.1b, 1.7.1f, 1.7.1i-j, 1.7.1x3-4, 1.9.1x2, 1.9.2, 1.9.2a, 1.9.5a-c, 1.9.6, 1.11.2, 1.11.2a, 1.11.2d-e, 1.11.2x1-5, 1.11.2x2b, 1.11.2x4a, 1.11.3, 1.11.3a-b, 1.11.3x1b-d, 1.12.1, 1.12.1x1b, 1.12.1x2-4, 1.12.1x3b, 2.7.3, 2.7.3b, 2.7.4, 2.9.2x2, 2.10.2a, 2.10.4b, 2.10.7, 4.7.2, 4.7.2x1, 9.7.1a, 9.11.18, 9.12.5, 9.12.41.