

# Sandy forest country



## Landform

Mixed open eucalypt woodland on sandy alluvial terraces.

## Woody vegetation

Predominately eucalypts (north-west ghost gum, Cloncurry box, large leaf cabbage gum, silver-leaved box, coolibah, river red gum) with scattered bauhinia, paperbarks, Cooktown ironwood, liniment bush, beefwood, whitewood, bloodwoods, broad-leaved carbeen, Darwin stringybark, glossy leaved box, winged nut tree, wild plum, quinine, currant bush/conkerberry, wait-a-while.

## Expected pasture composition

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

### Preferred

Soft spinifex, black speargrass, kangaroo grass, buffel grass\* (naturalised), forest/desert bluegrass.

### Intermediate

Golden beard grass/ribbon grass, mudgrass, winged windmill grass, lovegrass, long awn wanderrie grass, northern wanderrie grass, fire grass, plume sorghum, pepper grass, white grass, umbrella cane grass.

### Non-preferred

Wiregrasses, feathertop.

### Annual grasses

Native sorghum, dropseed grasses.

### Common forbs

Bluebush, potato bush, native jute, hibiscus.

## Suitable sown pastures

Stylo, buffel grass.

## Introduced weeds

Chinee apple, grader grass.

<b>Soil</b>	Texture contrast soils of red/yellow sand to light clay, overlaying sandy clays to heavy clays.
Description	<b>Surface:</b> Loose; <b>Surface texture:</b> sand to light clay; <b>Subsoil texture:</b> sandy clay to heavy clay.
Features	Defined cemented horizon in subsoil between 60 and 95 cm. Highly dispersive subsoil is common. Spewy in prolonged very wet seasons.
Water availability	Moderate to low.
Rooting depth	Moderate to low.
Infiltration	Moderate to low, until surface is wet.
Fertility	Low.
Salinity	Generally low to moderate in surface until cemented layer. Extremely variable but often high.
Sodicity	Generally low to moderate in surface until cemented layer. Extremely variable but often high.
pH	Slightly acid to neutral in the surface.
<b>Utilisation</b>	15%.
<b>Enterprise</b>	Breeding.
<b>Land use and management recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use fire judiciously as management tool to control woody weeds.</li> <li>• Maintenance of ground cover to minimise shrub invasion and wind erosion.</li> <li>• Strip clearing is preferable to clearing of large areas to minimise erosion and degradation.</li> <li>• Areas of scalding due to high total grazing pressure and wind erosion.</li> </ul>
<b>Land use limitations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poor road, fence line and/or firebreak location can lead to extreme erosion which is difficult to rehabilitate.</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>• Provincial refuge for some flora and fauna.</li> </ul>
<b>Regional ecosystems</b>	1.3.6, 1.3.6a, 1.3.6c, 1.3.6x1, 1.3.6x1b-d, 1.3.6x2, 2.3.10x40-41, 2.3.11e, 2.3.20b, 2.3.20e, 2.3.20i, 2.3.21x12, 2.3.23x1a, 2.3.23x1c, 2.3.28x40, 2.3.37, 2.5.1x10, 2.5.1x11, 2.5.1x11b, 2.5.14x1, 2.5.14x50, 2.5.3, 2.5.3a, 2.5.4, 2.5.5x11, 2.5.5x11a-b, 2.5.5x14a, 2.5.6x10f, 2.9.1x92, 4.3.12a, 4.4.1a, 4.4.1x2, 4.9.12, 5.5.6a, 9.3.3a-b, 9.3.3d-e, 9.3.5, 9.3.19b, 9.5.6b, 10.3.10, 10.3.11b, 10.3.26, 10.5.1c.