

Summary of Properties

- Drainage:** Moderate. The clay subsoil prevents free drainage so that a perched water table will develop intermittently during winter.
- Chemical fertility:** The nutrient holding capacity of the surface soil is moderate (due to organic matter), low in the pale subsurface layer and moderate in the clay subsoil. Organic matter levels are high, phosphorus is marginal. Other tested elements appear to be at satisfactory levels.
- pH:** Acidic at the surface, mildly alkaline with depth.
- Rooting depth:** 110 cm in pit but very few roots below 80 cm.
- Barriers to root growth:**
- Physical:** The hard sodic clay may prevent roots from fully exploiting the subsoil. Waterlogging will also affect root development from time to time.
- Chemical:** Marginally high salinity and high sodium may affect some species. Extractable iron is very high indicating potential for acid sulphate soils in catchment.
- Waterholding capacity:** Approximately 100 mm (moderate to high).
- Seedling emergence:** Good.
- Workability:** Good.
- Erosion Potential:**
- Water:** Moderate.
- Wind:** Low.

Laboratory Data

Depth cm	pH H ₂ O	pH CaCl ₂	CO ₃ %	EC1:5 dS/m	ECe dS/m	Org.C %	Avail. P mg/kg	Avail. K mg/kg	SO ₄ mg/kg	Boron mg/kg	Trace Elements mg/kg (EDTA)				CEC cmol (+)/kg	Exchangeable Cations cmol(+)/kg				ESP
											Cu	Fe	Mn	Zn		Ca	Mg	Na	K	
Paddock	5.7	5.2	0	0.46	1.32	3.7	27	471	-	0.9	3.6	910	56	3.7	13.6	8.70	2.06	0.75	0.32	5.5
											*1.1	*269	*9.9	*2.5						
0-20	6.3	5.8	0	0.38	2.78	3.6	90	382	-	1.1	3.2	1100	71	5.1	12.6	7.08	3.14	0.80	0.69	6.3
20-35	6.6	5.6	0	0.22	3.14	0.7	7	189	-	0.5	1.3	350	10	0.75	5.0	2.34	1.15	0.92	0.32	18.4
35-50	6.7	6.0	0	0.58	4.65	0.5	5	219	-	1.1	2.1	850	2.7	1.3	10.8	3.26	3.78	3.05	0.68	28.2
50-80	7.5	6.6	0	0.42	2.92	0.3	4	162	-	1.4	-	-	-	-	12.1	2.52	3.18	3.09	0.44	25.5
80-110	8.0	7.0	0	0.25	2.13	0.1	<4	104	-	1.1	-	-	-	-	7.1	1.78	3.09	1.74	0.21	24.5

Note: Paddock sample bulked from 20 cores (0-10 cm) taken around the pit.

* DTPA trace element analyses for "paddock" sample.

CEC (cation exchange capacity) is a measure of the soil's capacity to store and release major nutrient elements.

ESP (exchangeable sodium percentage) is derived by dividing the exchangeable sodium value by the CEC.

Further information: [DEWNR Soil and Land Program](#)

