

393111

LAGOON

Lagoons and associated lunettes formed from Quaternary sand and clay deposits constitute this land system. It is only found between Cressy and Poatina and near Toiberry.

Soils are deep. The soil found on the lagoon floors is a black clay which becomes grey at about one and a half metres depth. Drainage is very poor and profiles remain saturated during the winter months. The pale yellow sands on the lunettes have a thin

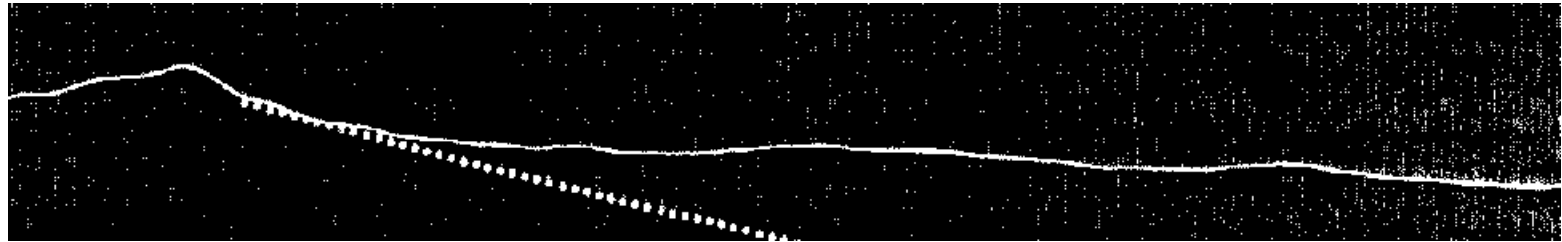
organic surface layer. A narrow strip of wind-blown sand covering the black clay soil was found around the edge of the drained lagoons. The soils in these lagoons have been previously described by Nicolls (1958).

Two of the three lagoons which constitute this system have been drained and carry improved pasture, or have been colonised by rushes and tussock grass. The woodland on the lunettes is dominated by white gum, black peppermint, silver wattle and she-oak. The Western Lagoon is dissected by the main irrigation channel of the Cressy-Longford Irrigation Scheme.

LAND SYSTEM

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Lagoon



COMPONENT	1	2
PROPORTION %	15	85
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 625-750 mm	
GEOLOGY	Quaternary sands and clays	
TOPOGRAPHY		
Land form	Drained lagoon floors	
Position	Lunettes	Lagoon floors
Average Sideslope °	3	1
NATIVE VEGETATION		
Structure	Woodland	Open-sedgeland, open-tussock grassland
Association	White gum, black peppermint, silver wattle, she-oak	Rushes and tussock grass
SOIL		
	Pale yellow (2.5 Y 7/4) sand soil, uniform texture, organic surface	Black (5 YR 2.5/1) clay soil, uniform texture, passing into a grey soil at about 1.5 m
Surface Texture	Sand	Clay
Permeability	High	Low
Average Depth m	>2.0	
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing, nature conservation	
HAZARDS	Severe wind erosion	Low gully erosion and flooding