

482133

DELORAINÉ

Rolling low hills and plateaux formed on Tertiary basalt occur in the west of the Region. The largest area is between Deloraine and Westbury, with smaller areas near Hagley, Whitemore and Selbourne, and to the south of Westbury. Parts of this system have been previously described by Nicolls (1959).

The dominant soils are friable to slightly friable and have gradational profiles. Those on the upper plateaux and lower slopes are stony, with basalt

boulders and stones throughout the soil profile and on the surface. Lateritic soils on basalt are often found on the crests.

The open-forest and woodland vegetation is predominantly white gum, black peppermint and silver wattle.

Most of the area has been cleared and is used for grazing and cropping. The crops include vegetables, cereals, oil poppies and forage crops. Much of the area has been sown to improved pasture.

The major hazards are sheet and gully erosion and slumping. Slumping has occurred on the scarps and steeper slopes in many areas.

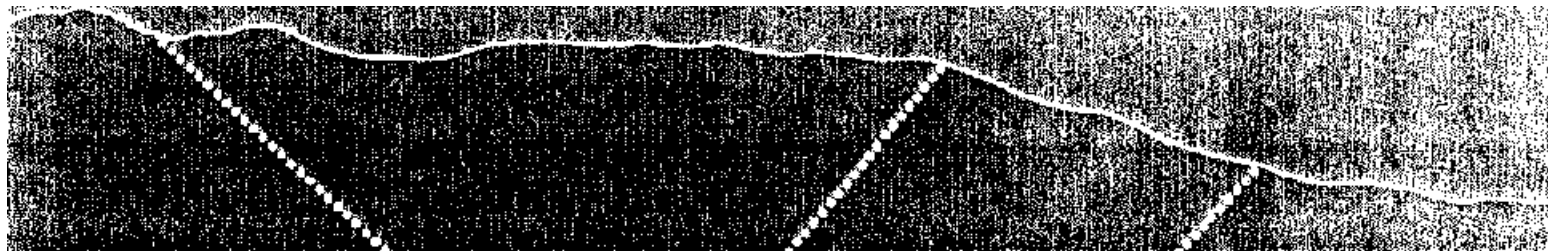


Lower slopes.

LAND SYSTEM

482133

Deloraine



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
PROPORTION %	10	50	20	20
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm			
GEOLOGY	Tertiary basalt			
TOPOGRAPHY	Rolling low hills and plateaux			
Land form	Crests and upper plateaux			
Position	Crests and upper plateaux		Scarps	Lower slopes
Average Sideslope °	3	2	5	2
NATIVE VEGETATION	Woodland			Open- forest
Structure	White gum, black peppermint, silver wattle			White gum, black peppermint, silver wattle, paperbark
Association	White gum, black peppermint, silver wattle			White gum, black peppermint, silver wattle, paperbark
SOIL	Yellowish red (5 YR 5/8) gradational soil	Stony, friable reddish brown (5 YR 5/4) gradational soil	Friable red (2.5 YR 4/6) gradational soil, fine structure	Stony dark reddish brown (5 YR 3/4) gradational soil
Surface Texture	Clay loam			
Permeability	Moderate			Low
Average Depth m	0.8	1.4	1.0	1.8
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing, cropping, nature conservation			
HAZARDS	High sheet erosion	Moderate sheet erosion	High sheet erosion and slumping	Low sheet and gully erosion