

# 495121

## HOMESTEAD

Broad low crests and alternating swales characterise this small area of undulating plain which lies on the north-west tip of the Region. A slightly higher central ridge, oriented north-south, was formed by sand covering a former outcrop of Precambrian rocks.

The soils are generally sandy. On the rises are pale yellow, undifferentiated sands containing shell fragments. In the depressions are brown sandy clays while strong brown sands occur along the central ridge. In a few instances a layer of yellowish red clay occurs in the profile. The sequence in these cases is a surface layer of brownish sand overlying the clay, which abruptly changes

to a very pale brown calcareous sand at about 0.8 m depth. In one profile the calcareous sand forms a cemented pan. This sequence compares with the 'Pellree sandy loam' described by Hubble (1951).

An open forest of mainly white gum and Smithton peppermint occurs on the low sandy rises. Along the central ridge is a closed scrub dominated by the same two species, while paperbark dominates the closed scrub occurring in the swales.

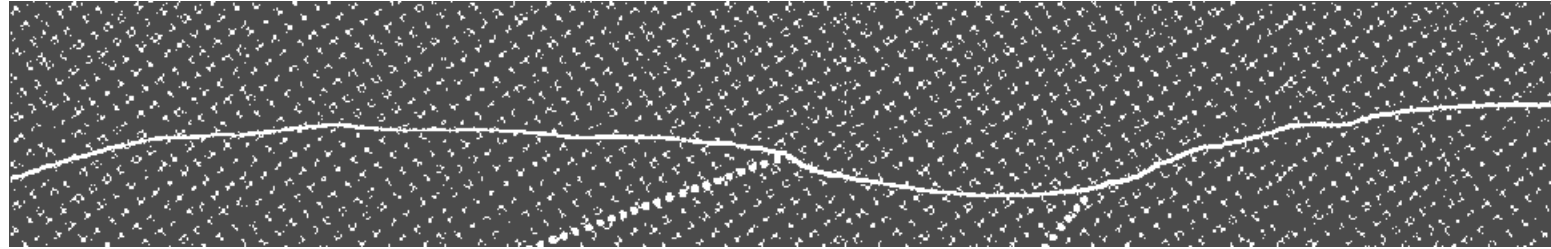
Most of Homestead land system has been cleared for grazing and areas still remaining under timber have been more or less altered since white settlement.

The main hazard confronting land development is wind erosion.

**LAND SYSTEM**

495121

Homestead



COMPONENT	1	2	3
PROPORTION %	50	20	30
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm		
GEOLOGY	Quaternary calcareous sand deposits		
TOPOGRAPHY			
Land form		Undulating plain	
Position	Low rises	Depressions	Higher rises
Average Sideslope °	2	1	4
NATIVE VEGETATION			
Structure	Open forest	Closed scrub	
Association	White gum Smithton peppermint, blackwood, Australian blackthorn bracken	Paperbark, Australian blackthorn, swamp gum	White gum, Smithton peppermint, Australian blackthorn, prickly mimosa, paperbark, honeysuckle
SOIL	Pale yellow (2 5 Y 7/4) calcareous sand soil, uniform texture	Gravelly, brown (10 YR 4/3) fine sandy clay soil, uniform texture	Strong brown (7 5 YR 5/6) sand soil, uniform texture, scattered rock outcrop
Surface Texture	Loamy sand	Fine sandy clay loam	Loamy sand
Permeability		High	
Average Depth m	1 4	1 1 +	1 0
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing		
HAZARDS	High wind, low rill erosion		