

# 582132

## MARRAWAH

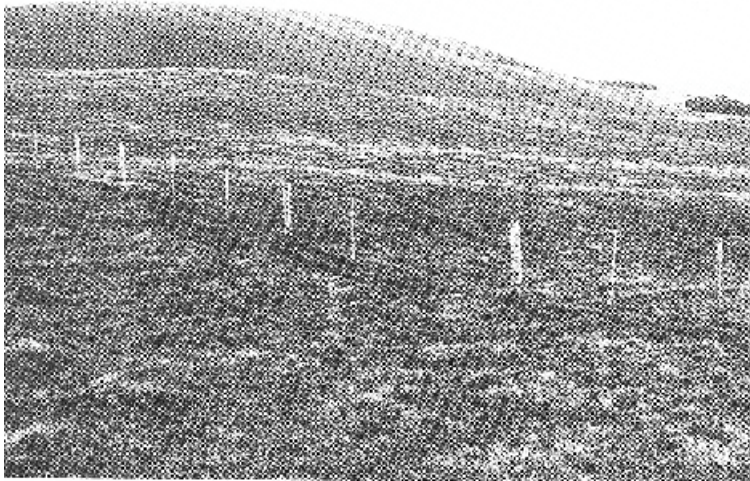
Around Marrawah and Redpa on the west coast is an area of low hills developed on Tertiary basalt.

As with most basaltic soils in the Region, profiles found at Marrawah are deep, well drained and are mostly reddish in colour. However, soils on the lower slopes have been modified by the presence of sand, probably derived from siliceous material found in the surrounding land systems. In an area still under native timber, 0.8 m of grey sand was found overlying a dark yellowish brown (10 Y 4/4) hard pan.

Extensive clearing by white settlers makes it difficult to determine exactly what the natural vegetation was like. Stringybark probably dominated forests over most of the system, with dogwood and blackwood as prominent members of the understorey. Remnants of vegetation on the very gentle footslopes and poorly drained creek flats suggest that swamp gum was important there and a closed understorey probably comprised mainly paperbark.

Marrawah land system has been mainly cleared and converted to improved pastures for grazing.

The principal hazards are soil erosion on the sandy soils and upper slopes and waterlogging on the creek flats.



*Typical view of Marrawah land system*

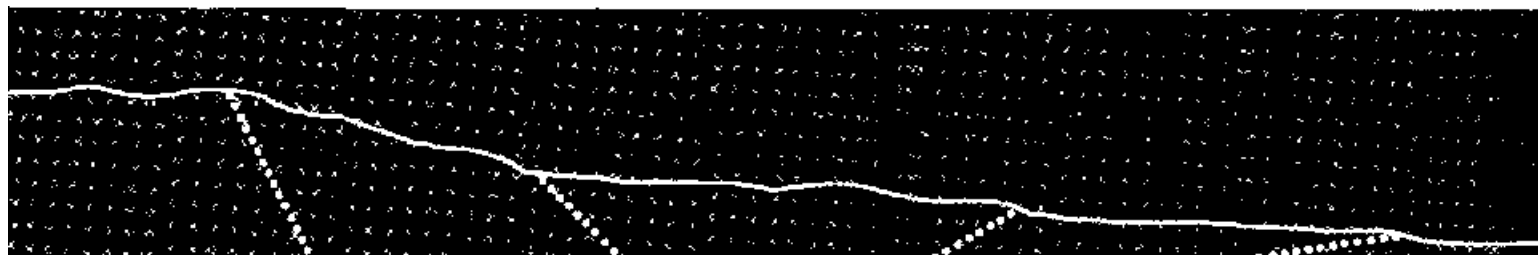


*Shallow stony soils found on the crests.*

**LAND SYSTEM**

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Marrawah



COMPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
PROPORTION %	15	20	30	25	10
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 000-1 250 mm				
GEOLOGY	Tertiary basalt				
TOPOGRAPHY					
Land form			Low hills		
Position	Crests	Upper slopes	Midslopes	Very gentle footslopes	Creek flats
Average Sideslope °	2	5	3	1	0
NATIVE VEGETATION	Closed forest				
Structure	Stringybark, dogwood, blackwood				
Association	Swamp gum, paperbark, blackwood				
SOIL	Stony, dark reddish brown (2 5YR3/4) gradational soil	Gravelly, yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) gradational soil	Yellowish red (5 YR 4/6) fine sandy gradational soil	Yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6) gradational soil, sandy at depth	Light olive brown (2 5 Y 5/4 ) gradational soil
Surface Texture	Clay loam		Fine sandy loam	Clay loam	
Permeability	Moderate		High	Moderate	Low
Average Depth m	0.5		>2.0		1.1
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing				
HAZARDS	Low sheet erosion	Moderate sheet erosion	Moderate rill erosion	Low sheet erosion	High waterlogging