593121

RUBICON RIVER

Associated with the Rubicon and Meander Rivers, Franklin Rivulet and many small tributaries of these major streams, is an area of undulating plains formed on Quaternary clays, sands and gravels. The major occurrence of the system is in the Deloraine-Elizabeth Town-Parkham area. Extremely wet areas (e.g. The Avenue Plains) are common and many areas are frequently flooded.

The relatively deep soils are generally less than 10 metres above local stream level. Mottled duplex soils on the upper and lower terraces give way to a clay soil on the present flood-plains. Ironstone or quartz gravel is often scattered throughout the soil profiles on the lower terrace. Yellow mottlings are evident at depth in some profiles on the flood-plains. Some of the soils in this system have been previously described by Nicolls (1959).

Vegetation on the upper and lower terraces is dominated by white gum, stringybark and black peppermint, while on the flood-plains the main species are swamp gum and paperbark.

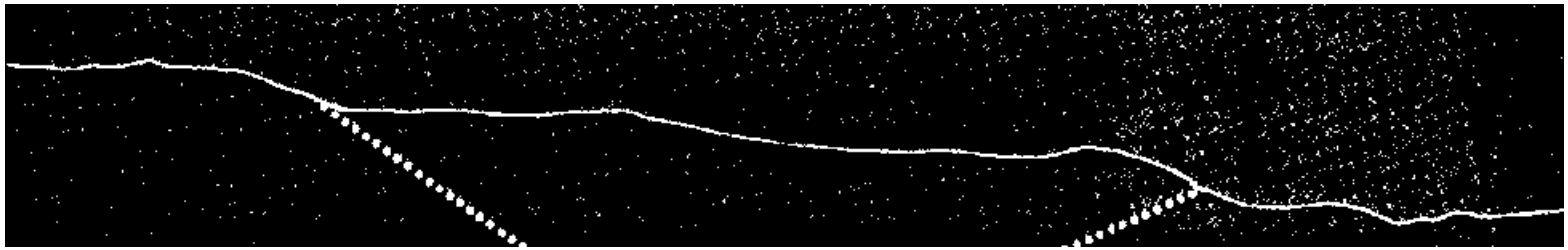
Land use is limited by the flat and often wet topography, with most of the area used for grazing or cropping. Small areas remain undeveloped.

Sheet erosion, streambank erosion, waterlogging and flooding are the principal hazards.

LAND SYSTEM

593121

Rubicon River



COMPONENT	1	2	3
PROPORTION %	20	55	25
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 000-1 250 mm		
GEOLOGY	Quaternary clays, sands and gravels		
TOPOGRAPHY Land form		Undulating plains	
Position	Upper terrace	Lower terrace	Present flood-plains
Average Sideslope °	2	2	1
NATIVE VEGETATION			
Structure	Woodland		Open-woodland
Association	White gum, stringybark, silver wattle, blackwood, bracken fern	White gum, black peppermint, silver wattle, manuka	Swamp gum, silver wattle, blackwood, paperbark
SOIL	Mottled yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6) greyish brown (10 YR 5/2) duplex soil	Mottled light brownish grey (10 YR 6/2) dark yellowish brown (10 YR 4/6) duplex soil	Dark greyish brown (10 YR 4/2) clay soil, uniform texture
Surface Texture	Sandy loam		Light clay
Permeability	Moderate		Low
Average Depth m	1.6	1.9	>2.0
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing, cropping		
HAZARDS	Low to moderate sheet erosion		Streambank erosion, waterlogging and flooding