

# 653341

## ALBERTON

Country characterised by steep and deeply dissected hills formed on sandstone-mudstone deposits is found near Mt Saddleback in the south-east of the Region between Alberton and Mathinna. It is traversed by the South Esk River and many small creeks.

Duplex and stony duplex soils have developed on the three upper components. Mottled gradational soils have developed on both the lower slopes and gentle lower slopes. The soil surface on all

components is generally shallow, and in some cases has been completely removed by erosion.

Gum-topped stringybark, stringybark and stringy gum dominate the tall open-forest vegetation on components 1 and 2. The open-forest on the remainder of the system is predominantly white gum, stringybark and black peppermint. Rain-forest species are common on gentle slopes and in sheltered gullies.

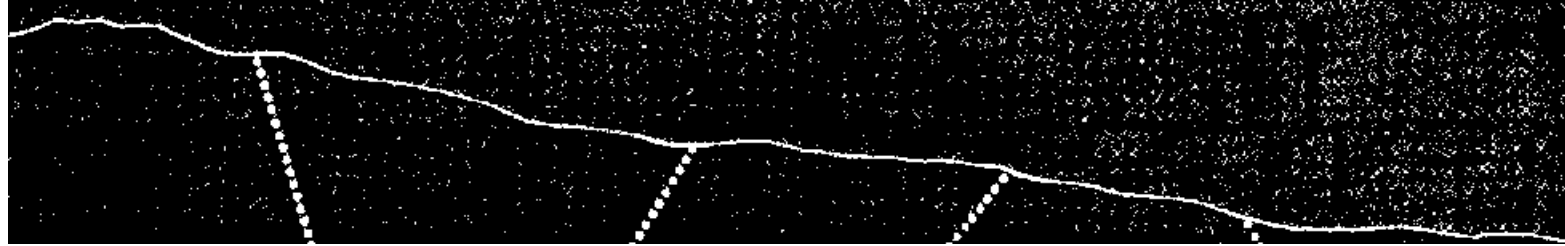
Forestry is the major land use, although considerable areas remain undeveloped.

These sandy soils are particularly susceptible to sheet, gully and rill erosion.

**LAND SYSTEM**

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COMPONENT	1	2	3	4	5
PROPORTION %	15	30	20	15	20
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 1 250-1 500 mm				
GEOLOGY	Lower Devonian— Tremadocian— Cambrian (Mathinna Beds) sandstone— mudstone sequence				
TOPOGRAPHY					
Land form			Rolling hills		
Position	Upper slopes	Steep upper slopes	Mid slopes	Lower slopes	Gentle lower slopes
Average Sideslope °	7	18	8	10	4
NATIVE VEGETATION	Tall open-forest			Open-forest	
Structure	Tall open-forest			Open-forest	
Association	Gum-topped stringybark, stringybark, stringy gum, <i>Bedfordia salicina</i> , <i>Olearia argophylla</i> bracken fern	Gum-topped stringybark, stringybark, <i>Olearia argophylla</i> , <i>Bedfordia salicina</i>	White gum, black peppermint, stringybark, native hop, heath, bracken fern	Stringybark, white gum, black peppermint, prickly box, bracken fern	Stringy gum, stringy-bark, myrtle, sassafras, dogwood, <i>Bedfordia salicina</i> , bracken fern
SOIL	Stony, red (2.5 YR 4/8) duplex soil	Stony, yellowish red (5 YR 5/8) duplex soil	Strong brown (7.5 YR 5/8) duplex soil	Mottled brownish yellow (10 YR 6/8) grey (10 YR 5/1) gradational soil	Mottled grey (10 YR 6/1) yellowish brown (10 YR 5/6) gradational soil
Surface Texture	Loamy sand		Sandy loam	Sandy clay loam	
Permeability			Moderate		
Average Depth m	1.2	1.0		1.2	
PRESENT LAND USE	Forestry, nature conservation, grazing				
HAZARDS	High sheet and rill erosion		Moderate rill and gully erosion		