LAND UNIT 2.05

Calcareous Rises

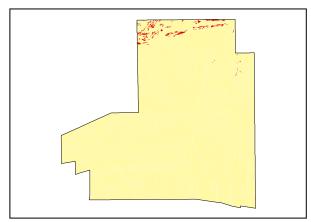
DESCRIPTION: Loose calcareous concretions overlying amphibolite rich Charles River Gneiss with sparse

Shrubs over perennial grasses.

SITES: 002, 005, 007, **008**



Distribution of land unit.



Area = 2.35 km^2 , 0.72% of mapped area.

LAND CAPABILITY:

ATTRIBUTES		
SLOPE (%)	10	
RELIEF (m)	30	
SOIL DEPTH (m)	0.25	
SURFACE CONDITION	Loose	
DEPTH TO SUBSTRATE (m)	0.25	
REACTION TREND (pH)	7.5 to 9.5	
OUTCROP (%)	20	
RUNOFF	Rapid	
PERMEABILITY	Highly permeable	
DRAINAGE	Rapidly drained	
SALINITY (μs/cm)	76.5 to 94.0	

DEVELOPMENT RISKS		
EROSION	Slight	
ROCK FALL	None	
SHEET FLOODING	Slight	
INUNDATION	None	
SALINITY	None	
ALKALINITY	Severe	
ACIDITY	None	

		CAPA	BILITY CLASS		
Formed Roads	Shallow excavations	Septic Disposal	Horticulture	Building Foundations	Landscaping
Good	Very Poor	Very Poor	Very Poor	Fair	Very Poor

Rises

TECHNICAL DETAILS

LAND UNIT 2.05

DESCRIPTION: Low rises with loose calcareous concretions overlying amphibolite rich Charles River Gneiss

supporting sparse shrubs over perennial grasses.

GEOLOGY: Calcrete nodules with calcrete concretions overlying amphibolite rich, early Proterozoic,

Charles River Gneiss.

LANDFORM: Undulating rises and occasional ridges up to 30m wide with slopes of 10% and a general

relief of 20m. This land unit forms a calcareous capping on areas close to and overlying outcrop of Charles River Gneiss. These perched areas show calcium carbonate haloes around detrital, unaltered amphibole fragments. A process of chemical leaching of calcium from the original amphibole minerals (actinolite or tremolite) may explain the coating effect. Runoff and permeability appear to be moderately rapid and the unit appears to be well drained. Carbonate is disseminated throughout the amphibolite substrate rock matrix.

SOIL: Example from Site 007.

MGA. Coords: 7385679mN, 380812mE

Surface soil showed minor root or organic material distribution and appeared to be restricted

to spaces between loose and substrate material.

CLASSIFICATION: Red-brown calcareous soils. Calcarosols CA, FB, CZ, IC, A, H, L, U

SURFACE: 50% 20-60mm angular tabular calcareous fragments as float within areas of about 20%

amphibole rich gneiss outcrop.

DEPTH	HORIZON	TEXTURE	рН	SALINITY	OTHER DETAILS
(m)				(μs/cm)	
0.00 - 0.01	A1k	Sandy loam (SL)	7.5	76.5	Dark brown (7.5YR3/3). 25% 2-6mm angular calcrete concretions. 5% 6-20mm angular gneiss fragments with thin calcareous skin. Moderate effervescence.
0.01 - 0.25	A2k	Sandy loam (SL)	9.5	94.0	Light brown (7.5YR6/4). 25% 2-6mm angular calcrete concretions. Very effervescent.

VEGETATION: Site 264 (Albrecht, D. and Pitts, B. 1999).

UPPER STRATUM - Absent			
Dominant species			
Other species			
MID STRATUM - Isola	MID STRATUM - Isolated clump of shrubs		
Dominant species			
Other species	Acacia bivenosa, Desert Poplar, Cyperus centralis,		
LOWER STRATUM - Sparse tussock grassland			
Dominant species	Desert Chinese Lantern, Dolomite Daisy, Oat Grass.		
Other species	Curly Pod Wattle, Acacia Bush, Bullockbush, Common Joyweed, Boerhavia repleta, Wild Turnip, Buffel Grass, Spreading Sneezeweed, Desert Sneezeweed, Rock Fern, Perennial Sunray, Australian Hounds Tooth, Hopbush, Hopbush, Oatgrass, <i>Euphorbia centralis</i> , Smooth Heliotrope, Slender Sunray, Fire Sida, Goosefoot Potato Bush, Rock Nightshade, Stipa centralis, Wertabona Daisy, <i>Tephrosia supina</i> , Peach-leaved Poison Bush.		

(See Appendix 3 for botanical names)