

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

East Gippsland Uplands bioregion

EVC 22: Grassy Dry Forest

Description:

Occurs on a variety of gradients and altitudes and on a range of geologies. The overstorey is dominated by a low to medium height forest of eucalypts to 20 m tall, sometimes resembling an open woodland with a secondary, smaller tree layer including a number of Acacia species. The understorey usually consists of a sparse shrub layer of medium height. Grassy Dry Forest is characterised by a ground layer dominated by a high diversity of drought-tolerant grasses and herbs, often including a suite of fern species.

Large trees:

Species	DBH(cm)	#/ha
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	60 cm	20 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
30%	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> ssp. <i>pseudoglobulus</i>	Gippsland Blue Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus bridgesiana</i>	But But
	<i>Eucalyptus consideriana</i>	Yertchuk
	<i>Eucalyptus mannifera</i>	Brittle Gum
	<i>Eucalyptus nortonii</i>	Silver Bundy

Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	1	10%	T
Medium Shrub	7	20%	MS
Small Shrub	3	5%	SS
Prostrate Shrub	1	5%	PS
Large Herb	3	1%	LH
Medium Herb	11	20%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	2	1%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	2	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	1	5%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	6	25%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MNG
Ground Fern	2	5%	GF
Scrambler or Climber	3	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL
Soil Crust	na	10%	S/C

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LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
T	<i>Acacia falciformis</i>	Large-leaf Hickory-wattle
MS	<i>Cassinia longifolia</i>	Shiny Cassinia
MS	<i>Pultenaea juniperina</i> s.l.	Prickly Bush-pea
MS	<i>Leucopogon lanceolatus</i> var. <i>lanceolatus</i>	Lance Beard-heath
MS	<i>Indigofera australis</i>	Austral Indigo
SS	<i>Hibbertia obtusifolia</i>	Grey Guinea-flower
PS	<i>Acrotriche serrulata</i>	Honey-pots
PS	<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Cranberry Heath
MH	<i>Viola hederacea</i> sensu Willis (1972)	Ivy-leaf Violet
MH	<i>Hypericum gramineum</i>	Small St John's Wort
MH	<i>Lagenophora stipitata</i>	Common Bottle-daisy
MH	<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort
SH	<i>Hydrocotyle laxiflora</i>	Stinking Pennywort
SH	<i>Opercularia varia</i>	Variable Stinkweed
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge
MTG	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass
MTG	<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	Grey Tussock-grass
MTG	<i>Dianella revoluta</i> s.l.	Black-anther Flax-lily
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken
SC	<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Common Apple-berry
SC	<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis
SC	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

20 % cover

Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
LH	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	high	high
LH	<i>Conyza albida</i>	Tall Fleabane	high	low
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MH	<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	high	low
MNG	<i>Aira caryophylla</i>	Silvery Hair-grass	high	low

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