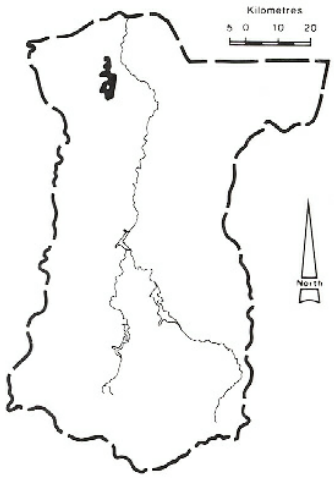
2.14 PgG1 PLAINS – gently undulating, GRANITIC, type 1



A gently sloping fan of granitic alluvium-colluvium occurs to the north-east of Mount Korong. It is bordered by the granitic slopes of Mount Korong to the west, and merges with the level plain of the Loddon River to the east. Occasional shallow, of an incomplete veneer of granitic colluvium over the underlying material. The soils are typically duplex, with subsoils varying in colour from red and whole-coloured to yellow-grey and mottled. Most of the vegetation has been largely cleared, with only *E. microcarpa* occurring as remnants along roadsides. Cropping and grazing are the major land uses.

Geology Qs – Quaternary alluvium

Rainfall 400-450 mm per annum

Slope Average 1%; range 0-2%

Dominant landform element (95%) Slope

Minor landform elements (5%) Closed depression, drainage depression, broad crest

Soils Dominant: Dr2.23, Dy4.32. Duplex soils, with whole-coloured red or mottled yellow-grey clay to sandy clay subsoils, predominate; the topsoils, often deep and sandy, usually contain a pale or occasionally bleached A_2 horizon; subsoils are neutral to alkaline

Minor: Ug5.2. Grey cracking soils with neutral to alkaline subsoils in small closed depressions within the plain

Native vegetation The few remaining trees are dominated by *E. microcarpa*, with the occasional *E. largiflorens* on cracking clay soils in the closed depressions; *Muehlenbeckia cunninghamii* frequently borders these depressions

Stone-rock outcrop Nil

Pans Weakly cemented sandy hardpans often occur at a depth of approximately 0.5 m

Land use Predominantly grazing on introduced pastures, with occasional cereal cropping

Observed land deterioration Generally slight, although some gully erosion does occur in the shallow drainage depressions

Susceptibility to land deterioration
Wind erosion of the sandy topsoils (moderate)
Gully erosion (low to moderate)
Salting (low to moderate in the shallow depression)
Waterlogging (low to moderate – shallow depressions)

This gently undulating plain occurs on granitic material derived from nearby granitic slopes. The granitic prominence of Mount Korong rises in the distance.