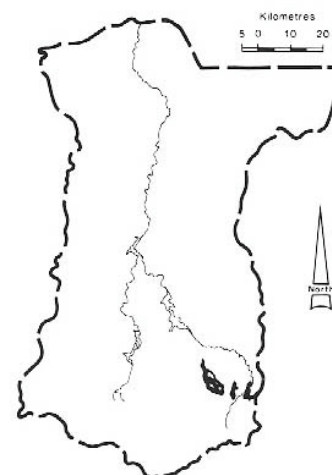


## 2.20 RgB2 RISES – gently undulating, BASALTIC, type 2

The unit covers basaltic rises in the higher-rainfall areas to the north and east of Daylesford. Unlike the nearby unit RgB1 which has deeper red soils and a common land use of cropping, it has shallower and frequently stony soils, and cropping is only a minor land use. The unit covers three main areas – to the north and west of Mount Franklin, north of Holcombe Hill and an area to the north of Glenlyon. The soils are usually red, and often stony and shallow in the more dissected areas, but those of the northern end of the Mount Franklin flow are brown.



**Geology** Qvn – Quaternary olivine basalt

**Rainfall** 600-900 mm per annum

**Slope Average** 2%; range 0-10%, rarely up to 50%

**Dominant landform element** (80%) Gentle slope, gentle crest

**Minor landform elements** (20%) Volcanic, scarp plain, drainage depression, rocky rise, scarp footslope

**Soils** Dominant: Gn3.11, Gn3.22. Stony red, or less commonly brown, gradational soils in all landscape positions – frequently shallow, with numerous fragments of basalt throughout; only in flatter areas, such as limited area to the north of Holcombe Hill or on the colluvial slopes near Mount Franklin, do they become deep enough for cropping: these soils are well drained, well structured, and usually acidic throughout

**Native vegetation** Mostly cleared, but *E. camaldulensis* grows in the creeks near Yandoit while, further south, *E. viminalis*, *E. obliqua* and *Acacia melanoxylon* occasionally occur

**Stone-rock outcrop** Average 2%; range 0-10%

**Pans** Nil or not observed

**Land use** Mostly grazing on improved pastures, with crops including oats, barely, rape and potatoes a minor land use in flatter areas with deeper soils; soil conditions such as shallowness and stoniness frequently limit productivity

**Observed land deterioration** Very little observed; soil deterioration consists largely of compaction of the loam-silty loam topsoils, and minor sheet erosion of the scarps and steeper slopes

Susceptibility to land deterioration

Compaction (moderate)

Sheet erosion (low)



*The presence of rock at or near the surface restricts land use in most areas to grazing.*