

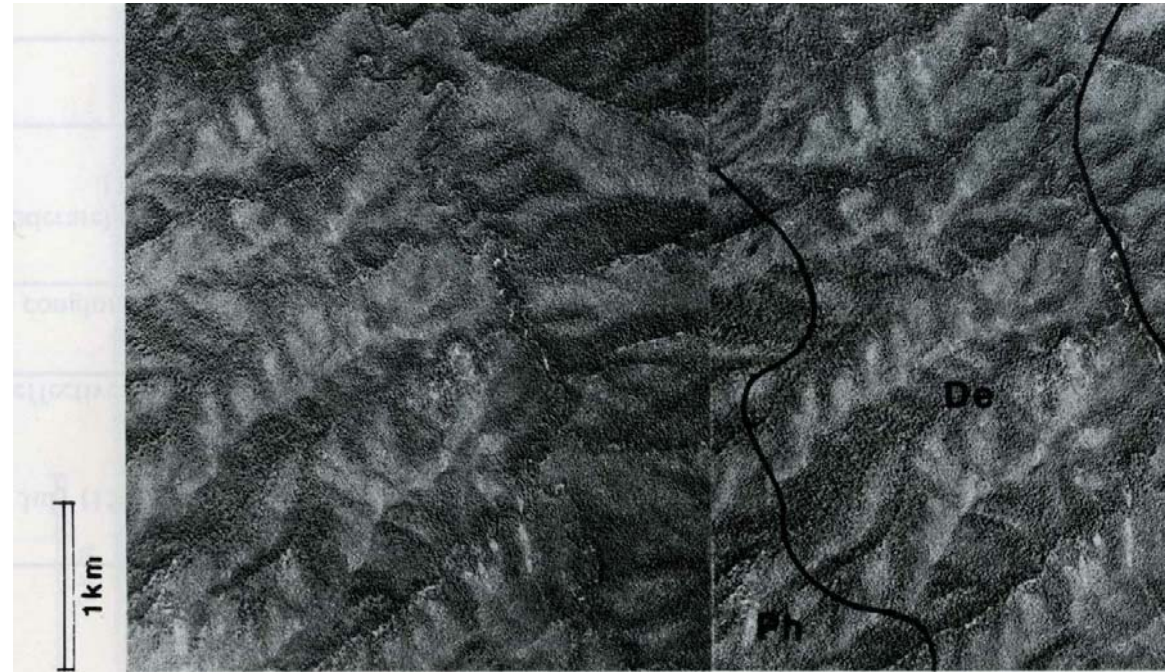
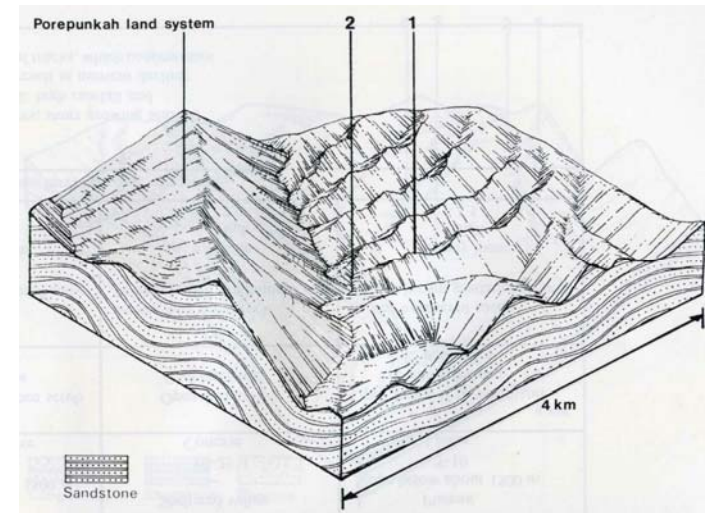
7.7 Dandongadale land system

The main occurrences of this land system are in the middle reach of the Dandongadale River valley and in the adjacent Rose River valley. It consists of low ridge and spur topography with gently sloping valley bottoms. The rock type is predominantly ordovician sediments, but colluvium from the adjacent Carboniferous sedimentary rock of the Mount Warrick and Mount Cobbler escarpments is also present. Annual rainfall is high, and warm summers and cool to cold winters can be expected.

The soils are mainly reddish brown gradational soils with rough ped fabric.

In the native vegetation of open forest, *Eucalyptus radiata* is dominant in the moister areas of *E. dives* in the drier. Other species present are *E. rubida*, *E. viminalis* and *E. st-johnii* and occasionally small patches of *E. obliqua* in the south.

The Dandongadale valley area still carries native forest, which grazed. Much of the Rose valley area of the land system is cleared for pasture. A moderate erosion risk exists. Compaction of surface soils – such as that caused by intensive grazing or excessive vehicular trafficking – would increase surface run-off, which could gully the drainage lines.



DANDONGADALE LAND SYSTEM Area 26 sq km

CLIMATE Rainfall, mean (mm) Temperature, mean (°C) Seasonal growth limitations	Annual Annual Temperature – less than 10°C (av): Precipitation – months less than 50% frequency of effective rain: January - February	
GEOLOGY Age, lithology	Ordovician greywacke, sandstone, siltstone, shale, mudstone	
PHYSIOGRAPHY Landscape Elevation range (m) Relative relief (m)	Low hills and shallow valleys 450-600 80	
LAND COMPONENT Percentage of land system	1 40	2 60
PHYSIOGRAPHY Land form Position on land form Slope range (%) Slope shape	Hill (ridge and spur) - 10-25 Convex-linear	Valley - 5-10 Concave
NATIVE VEGETATION Structure Dominant species	Open forest II <i>E. dives, E. rubida</i>	Open forest II <i>E. radiata, E. rubida, E. st-johnii, E. dives</i>
SOIL Parent material Description Surface texture Permeability Depth (m)	Colluvial mantle over bedrock Friable brown gradational soils Gravelly loam High 1.0	Colluvial mantle and <i>in situ</i> weathered bedrock Reddish brown gradational soils with rough ped fabric Loam High 2.0
LAND USE	Mostly uncleared: limited timber production; forest grazing Cleared areas: grazing beef cattle	
SOIL DETERIORATION HAZARD Critical land features, processes, forms	Soils on intensive-use areas become compacted and produce high surface run-off: track erosion	