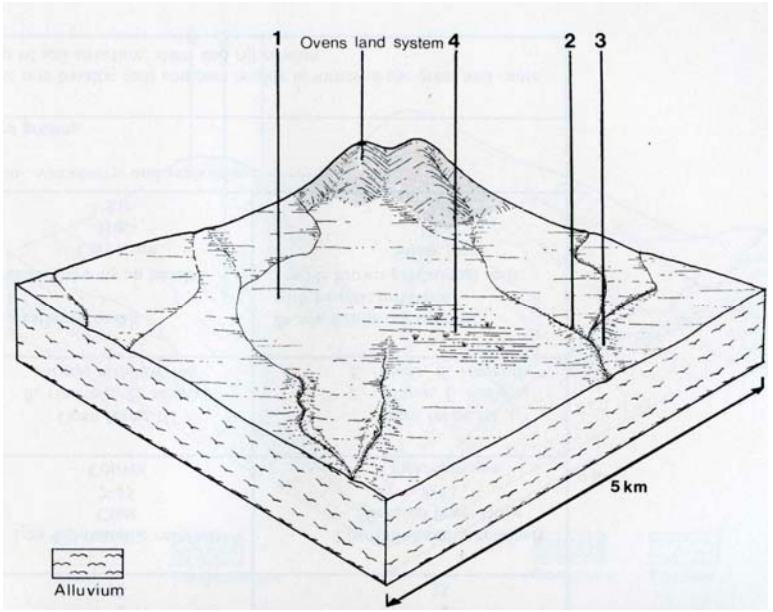
7.15 Moyhu land system

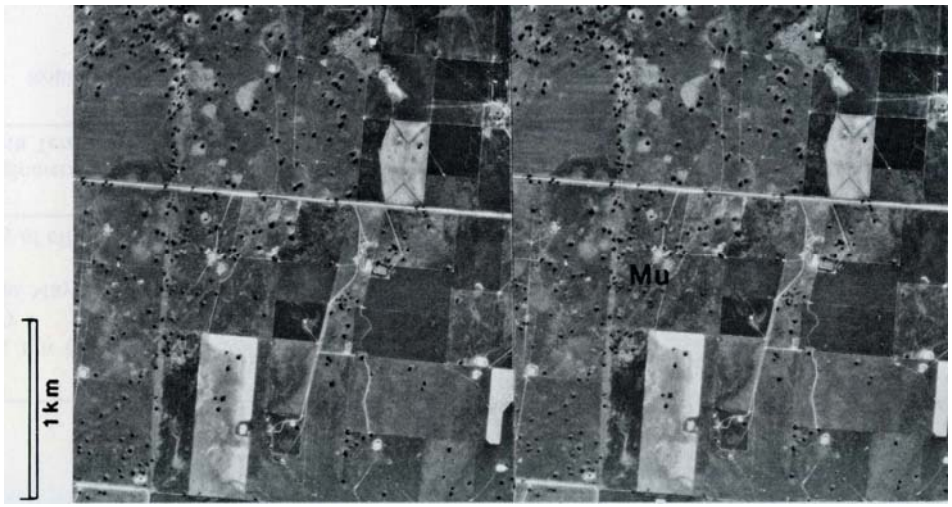
Despite a wide distribution to the north of the study area, the Moyhu land system only extends into the study area to a limited extent on either side of the King River near Moyhu. Its description in this report should not be taken as definitive, as the area to the north has not been systematically studied. It consists of an alluvial plain with a Dendritic drainage pattern within the study area, although further north it become deranged where permanently swampy areas occur. Small levees of abandoned streams occur on the plain. Annual rainfall is moderate; summers are hot and dry and winters cool and wet. Frosts are common from autumn through to spring.

Yellowish brown duplex soils are the most characteristic, with weakly bleached yellowish brown gradational soils in drainage depressions. The sandy levees carry reddish brown gradational soils on alluvium.

The vegetation is now substantially altered because of development for agriculture, mainly grazing. Remnants indicate that it was a woodland of *Eucalyptus blakelyi* and *E. microcarpa*.

The gentle slopes result in low erosion potential, except where the land system rises to meet steeper areas in the south or where there is a well-entrenched drainage. Lack of drainage, however, is a more common problem.





MOYHU LAND SYSTEM Area 13 sq km

CLIMATE				
Rainfall, mean (mm)	Annual 700; lowest January (45), highest June (110)			
Temperature, mean (^{o}C)	Annual 14; lowest July (7.5), highest January (21)			
Seasonal growth limitations	Temperature – less than 10^{o}C (av): June-August Precipitation – months less than 50% frequency of effective rain: December-January			
GEOLOGY				
Age, lithology	Quaternary alluvium			
PHYSIOGRAPHY				
Landscape	Gently sloping plain			
Elevation range (m)	180-200			
Relative relief (m)	5			
LAND COMPONENT	1	2	3	4
Percentage of land system	90	6	2	2
PHYSIOGRAPHY				
Land form	Plain	Drainage line	Levee	Depression
Position on land form	-	-	-	-
Slope range (%)	2-5	2	5	<1
Slope shape	Linear	Concave	Convex	Linear
NATIVE VEGETATION				
Structure	Woodland	Woodland	Woodland	Woodland
Dominant species	*E. blakelyi, E. microcarpa*	*E. blakelyi, E. microcarpa*	*E. melliodora*	*E. camaldulensis*
SOIL				
Parent material	Alluvium	Alluvium	Alluvium	Alluvium
Description	Yellowish brown duplex soils	Weakly bleached yellowish brown gradational soils	Reddish brown gradational soils on alluvium	Dark clay soils
Surface texture	Loam	Sandy loam	Sandy loam	Clay
Permeability	Low	Moderate	High	Low
Depth (m)	>2.0	>2.0	2.0	>2.0
LAND USE	Cleared; grazing, cattle and sheep			
SOIL DETERIORATION HAZARD				
Critical land features, processes, forms	Hard-setting surface soils may result in high surface run-off; sheet erosion	Hard-setting surface soils may result in high surface run-off; gully erosion	Hard-setting surface soils may result in high surface run-off	Excessive wetness in winter; expansive clays