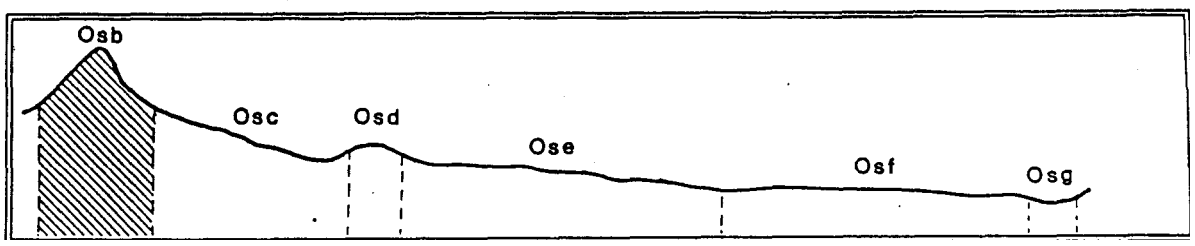
Map Unit:	ORDOVICIAN SEDIMENTS, STEEP SLOPES	Map Unit Symbol: Osb



General Description:

This map unit occurs as a ridge of metamorphosed sediments in the north-east of the Shire. Shallow stoney gradational soils are predominant, but very shallow stoney loams and outcrops of bed-rock are common. The very narrow ridgeline has not been mapped separately from the steep slopes because of limitations of scale. Soils and vegetation are essentially the same, only the slope and the capability of slope-related land uses are different. The majority of the map unit remains uncleared and the fire hazard during the summer-autumn period is extreme.

Site characteristics: **Site No. 28**

Parent material **Age:** **Lithology:**	Ordovician sediments	**Depth seasonal watertable:**	> 2 m
Landform **Pattern:** **Element:**	 Rolling hills Steep slopes	**Potential recharge to groundwater:**	Very high
Slope **common:** **range:**	 35% 32 – 42%	**Flooding risk:**	Nil
Rock outcrop:	< 2%	**Drainage:**	Very well drained
		Depth to hardrock:	0.5 m
		Proportion of Shire:	1.6%

Native vegetation: Red Stringybark, Red Box, Long-leaf Box, Grey Box
Present land use: Native forest (major), grazing (native pastures) minor

Land degradation:	Water erosion		Wind	Salting	Acidification
	Sheet/rill	Gully			
Susceptibility	Very high	Very low	High	Very low	Moderate
Incidence	Low	Nil	Low	Nil	Low

Soil profile characteristics:

Permeability (measured - average, range): (estimated):	- Excessive
Available water capacity:	110 mm H_2O
Linear Shrinkage (B horizon):	Low (estimate)

Soil profile description:

A_1	0-10 cm	Dark brown (7.5YR 3/2) loam fine sandy, weak subangular blocky structure 5 mm, rough fabric, very weak consistence, pH 5.0. Abrupt transition to
A_2	10-28 cm	Light reddish brown (5YR 6/4) loam, weak subangular blocky structure 2 mm, rough fabric, very weak consistence, many sandstone fragments, pH 5.0. Gradual transition to
B_1	28-52 cm	Reddish brown (5YR 4/2) light sandy clay loam, apedal massive, very weak consistence, many sandstone fragments, pH 3.5. Clear transition to
B_2	52-65 cm	Reddish brown (5YR 5/4) sandy clay loam, moderate angular blocky structure 8 mm, smooth fabric, weak consistence, many sandstone fragments, pH 6.0. Clear transition to
C	65 + cm	Parent material, rock

Soil classification:

Factual Key (Northcote): Gn 3.94
Australian Soil Classification: Acidic, Dystrophic, Grey, Dermosol, moderate thin, loamy, gravelly
Unified Soil Group: NA

Interpretation of soil analyses*

Horizon	pH	Gravel	E.C.	Nutrient status	P	K	Al	Org. matter	Dispersibility
A_1	5.0**	15	VL	M	D	S	T	H	L
A_2	5.0**	10	VL	VL	D	D	T	L	L
B_1	3.5**	8	VL	VL	D	S	T	L	L
B_2	6.0	8	VL	VL	D	S	S	L	L

VL : Very Low L : Low M : Moderate H: High VH : Very High
D: Deficient S: Satisfactory T: Toxic ** Acid NA : Not available

Land capability assessment

Land use	Class	Major limiting feature (s)
Agriculture (CTS values)	$C_3T_5S_5$	Very steep slopes, very high susceptibility to sheet/rill erosion
Effluent disposal (septic tanks)	5	Very steep slopes
Farm dams (earthen)	5	Steep slopes, excessive permeability, shallow depth to hardrock and depth of clay layer
Building foundations * slab * stumps/footings	 5 4	 Very steep slopes Moderately steep slopes