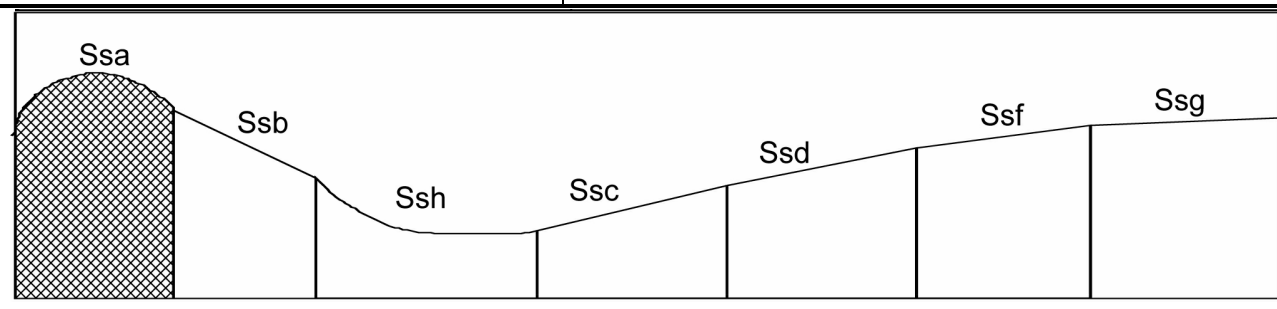


**MAP UNIT SYMBOL: Ssa**

Area: 6 63 ha

**MAP UNIT: Silurian sediments, steep crest**



**A. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

The ridges, steep and gentle crests have similar soil types, therefore they have all been included in this component. The smaller crests have not been mapped. The topsoil is often light textured with up to 50% gravel content. The common soil type is a mottled yellow duplex with no A2 horizon present, or if present is not bleached. The soil is strongly acidic, potentially toxic in aluminium and has a very low nutrient status. Although rock outcrops occur, the soils are still quite developed, therefore the potential recharge to groundwater is moderate.

**SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

<b>Parent Material Age:</b>	Silurian/Ordovician	<b>Depth to Seas. Watertable:</b>	>5.0 m
<b>Parent Material Lithology:</b>	Sedimentary	<b>Flooding Risk:</b>	Nil
<b>Landform Pattern:</b>	Rolling hills	<b>Drainage:</b>	Well drained
<b>Landform Element:</b>	Hillcrest	<b>Rock Outcrop:</b>	10-40% (variable)
<b>Slope a) common:</b>	1%	<b>Depth to Hard Rock:</b>	>1.5 m (variable)
<b>Slope b) range:</b>	0-2%	<b>Present Land Use:</b>	Grazing

**Potential Recharge to Groundwater:** Moderate

**Major Native Vegetation Species:** Broad-leaved Peppermint, Long-leaved Peppermint, Narrow-leaved Peppermint, Long-leaved Box, Yellow Box, Messmate, Blackwood, Grey Box, Stringybark, Silver Wattle, Golden Wattle, Polo Grass, Kangaroo Grass

**LAND DEGRADATION**

Land Degradation	Water Erosion		Wind Erosion	Mass Movement	Salting	Acidification
	sheet/rill	gully				
<b>Susceptibility</b>	Very low	Moderate	Moderate	Very low	Very low	Low
<b>Incidence</b>	Low	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Not available

**B. SOIL PROFILE**

**PROFILE DESCRIPTION**

<b>A1</b>	0-125 mm	Very dark grey (10YR3/1) loam, apedal single grained, earthy fabric, many medium angular sedimentary fragments, pH 5.0. Clear transition to:
<b>A2</b>	125-220 mm	Light yellowish brown (10YR6/4) loam, moderate subangular blocky structure, peds 5-10 mm, rough fabric, moderately weak consistence, fine angular sedimentary gravel fragments are common, pH 5.0 Clear transition to:
<b>B21</b>	220-430 mm	Brownish yellow (10YR6/6) medium clay with coarse sand, strong subangular blocky structure, peds 5-10 mm, rough fabric, moderately firm consistence, a few organic segregations throughout, a few fine angular sedimentary gravel fragments, pH 5.5. Gradual transition to:
<b>B22</b>	430-740 mm	Brownish yellow (10YR6/6) medium clay with coarse sand, fine distinct red mottles are common, moderate subangular blocky structure, peds 10-20 mm, rough fabric, very firm consistence, a few organic segregations throughout, many medium angular sedimentary gravel fragments, pH 5.5. Diffuse transition to:

**B23** 740-860 mm Very pale brown (10YR7/3) medium clay with coarse sand, fine distinct red mottles are common, moderate subangular blocky structure, peds 5-10 mm, smooth fabric, moderately weak consistence, a few organic segregations throughout, many fine angular sedimentary fragments, pH 6.0. Diffuse transition to:

**BC** 860-1150 mm+ Partially weathered sedimentary rock.

**CLASSIFICATION**

**Factual Key:** Dy3.21, Dy3.11 (major)  
**Australian Soil Classification:** Mottled, Dystrophic, Yellow Kurosol; medium, moderately gravelly, loamy \ clayey, moderate  
**Unified Soil Group:** CL

**INTERPRETATION OF LABORATORY ANALYSIS\***

Horizon	pH (CaCl <sub>2</sub> )	% Gravel	E.C. (salts)	Nutrient Status	P	K	Al	Organic matter	Dispersibility
A1	3.6**	48.6	VL	VL	D	S	T	H	L
A2	4.0**	29.1	VL	VL	D	S	T	M	M
B21	4.1**	9.1	VL	VL	D	D	T	L	L
B22	4.0**	25.6	VL	VL	D	D	T	VL	L
B23	4.0**	33.5	VL	VL	D	D	T	VL	L

VL: Very Low L: Low M: Moderate H: High VH: Very High D: Deficient S: Satisfactory  
 T: Potentially Toxic NA: Not Available \* see appendix D for analytical results \*\* Strongly Acidic

**SOIL PROFILE CHARACTERISTICS:**

**Permeability:** Rapid (average 670 mm/day, range 580-760 mm/day)  
**Available Water Capacity:** Low (88 mm H<sub>2</sub>O)  
**Linear Shrinkage (B horizon):** Low (9 %)

**C. LAND CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT**

Land Use	Class	Major Limiting Feature(s)/Land Use
Agriculture	C <sub>2</sub> T <sub>2</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	Available water capacity, gravel content
Effluent Disposal (septic tanks)	2	
Farm Dams	4	Depth to hard rock
Building Foundations slab	4	Stone content
stumps/footings	4	Stone content