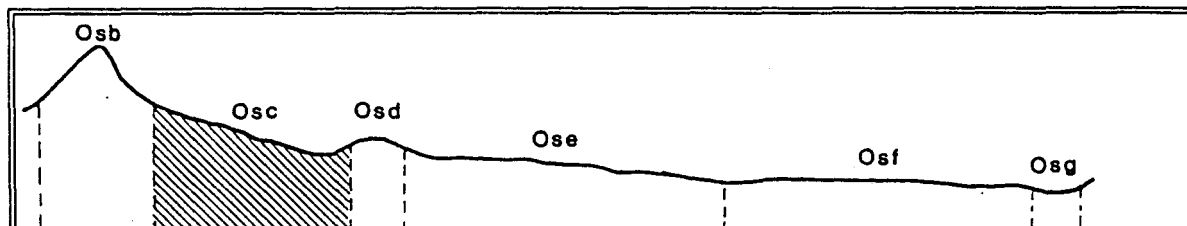


<b>Map Unit:</b>	ORDOVICIAN SEDIMENTS, MODERATE SLOPES	<b>Map Unit Symbol:</b> Osc
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#### General Description:

This map unit occurs in the north-east of the Shire. The soils are variable in depth with shallow stoney profiles sometimes occurring where the bed-rock is near the surface. In general the yellow duplex soils predominate and they are highly susceptible to sheet/rill and wind erosion and acidification, however only the latter form of soil degradation is apparent at the present time.

#### Site characteristics: **Site No. 3**

<b>Parent material</b>	Ordovician Sediments	<b>Depth seasonal watertable:</b>	> 2 m
<b>Age:</b> <b>Lithology:</b>		<b>Potential recharge to groundwater:</b>	Moderate
<b>Landform</b>	Rolling hills Moderate slopes	<b>Floding risk:</b>	Nil
<b>Pattern:</b> <b>Element:</b>		<b>Drainage:</b>	Moderately well drained
<b>Slope common:</b> <b>range:</b>	15% 10 -18%	<b>Depth to hardrock:</b>	1.0 – 1.5 m
<b>Rock outcrop:</b>	0%	<b>Proportion of Shire:</b>	1.8%

**Native vegetation:** Narrow-leaf Peppermint, Messmate, Black Wattle

**Present land use:** Grazing (native and introduced pastures)

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

#### Soil profile characteristics:

Permeability (measured - average, range): (estimated):	- Moderate
Available water capacity:	150 mm H <sub>2</sub> O
Linear Shrinkage (B horizon):	11.4%

**Soil profile description:**

<b>A<sub>1</sub></b>	0-18 cm	Brown (10YR 4/3) sandy loam, weak subangular blocky structure 4 mm, rough fabric, very weak consistence, few sandstone fragments, pH 4.9. Clear transition to
<b>A<sub>2</sub></b>	18-47 cm	Yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) fine sandy loam plus weak subangular blocky structure 15 mm, rough ped, moderately weak consistence, few organic segregations and sandstone fragments, pH 5.2. Clear transition to
<b>B<sub>21</sub></b>	47-84 cm	Strong brown (7.5YR 5/8) light medium clay, weak subangular blocky structure 8 mm smooth fabric, very weak consistence, few ironstone nodules and sandstone fragments, pH 5.6. Gradual transition to
<b>B<sub>22</sub></b>	84 + cm	Yellowish red (5YR 5/8) silty clay, few medium distinct grey mottles, weak angular blocky structure 2 mm, smooth fabric, moderately weak consistence, pH 5.7

**Soil classification:**

Factual Key (Northcote): Dy 2.21  
 Australian Soil Classification: Haplic, Magnesic, Brown, Chromosol, deep, medium, loamy, moderately gravelly  
 Unified Soil Group: NA

**Interpretation of soil analyses\***

Horizon	pH	Gravel	E.C.	Nutrient status	P	K	AI	Org. matter	Dispersibility
A <sub>1</sub>	4.9**	24	VL	L	D	S	T	H	L
A <sub>2</sub>	5.2**	58	VL	VL	D	S	T	L	M
B <sub>21</sub>	5.6	4	VL	L	D	S	S	L	L
B <sub>22</sub>	5.7	30	VL	L	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 <sub>3</sub> T <sub>4</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	Steep slopes, high susceptibility to sheet/rill and wind erosion
Effluent disposal (septic tanks)	3	Moderate slopes, moderate site drainage
Farm dams (earthen)	4	Steep slopes, shallow depth to hard rock moderate permeability
Building foundations * slab	4	Moderately steep slopes
* stumps/footings	3	Moderate slopes