

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Gippsland Plain bioregion

EVC 128: Grassy Forest

Description:

Low growing forest to 20 m tall with an understorey of small and medium shrubs and a rich diversity of herbs. Large shrubs and understorey trees may also be conspicuous. Often grows in areas transitional between drier box stringybark forests and taller, herb-rich forests typical of more favourable environments.

Large trees:

Species	DBH(cm)	#/ha
<i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.	70 cm	20 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
20%	<i>Eucalyptus goniocalyx</i> s.l.	Bundy
	<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i> s.l.	Narrow-leaf Peppermint

Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	2	10%	T
Medium Shrub	4	10%	MS
Small Shrub	2	1%	SS
Prostrate Shrub	2	5%	PS
Large Herb	1	1%	LH
Medium Herb	5	10%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	3	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	2	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	1	1%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	3	45%	MTG
Ground Fern	1	1%	GF
Scrambler or Climber	3	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL

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LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
T	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood
MS	<i>Bursaria spinosa ssp. spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria
MS	<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia
MS	<i>Acacia stricta</i>	Hop Wattle
SS	<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower
SS	<i>Hovea heterophylla</i>	Common Hovea
PS	<i>Bossiaea prostrata</i>	Creeping Bossiaea
PS	<i>Platylobium formosum</i>	Handsome Flat-pea
PS	<i>Acrotriche prostrata</i>	Trailing Ground-berry
MH	<i>Hypericum gramineum</i>	Small St John's Wort
MH	<i>Acaena agnipila</i>	Hairy Sheep's Burr
MH	<i>Ranunculus lappaceus</i>	Australian Buttercup
SH	<i>Oxalis corniculata s.l.</i>	Yellow Wood-sorrel
SH	<i>Opercularia varia</i>	Variable Stinkweed
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
SH	<i>Goodenia lanata</i>	Trailing Goodenia
LNG	<i>Tetrarrhena juncea</i>	Forest Wire-grass
MTG	<i>Joycea pallida</i>	Silvertop Wallaby-grass
MTG	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass
MTG	<i>Poa morrisii</i>	Soft Tussock-grass
MTG	<i>Lomandra filiformis</i>	Wattle Mat-rush
GF	<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Common Maidenhair
SC	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine
SC	<i>Comesperma volubile</i>	Love Creeper

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

40 % cover

Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MS	<i>Rubus fruticosus spp. agg.</i>	Blackberry	high	high
LH	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort	high	low
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MTG	<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking-grass	high	low

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