

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment Highlands – Far East bioregion

EVC 21: Shrubby Dry Forest

Description:

Occurs on a range of geologies on exposed aspects such as ridge-lines and medium to steep upper slopes, often in high rainfall areas and on shallow infertile soils. Open forest to 25 m tall characterised by the diversity and variability of the eucalypts. The understorey often lacks a secondary tree layer but contains a well-developed medium to low shrub layer. The ground layer is often very sparse with tussock-forming graminoids being the dominant life form.

Large trees:

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

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
30%	<i>Eucalyptus cypellocarpa</i>	Mountain Grey-gum
	<i>Eucalyptus sieberi</i>	Silvertop Ash
	<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringybark

Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	1	10%	T
Medium Shrub	6	30%	MS
Small Shrub	2	5%	SS
Medium Herb	5	5%	MH
Large Tufted Graminoid	1	1%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	3	10%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	1	1%	MNG
Ground Fern	2	5%	GF
Scrambler or Climber	3	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL
Soil Crust	na	10%	S/C
Total understorey projective foliage cover		80%	

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LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
MS	<i>Leucopogon lanceolatus</i> var. <i>lanceolatus</i>	Lance Beard-heath
MS	<i>Platysace lanceolata</i>	Shrubby Platysace
MS	<i>Cassinia longifolia</i>	Shiny Cassinia
MS	<i>Daviesia ulicifolia</i>	Gorse Bitter-pea
SS	<i>Hibbertia empetrifolia</i> s.l.	Tangled Guinea-flower
SS	<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower
MH	<i>Gonocarpus teucrioides</i> s.l.	Germander Raspwort
MH	<i>Viola hederacea</i> sensu Willis (1972)	Ivy-leaf Violet
MH	<i>Hypericum gramineum</i>	Small St John's Wort
MH	<i>Poranthera microphylla</i>	Small Poranthera
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge
LNG	<i>Tetrarrhena juncea</i>	Forest Wire-grass
MTG	<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	Grey Tussock-grass
MTG	<i>Dianella caerulea</i> var. <i>caerulea</i>	Paroo Lily
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
MTG	<i>Lomandra filliformis</i>	Wattle Mat-rush
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken
SC	<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Common Apple-berry
SC	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Twining Glycine
SC	<i>Tylophora barbata</i>	Bearded Tylophora
SC	<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis

Recruitment:

Episodic/Fire. Desirable period between disturbances is 20 years.

Organic Litter:

30 % cover

Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

There are no consistent weeds in this EVC.

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