

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Murray Mallee bioregion

EVC 808: Lignum Shrubland

Description:

Relatively open shrubland of species of divaricate growth form. The ground-layer is typically herbaceous or a turf grassland, rich in annual/ephemeral herbs and small chenopods. Characterised the open and even distribution of relatively small Lignum shrubs. Occupies heavy soil plains along Murray River, low-lying areas on higher-level (but still potentially flood-prone) terraces.

Life forms:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Medium Shrub	2	30%	MS
Small Shrub	3	10%	SS
Large Herb	1	1%	LH
Medium Herb	6	10%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb*	5	5%	SH
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	1	10%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	2	20%	MTG
Soil Crust	na	10%	S/C

* Largely seasonal life form

Total understorey projective foliage cover **75%**

LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
MS	<i>Muehlenbeckia florulenta</i>	Tangled Lignum
MS	<i>Chenopodium nitriaceum</i>	Nitre-bush
SS	<i>Sclerolaena tricuspis</i>	Three-spined Bassia
SS	<i>Sclerochlamys brachyptera</i>	Short-wing Saltbush
LH	<i>Senecio glossanthus</i>	Slender Groundsel
MH	<i>Plantago cunninghamii</i>	Clay Plantain
MH	<i>Brachyscome lineariloba</i>	Hard-headed Daisy
MH	<i>Brachyscome ciliaris</i>	Variable Daisy
MH	<i>Calocephalus sonderi</i>	Pale Beauty-heads
SH	<i>Isoetopsis graminifolia</i>	Grass Cushion
SH	<i>Rhodanthe corymbiflora</i>	Paper Sun-ray
SH	<i>Atriplex leptocarpa</i>	Slender-fruit Saltbush
SH	<i>Tetragonia eremaea</i> s.l.	Annual Spinach
LNG	<i>Eragrostis australasica</i>	Cane-grass
MTG	<i>Sporobolus mitchellii</i>	Rat-tail Couch
MTG	<i>Setaria jubiflora</i>	Warrego Summer-grass

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

10% cover

Weediness:

There are no consistent weeds in this EVC.

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