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# **Soils and land suitability of Inkerman West and Central sections Burdekin River Irrigation Area North Queensland**

T. E. Donnollan Land Use and Fisheries



#### **Queensland Government Technical Report**

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## **Soils and land suitability of**  Inkerman West and Central sections Burdekin River Irrigation Area North Queensland

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Department of Primary Industries **Queensland** 

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This publication was prepared for Department of Primary Industries officers to assist with the planned development of the Burdekin River Irrigation Area. It may be distributed to other interested individuals and organisations. Water Resources provided financial support for this study which is gratefully acknowledged.

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Department of Primary Industries GPO Box 46 Brisbane Q 4001

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#### **SUMMARY**

Water Resources of the Department of Primary Industries, Queensland, is responsible for the design and implementation of the Burdekin River Irrigation Scheme in North Queensland. Land Use and Fisheries of the same Department are providing officers of Water Resources with land resource information based on high intensity surveys, to assist in developing an irrigation layout for the area served by the scheme (Burdekin River Irrigation Area, BRIA).

A 1:25 000 soil survey and land suitability evaluation were undertaken over 9297 ha in Inkerman West and Central Sections of the BRIA. This area, adjoining the Delta lands on the Right Bank or Home Hill side of the Burdekin River is about five kilometres wide and extends from the eastern side of Stokes Range in the west to Yellow Gin Creek in the east. The lands of the study area slope very gently in a north-easterly direction from the lower slopes of the hills and ranges towards the Burdekin Delta.

Apart from being used to assist in re-subdivision and irrigated farm design, the results from the study will be useful to extension officers, agribusiness, agronomists, cane inspectors and farmers for the development and operation of subsequent farms.

Eighty five mapping units, consisting of 72 soil types and 11 variants and phases were identified and mapped. The 825 individual mapping units or unique map areas are shown on the accompanying soils map. Cracking clays occupy about 4400 ha and sodic duplex soils about 2300 ha of the area. Non-sodic duplex soils, gradational and uniform fine-textured soils are the major soils of the remaining 2600 ha.

The morphology of the soil types for each landscape unit are described. Twenty soil profiles representing 11 soil types were sampled and analysed in the laboratory. The chemical and physical properties of these soils as well as those analysed from previous surveys are discussed.

Land suitability classifications using a five class system were used to evaluate the suitability of each unique map area for furrow irrigation of sugar-cane and a range of field and horticultural crops, flood irrigation of rice and low volume irrigation of mangoes and avocados. A total of 5759 ha was suitable (classes 1 - 3) for sugar-cane, 5189 ha for maize, 1255 ha for capsicums, 1806 ha for rice and 1322 ha for low volume irrigation of mangoes. Management options to overcome or reduce the effects of soil or land limitations which cause less than optimum conditions for a particular land use are given for broad soil management groups.

Over 300 ha are already affected by secondary salinisation and a further 470 ha have the potential to become salinised. Extreme care will need to be taken in locating farms to avoid exacerbating the salinity problems. Means of lowering the water table to acceptable levels will need to be developed to ensure long-term stability of resources. About 730 ha are affected by severe erosion and are unsuitable for cropping.

#### INTRODUCTION

When fully developed, the Burdekin River Irrigation Area (BRIA) adjoining the present irrigated Delta lands of the Lower Burdekin Valley, is expected to provide an additional 50 000 ha or 500 new farms for irrigation. The development of the scheme is under the control of Water Resources of the Department of Primary Industries (DPI). Detailed information on the land resources of the area is required to assist in re-subdivision and farm design for the project.

Land Use and Fisheries Group of the Department of Primary Industries has therefore been conducting 1:25 000 soil surveys and land suitability evaluations in the BRIA for this purpose. Reports on Leichardt Downs Section (Donnollan *et al.* 1986 and 1990) and Mulgrave Section (McClurg *et al.* 1988 and 1993) have been published. Maps and reports for other sections of the BRIA are in various stages of production.

The area of the BRIA, east of Stokes Range, on the Right Bank or Home Hill side of the Burdekin River will be developed when the Elliot Main Channel (EMC) is extended beyond Stokes Range. A 1:25 000 soil survey and land suitability evaluation were therefore undertaken in Inkerman West and Central Sections to assist in the project layout in this area. The information provided will also assist landholders and extension officers to develop suitable management strategies in order to develop sustainable viable farming systems for the area.

These two Sections extend from the lower slopes of Stokes Range in the west to Yellow Gin Creek in the east. The southern boundary lies just upslope of the proposed EMC which will be located near the 35 m contour. The northern boundary adjoins the present cropped lands of the Burdekin Delta. A plan showing the location of the area in respect to other sections in the BRIA is shown in Figure 1.

#### PHYSICAL RESOURCES

The study areas consists of alluvial plains and gently undulating rises on mixed granitic intrusive rocks. From the lower slopes of the hills and ranges, the lands slope very gently in a north-easterly direction towards a level alluvial plain which adjoins the Burdekin Delta.

Much of the original vegetation of the area has been removed. Woody weeds have invaded the naturally treeless plains of the area.

Channels of the major creeks of the area terminate near the easterly flowing drainage system on the northern boundary. However, many of the minor creeks of the area spread runoff water onto the gilgaied cracking clays further upslope of the major drainage system.

Groundwater levels fluctuate considerably, depending on seasonal influences, and have reached the surface in some of the lower lying areas resulting in secondary salinisation.





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#### **Climate**

The BRIA, which is part of the Lower Burdekin District, lies in the region which is often termed the dry tropics. The climate may be described as warm and subhumid with well defined wet and dry seasons. The wet season extends from December to March.

More specific aspects of the climate of the Lower Burdekin District has been described in a number of publications including Christian *et al.* (1953), Australian Bureau of Meteorology (1970), Burdekin Project Committee (1977), Thompson (1977), Reid and Baker (1984), Donnollan *et al.* (1990) and Thompson *et al.* (1990).

An official rainfall recording station, Inkerman Homestead, (latitude 19.46°S, longitude 147.27°E) lies within the survey area and the mean monthly rainfall over a period of 105 years is shown in Figure 2. The mean annual rainfall of 915 mm is lower than at Ayr (1082 mm) but similar to Claredale (874 mm).

Rainfall variability is high. Figure 3 shows the monthly rainfall in mm likely to be equalled or exceeded 10%, 50% and 90% of occurrences.

#### **Geology**

Gregory (1969) mapped and described the geology of the 1:250 000 Ayr sheet while Paine (1972) described and mapped the regional geology of the Burdekin and Townsville areas. Geomorphology of the Burdekin Delta was described by Hopley (1970). More recently, Ellis (1983) described the geology of the Leichardt Downs Section. Evans (personal communication) also studied the geology of the Burdekin Right Bank and a brief summary of his study is in Donnollan *et al.* (1990). Thompson *et al.* (1990) postulated the chronology and morphogenesis of the landscapes of the Lower Burdekin Valley.

Stokes Range, the western boundary of the survey area is part of the Upper Carboniferous-Lower Permian Dioritic Complex (C-Pd) (Gregory 1969). The range of plutonic rocks within this unit includes diorite, quartz diorite, tonalite, gabbro and norite with minor granodiorite, adamellite and granite. The C-Pg unit (adamellite, granite, some granodiorite, and minor fined grained variants) is exposed just south of Inkerman Homestead.

Dykes have intruded the C-Pd unit and are located in a north-north west direction, often at about 330°. The dykes are of varying composition (Gregory 1969, Ellis 1983). Basic to intermediate dykes (microdiorites and dolerites) are the most widespread. The acid dykes (felsites, microgranites, granophyres and porphyries) are generally much thicker than the basic to intermediate dykes.

Gregory (1969) identified the Inkerman Shear Zone which extends from Mount Inkerman, north of the survey area to Stokes Range. This zone consists of coarse grained, plutonic rocks that have been sheared and recrystallised to gneiss, garnet, epidote and tremolite. The three kilometre wide shear zone lies perpendicular to the general regional structure.



Figure 2 Mean monthly rainfall at Inkerman Homestead



Figure 3 Monthly rainfall figures likely to be equalled or exceeded in 10, 50 and 90 percent of occurrences for Inkerman Homestead

The remainder of the area is of alluvial origin and mapped as Czs or Cza on the 1:250 000 map. However the soil survey has found that the alluvial deposits are not as widespread as indicated on the map. The intrusive rocks extend discontinuously to Inkerman Homestead.

Evans (1988) through his hydrosalinity investigations in the western part of the survey area interprets the geology of the area differently. He proposes that the bedrock of the area consists of a Precambrian metamorphic unit consisting mainly of amphibolites, schists and gneisses. This unit has been subsequently deformed and intruded by igneous dykes of many phases. The composition of these dykes vary from acidic to basic. Andesitic dykes are dominant but other lithologies including rhyolites, felsites, dacites, dolerites, microgranites, diorites, granites, granodiorites and monzonites are present.

Evans (1988) proposes that a number of folding events have occurred and major faulting is evident in the area. He states that the 'Inkerman Shear Zone' is an area of strongly deformed high grade regional metamorphic rocks bounded by two subparallel faults.

#### **Landscape units**

Thompson (1977) divided the Right Bank of the Burdekin River on relief characteristics and identified six topographic forms based on differences in geology or geomorphology. Landscape unit (LU) (adapted from Thompson and Moore 1984) has replaced the term topographic form in the more recent surveys in the BRIA. A landscape unit is a natural unit of land in which a particular soil or association of soils is developed from a single rock type (consolidated or unconsolidated) or complex of rock types.

Six landscape units are present in this area and are defined briefly below:



#### *Landscape unit I (LU1)*

The local alluvial plains and associated pediments are considered to have been derived from the erosion of nearby hills during the Pleistocene interglacial (Hopley 1970). Areas of LU1 extend in a north-easterly direction from the southern and western boundaries, usually adjoining the lower lying areas of LU3.

#### *Landscape unit 2 (LU2)*

Large areas of the Left Bank of the Burdekin River below Gladys Lagoon are occupied by the Burdekin River Alluvial Plain (LU2) with about 2000 ha in Leichardt Downs Section on the Right Bank. These plains of low relief are associated with fine material deposited by the Burdekin or Haughton Rivers.

Since the Burdekin River was diverted through The Rocks (Holocene transgression), Hopley (1970) provided evidence to show that former major distributary systems have migrated around the present Delta area. The Lake Plain - Inkerman system commenced just below The Rocks (near Mt Kelly) and flowed along the southern edge of the Burdekin Delta. This system entered a lagoon between Mount Inkerman and Beachmount, either through the gap between Mt Inkerman and Mt Alma or through an incision in the Inkerman dune about 1.6 km south of Mt Inkerman. Hopley (1970) states that each of these systems have well defined channels, several hundred metres wide with coarse sands and fine gravels similar to the load of the present channel. These channels still act as floodways during periods of high fiver flow.

Evidence on the left bank shows that a considerable proportion of the alluvial deposits of LU2 has been deposited since the Burdekin was diverted through The Rocks (Reid and Baker 1984). Similar soils to those on the Left Bank are found on areas adjoining the Burdekin Delta, suggesting deposition from the Lake Plain - Inkerman distribution system.

#### Landscape unit 3 (LU3)

Thompson (1977) and Thompson *et al.* (1990) have described LU3 as plains of very low relief. They postulated that the black earths of these plains were developed from fine textured sediments locally derived from the uplands under lacustrine conditions. These conditions may have existed in the Lake Plain area in Inkerman West Section and in the Leichardt Downs Section. However, evidence suggests that these conditions did not exist in the Inkerman Central Section.

Slopes between 0.5 and 1% are found on the upper slopes in the Inkerman Central Section in contrast to the Lake Plain area which has slopes  $\lt$  0.25%. Soils often have about 10% of subrounded pebbles throughout the profile, a feature not common in the Lake Plain area or Leichardt Downs Section except when adjoining other landscape units. This feature is also not common in lacustrine derived soils. Clay content of the soils is from 15-25 % lower than that of the Leichardt Downs and Lake Plain areas. The natural vegetation of a tussock grassland of cane grass and blue grass is similar between both areas although sparse trees of carbeen *(Eucalyptus tessalaris)* and poplar gum *(Eucalyptus alba) are* present in some areas in Inkerman Central Section.

The features of the landscape and soils therefore suggest that the soils of LU3 in Central Section are locally developed from alluvium from the neighbouring hills. Lacustrine conditions were absent.

#### *Landscape unit 4 (LU4)*

The gently undulating rises on acid intrusive rocks, pediments and prior streams of LU4 were not mapped in the 1:100 000 survey of the area by Thompson (1977). However, the underlying rock of a ridge originating in the higher slopes, just east of Two Mile Creek and extending discontinuously in a north-easterly direction to Inkerman Homestead is of acidic composition. The soils developed on this ridge have a coarse textured surface and fit the suite of soils developed on LU4 in other areas of the BRIA. This ridge has been truncated by erosion with alluvial deposits separating the ridge into three distinct areas. This ridge lies within the Inkerman Shear Zone as described by Gregory (1969).

Hillcrests, hillslopes and pediments are the only landform elements present in this area. Prior streams are absent.

#### *Landscape unit 5 (LU5)*

Gently undulating rises on an intrusive rock complex are found on the higher slopes along the western and part of the southern boundaries. A prominent ridge also extends from the southern boundary between Six Mile Creek and Four Mile Creek in a north-easterly direction towards the Burdekin Delta. An island of this landscape unit, surrounded by alluvial deposits, is found in the south-eastern part of the area. Less prominent relict ridges are located in the north-western comer adjoining LU3 and just to the west of the prominent ridge in the middle of the survey area.

Basic dykes have intruded randomly throughout these ridges indicated by the development of black earths and presence of rock outcrop.

#### *Landscape unit 6 (LU6)*

The Burdekin Delta extends into the survey area along the northern boundary. This area is part of the Burdekin Delta of the Ayr region which Hopley (1970) describes as an area consisting of coalescing levees of former distributaries of the Burdekin River with intervening narrow marshy tracts of fine grained floodplain deposits. This description is appropriate to the section of the Delta, especially east of Inkerman Homestead and near the Lake Plain area. A number of open or closed depressions within the low sloping plain is present in these areas with deeper channel dissection occurring near 'the Lake'. Fewer depressions occur in the Delta, west of 'the Lake'.

The Creek and relict alluvial landforms of LU6 are widespread throughout the survey area. A wide range of landform elements including levees, back plains, stream channels, fans, floodouts, prior streams and depressions have formed from local erosion and deposition.

Local alluvia from the nearby hills and ranges has been distributed over other landscape units within the area. Age of the alluvia varies considerably with very young, shallow deposits on the higher slopes on the western and southern boundaries. Prior streams are present in the older alluvial fans which overlie soils of LU3 on lower slopes. These fans are located east of Six Mile Creek, between Four Mile and Two Mile Creeks and between Inkerman Homestead and Salt Water Creek.

#### **Vegetation**

An open woodland to woodland of eucalyptus species are the major vegetation formations in the study area, although the cracking clay plains of LU3 are naturally treeless. Major trees on the alluvial plains included poplar gum, *(Eucalyptus alba)* and carbeen (E. *tessellaris*). Narrow leaved ironbark (E. *drepanophylla*) and red bloodwood (E. *erythrophloia*) were the major trees of the undulating rises. Much of the original *erythrophloia*) were the major trees of the undulating rises. vegetation has now been removed. Woody weeds have invaded the naturally treeless plains of LU3.

Soil-vegetation associations have been described in the BRIA reports on the low intensity surveys of Thompson (1977), Reid and Baker (1984), and Thompson *et al.*  (1990) as well in the reports on the more detailed surveys of Donnollan *et al.* (1990) and McClurg *et al.* (1993). These publications provide general vegetation and soil relationships as well as the main vegetation species associated with each soil type. These relationships also apply to the undisturbed vegetation of this area although isolated trees do occur in LU3 usually only occupied by grassland.

Changes in vegetation composition have occurred in a large part of the area due to poisoning of the original tree population, clearing for cultivation and from infestations of introduced species. Thick eucalypt regrowth has occurred on many parts of Portion 108 from where the original woody vegetation was destroyed by poisoning.

Trees have been cleared from Portion 325. Some of the western area of Portion 329 is also free of trees. At the time of survey, the natural grassland of Portions 304, 305 and 308 had heavy infestations of prickly acacia *(Acacia nilotica),* mimosa bush *(A. farneseana)* and chinee apple *(Ziziphus mauritiana),* with prickly acacia the most dominant. Portions 306, 307 and 311 were heavily infested by chinee apple with the other species less dominant. Lower infestations occurred on 309 and 310 and the natural grassland areas of 329.

Rubber vine *(Cryptostegia grandiflora)* is common along creeks, especially at the mouths of the creeks which terminate in the low lying cracking clays. Heavily infested areas include areas along the lower reaches of Six Mile, Four Mile, Two Mile and Salt Water Creeks and an unnamed major creek, just west of Salt Water Creek. Heavily infested areas are often totally inaccessible.

Black tea tree is common near salinised areas of the major unnamed creek just west of Salt Water Creek. Isolated trees of black tea tree are also present near the salinised areas west of Lake Plain.

#### **Hydrology**

#### *Surface hydrology*

The survey area is surrounded by ranges or hills in the south and west. All runoff water from both sections, flows in a north-easterly direction towards the low lying areas bordering the Delta on the northern boundary of the area. Runoff water is either conveyed to this drainage basin directly by well-defined channels as in the major creeks of Six Mile, Four Mile and Two Mile Creeks or indirectly by less well-defined drainage ways fed by runoff water from shorter, minor creeks which terminate further upslope. Often these drainage paths are the gilgaied cracking clays of LU1 and LU3.

Most of the runoff water from Inkerman West Section enters 'the Lake' in the Lake Plain area. This water then, either flows out of the study area into a series of lagoons within the Delta, or continues flowing eastwards in the low lying areas of LU3 entering another series of lagoons near Inkerman Homestead. These series of lagoons are linked to Salt Water Creek or Yellow Gin Creek. Outflow from 'the Lake' is severely restricted in large flows, causing water to back up, inundating the lower lying areas to the west.

Runoff from Inkerman Central Section either flows into the drainage basin adjacent to the Delta (as described above) or directly into Salt Water or Yellow Gin Creek.

#### *Subsurface hydrology*

Hydrological investigations have been undertaken in the survey area by officers of Water Resources. A number of bores have been positioned to monitor groundwater movement and quality in the area. The results of this investigation, especially from Inkerman West Section, have been reported by Evans (1988).

Groundwater levels fluctuate considerably depending on rainfall events. In some areas, groundwater has risen to the surface during a series of wet seasons, salinising some areas. The groundwater in one bore near one salinised area rose six metres to near the ground surface after a series of wet seasons. The level then receded slowly, before ground surface after a series of wet seasons. stabilising at six metres below ground level, after a number of below average wet seasons.

Evans (1988) showed that groundwater was less than 10 m below ground level over most of the lower alluvial area of Inkerman West Section at the end of 1988 when levels were low after a prolonged dry period. Groundwater levels would therefore be expected to be much closer to the surface than this level after a series of years of above average rainfall or from irrigation practices upslope.

Doherty (1993) used a groundwater model to simulate a range of irrigation scenarios that could be applied in the Lake Plain area to test the affects on groundwater levels. The model showed that levels will rise, the greatest rise being near the presently salinised area. He concluded that groundwater extraction must be part of the irrigation strategy to keep the groundwater at manageable levels.

#### SOIL SURVEY METHOD

Similar mapping procedures to those used for previous 1:25 000 soil surveys and land suitability assessment studies in the BRIA (for instance Donnollan *et al.* 1990, McClurg *et al.* 1993) were used to survey this area. The methods employed are described below.

#### **Survey procedures**

Coloured aerial photographs at a scale of 1:10 000 were used in the field as an aid in defining soil boundaries. The position of 250 x 100 m grids, which were established by Water Resource officers as part of a topographic survey, were inked onto the aerial photographs to assist in field location. The free survey method (Beckett 1968) was used to identify soil boundaries which were then marked on the aerial photographs. Over 1800 mapping sites were described throughout the area at a site intensity of about 1 site per 5 ha. This site intensity is slightly greater than the maximum recommended for 1:25 000 mapping but less than that required for 1:10 000 mapping (Reid 1988).

A description of the soil profile as well as pertinent information of the surrounding area were recorded at each mapping site using the terminology and codes of McDonald *et al.* (1984). This information is stored on computer in the land resource data base of the DPI. Australian Map Grid (AMG) coordinates were also determined and added to the data base.

#### **Soil types**

The DPI soil classification system used in other BRIA surveys, was used to classify soils in this area. This alphanumeric system uses the subdivision of the primary profile form of Northcote (1979), a number for the landscape unit and a letter to separate different soil types within the landscape unit and primary profile form subdivision. For example, 3Uga denotes a cracking clay (Ug) in landscape unit 3. The letter 'a' separates this soil type from other cracking clays of LU3 based on morphology or management differences.

Variants were used to distinguish those soils which were similar to an existing soil type in most respects but differed in one or more of those soil properties which had important land use significance. Variants were distinguished by a number after the soil type symbols. For instance, 6Gna2 shows that the soil type is similar to 6Gna but underlies a buried soil or D horizon not normally associated with 6Gna, that is, variant 2. The variants are listed and described on the soil map legend.

#### **Mapping units**

During the mapping phase, soil profiles described at the mapping sites were assigned to the appropriate soil type or variant of the DPI soil classification system. Soil boundaries were marked onto aerial photographs. The closure of a soil boundary defined an individual mapping unit. Each occurrence of a mapping unit is termed a unique map area, UMA (after Basinski 1978).

Two types of mapping units were used. A simple UMA defined an area in which a particular soil type occupied more than 70 percent of that mapping unit. A compound or complex UMA defined an area with less than 70 percent of one soil type. The simple mapping unit was identified by the code of the dominant soil type. The compound or complex UMA was identified by the codes for the two most common soil types, with the one occupying the largest area named first. For example 1Uge - 1Dyd contains soil types 1Uge and 1Dyd but soil type 1Uge is in greater proportion than 1Dyd.

Phases were used to separate those mapping units where land attributes not normally associated with mapping units of the same soil type significantly influenced the land use or management of that unit. Phases are distinguished by the appropriate capital letter after the soil type symbol. Areas with large quantities of surface stone or rock exposures (R), those affected by severe erosion (E), those affected by salinity (S), and those affected by excessive wetness (W) were mapped as phases of the dominant soil type. For instance, 4DyhS denotes a saline phase of soil type 4Dyh and 6E denotes an eroded phase within landscape 6. All the phases are listed and described on the soils map legend.

Each UMA was given a number. The UMA name and number were added to the site description file on the land resource database. Information for each UMA, including its number, the dominant and/or co-dominant soil type, minor soil types, land suitability classes for sugar-cane, rice, mangoes and avocados as well as the subclasses for the limitations used to determine land suitability were recorded on UMA data sheets and subsequently filed on computer. The UMA name and number provided the link between the site description file and the UMA file.

The UMAs were digitised from the aerial photographs onto the Geographic Information System (GIS) of the DPI and each given the appropriate number. A link with the UMA file provided the name to the numbered UMA as well as land suitability for the range of crops assessed. The areas of each UMA were generated by the GIS. The mapping units, areas of mapping units and the number of UMAs in each mapping unit are presented in Table 1.



**Table 1 Mapping units, areas of mapping units (ha) and the frequency of UMAs in each mapping unit, Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.** 

## **Table 1 (continued)**

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Frequency Total Area (ha)

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#### SOIL MORPHOLOGY AND DISTRIBUTION

A general description of the soil type and its location in the landscape is given under the appropriate landscape unit. A high proportion of the survey area is occupied by soil types modified by a variant or phase. These variants and phases are also discussed under the appropriate landscape unit heading.

Seventy two soil types as well as 11 variants and phases were identified in the survey area. A brief description of the major distinguishing attributes of each soil type is shown on the reference of the soils map which accompanies this report. Detailed morphological descriptions, showing the full range of attributes of the soil types, can be found in Loi *et al.* (1994).

#### **Landscape unit 1 (1468.8 ha)**

Black earths and grey clays (1Uga, 1Ugc, minor 1Ugd and 1Ugf) are located in low lying flats and drainage depressions, mainly in Inkerman West Section. The presence of normal gilgai and their position in the landscape, indicate that these soils are seasonally waterlogged and subjected to local flooding in some areas. Soil type 1Ugc has a light clay A horizon and the surface is usually hard setting or weakly self mulching while 1Uga is heavier (medium clay) and the surface has a stronger self mulch. Soil type 1Ugd is always grey and mottled, indicating wetter conditions. Soil type 1Ugf always has a always grey and mottled, indicating wetter conditions. bleached A2 horizon.

Soil type 1Uge is located on pediments with slopes usually greater than 1%. Linear gilgai with mound and depression has developed on these pediments. A shelf component is often associated with this linear gilgai and is occupied by 1Dyd (solodic soil - solodized solonetz). Soil type 1Dyd has properties similar to soil type 1Dyc which is described below.

Solodic soils and solodized solonetz (soil types 1Dyc, 1Dbb and minor 1Dba, 1Dda, 1Dya and 1Dyb) are present on pediments and the slightly elevated fiats which are between 0.5 and 1 m higher than the low lying fiats and drainage depressions. These soil types are strongly sodic by 0.3 m - 0.6 m and often have high levels of salt. The A horizons are from 0.1 m - 0.15 m thick and usually have clay loam texture. However, the texture of the A horizon of 1Dbb is usually sandier (SCL) and up to 0.2 m thick. Soil type 1Dyb has a sandy textured D horizon underlying the clay B horizon.

A number of eroded and salinity phases are associated with these soils. Variants 1, 2 and 5 are also present.

### **Landscape unit 2 (429.9 ha)**

Grey clays (2Uga, 2Uge and minor 2Ugd, 2Ugf and 2Ugg) are located on low lying areas adjacent to the Burdekin Delta and are subjected to seasonal waterlogging and flooding. Eroded, saline or wetness phases of soil type 2Ugh have also been mapped.

A minor area of soil type 2Dyb is on slightly higher flats.

#### **Landscape unit 3 (2483 ha)**

The soils of LU3 vary depending on location. Black earths and minor grey clays 3Uga, 3Ugd and 3Ugc, dominate the low lying drainage areas between LU2 and LU1 in the Lake Plain area. Soil type 3Uge, has brown light clay D horizons which are similar to the D horizons of the soils of the Burdekin River alluvial plain. A grey clay, 3Ugk, borders part of landscape unit 5. Soil type 3Ugb occupies a small area adjacent to LU6. These soils all have self mulching surfaces and are at least medium clay texture throughout.

Landscape unit 3 in the eastern part of the survey area is occupied by variants of 3Uga, d and e. The soils in this area often contain small pebbles within the B horizon, which is defined as variant 8. Soil types 3Ugel and minor 3Ugal with buried decomposing granite before 1.5 m, are found near the relict rises of LU5. Soil type 3Uga9 with mottled lower B horizons have been mapped on the lower slopes, often adjoining areas that have been salinised and mapped as saline phases (S). These mottled lower B horizons suggest that high periodic watertable rises may be responsible for this uncommon feature in these soils. Often these soils also contain small pebbles in the B horizon. Soil type 3Uga3 which has a lighter clay surface texture occupies UMA 814.

Gully heads are still progressing in this landscape unit and serious erosion has developed, especially in areas draining to Salt Water Creek. These areas have been mapped as eroded phases (E). UMAs 790 and 818 identify areas of 3Uga with rock outcrop (3UgaR).

#### **Landscape unit 4 (597.2 ha)**

The soils of this landscape unit usually have sandy loam to sandy clay loam A horizons although those on the lower slopes may have finer textured A horizons. Podzolic soils, 4Dyl and 4Dyd, occupy the crests, upper and mid slopes while soil types 4Dye, 4Dyf, 4Dyj (solodic soils - solodized solonetz) are found on mid and lower slopes. Soil types 4Dyg and 4Dyh, which are higher in salts, occupy lower slopes.

Soil type 4Dga which has affinities with a gleyed podzolic soil occupies UMA 543. Variants 1, 3 and 5 of soils of landscape unit 4 indicate shallower depth of soil to rock, different depths and textures of the A horizon and different B horizon colours to that of the modal soil type, respectively.

Phase R, indicates a greater abundance of stone, within UMAs 516 and 529, than that usually found on soil types 4Dyg and 4Dyh respectively. UMA 534 identifies an eroded phase of soil type 4Dyg while UMA 426 identifies a saline phase of soil type 4Dyh.

#### **Landscape unit 5 (1293.5 ha)**

Contrasting soils associated with acidic and basic rocks have developed on the mixed geology of LU5. Soil type 5Dra is usually found on the upper slopes. It is also found on relict ridges such as UMAs 45 and 778. These relict ridges are not much higher than the

alluvial areas which surround them. Isolated areas of 5Dra are also found on crests surrounded by soil types of LU4. The alkaline soils within UMA 58 (5Dra6) have a higher pH than normally associated with 5Dra.

Soil type 5Dya is a minor soil associated with 5Dra on the upper and mid slopes. This soil is often very deep in the study area and decomposing rock is not encountered before 1.5 m in some areas. Soil types 5Dyb and 5Dye are usually found on mid and lower slopes. Soil type 5Dyb in UMAs 39 and 285 exhibit atypical characteristics such that the B horizon slumps, allowing the development of tunnel erosion.

Soil type 5Dyc (solodic soil - solodized solonetz) occurs on lower slopes, usually associated with potential secondary salinisation. Restrictions to the seasonal downslope movement of groundwater may cause upward water movement in this soil type with subsequent accumulation of salts by evapotransportation. Soil type 5Dyd of minor occurrence, has developed in similar positions.

Small areas of soil types 5Uga and 5Ugb are scattered within areas of soil types 5Dra, 5Dya, 5Dyb, 5Dyc and 5Dye and are usually developed on basic dykes which have intruded the acidic or intermediate base rock. Larger, more uniform areas of soil type 5Ugb are mapped as UMAs 274 and 275. The soils of UMA 275 are very shallow (5Ugbl).

A complex soil formation with linear gilgai occurs in limited areas on mid to lower slopes. Soil type 5Dyf, (solodic soil - solodized solonetz) has developed on the shelf of the linear gilgai, 5Ugc (black earth) in the depression and 5Ugd (grey clay) on the narrow mound.

Rock (R), eroded (E) and saline (S) phases of some of the soils of landscape unit 5 are present, as well as soil variants 1, 3, 5 and 6.

## **Landscape unit 6 (3025.2 ha)**

The miscellaneous alluvial deposits of LU6 have been divided into creek and relict alluvial landforms and the Burdekin Delta. Some soil types occur on both landforms. They are listed on the map reference under the landform that they are either most common or occupy the largest areas.

On the Burdekin Delta, soil types 6Gna, 6Gne, 6Dyg and 6Dyj are common. The solodic soils - solodized solonetz (6Dyg and 6Dyj) are strongly sodic and highly saline. Slopes are very low.

Numerous floodouts, fans and levees have developed from alluvia deposited from the ranges and hills on the western and southern sides of the survey area. The size of the alluvial area developed, the age of sediment, the depth of present soil developed and the complexity of the area varies considerably.

Small, narrow levees and fans are associated with the streams rising in the hills, especially in the west, and which terminate in the alluvial areas of LU1. Soils developed on these deposits are shallow and overlie buried soils. These soils are distinguished by soil variant 2. The gradational soil, 6Gna2, is a common soil developed in these situations. Broader, lower fans have developed from deposition from the hills in the south-east or from overflow from Yellow Gin Creek. Cracking clay 6Uga and south-east or from overflow from Yellow Gin Creek. gradational soil 6Gna are common.

The alluvial areas associated with major creeks such as Six Mile, Four Mile and Two Mile Creeks and other unnamed creeks are much larger. Deposition is still occurring at the mouth of these present creeks which terminate in landscape unit 3. Solodic soils, 6Dba, 6Drc and 6Dyg are common soils associated with these deposits on the upper slopes. The alluvial deposits are often finer, further down the slope, and uniform, non cracking clays and cracking clays such as soil types 6Ufa, 6Ufd, 6Ufc and 6Uga have developed.

Older sediments associated with prior streams have encroached over landscape unit 3 with gradational soil 6Gna2 and non-sodic duplex soil 6Dbf2 being common soils on the levees of the prior streams. Soil type 6Ucc is often found in the infilled channels of the prior streams, but these old channels are often so narrow that they cannot be mapped at the 1:25 000 scale. Soil types 6Dda, 6Dyg (solodic soil- solodized solonetz) and 6Ufa and 6Uga are often found in the lower depressions.

A number of eroded phases (E), wet phases (W), and some saline phases (S) are associated with the soils of landscape unit 6. The area excavated for a large farm dam has been mapped as 6P.

#### SOILS - CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES

#### **Introduction**

Twenty soil profiles, representing 11 soil types were sampled and analysed in this survey area. Profiles were sampled to 1.5 m either from pits, 0.15 m cores or from a number of 0.05 m cores. Each profile was usually sampled in 0.1 m intervals, but when an important soil horizon boundary occurred within these intervals, the depth of sampling was adjusted accordingly to avoid sampling across horizons.

Analytical results from selected profiles from sample area two (Thompson 1977), which lies within the survey area, have also been included with the data from this survey to increase the range of data used in the discussions of the attributes.

Soil chemical and physical properties were analysed by Agricultural Chemistry, DPI at intervals 0-0.1, 0.2-0.3, 0.5-0.6, 0.8-0.9 and 1.1-1.2 m or at other intervals if the 0.1 m intervals coincided with an important soil horizon boundary. The standard suite of analyses was undertaken according to methods described by Baker (1991). A bulk sample from a number of surface samples to 0.1 m depth was collected near each site for nutrient analyses using a foot operated core sampler.

For comparison purposes, the analysed soil profiles were divided firstly into two broad soil groups based on soil morphology. These groups corresponded to the primary profile forms or their subdivisions of Northcote (1979), namely cracking clays (Ug) and duplex soils (D). Within these two broad divisions, the soil types were then placed into more homogeneous groups based on position in the landscape, and similarities of morphology, chemical and physical attributes and management requirements. Table 2 lists the soil types and groups with the survey and site number, as well as a brief description. Some of the soil groups contain only one soil type but are left as a group for ease of discussion and illustration. These groups either correspond with the soil subgroups as described in Donnollan (1991), or have been split further to highlight differences.

The more important chemical and physical attributes of the soils that affect irrigated crop production are discussed. These attributes include nutrients, pH, sodicity, salinity and plant available water capacity. Some attributes of soil type 6Dyg sampled from the Burdekin Delta and also from the Creek and Relict Alluvial Deposits are shown, to highlight the differences that can occur on the same soil type from different alluvial areas. Some attributes of soil types from different terrain in landscape unit 3 are also compared to highlight their differences.

Detailed morphological and analytical data for the analysed soil profiles for this survey are presented in Appendix I.

Table 2 A brief description of the soil groups with the soil type, survey and site number used for comparison of some chemical and physical attributes for Inkerman West and **Central Sections, BRIA.** 

Soil group	Soil types	<b>Soil</b> subgroup <sup>1</sup>	Survey <sup>2</sup> and site number		<b>Brief</b> description
1	$1Uga \; m3$ 1Uga d <sup>4</sup> $1Ugc$ m 1Ugc d	1A	<b>BRB</b> <b>BRB</b> <b>BRB</b> <b>BRB</b>	1A 1B 3A 3B	Cracking clays with normal gilgai on landscape unit 1
$\overline{2}$	1Uge d 1Uge d	1D	<b>BRB</b> <b>IMC</b>	<b>5A</b> 13	Cracking clays with linear gilgai on the slopes of landscape unit 1
3	3Ugc m 3Ugc d 3Uga m 3Ugd m	1B	<b>BRB</b> <b>BRB</b> <b>BRB</b> <b>BRB</b>	21A 21B 19A 22A	Cracking clays of landscape unit 3 in an embayed position
4	3Uga 9m 3Uga 9d 3Uge 9m 3Uge 9d 3Uga 8m 3Uga 8d 3Uge 8m 3Uge 8d 3Uga 9m 3Uga 9d	1B	<b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b> <b>IMC</b>	<b>S01A</b> <b>S01B</b> <b>S02A</b> <b>S02B</b> S04 <b>S05</b> S <sub>06</sub> S07 <b>S08</b> S09	Cracking clays on sloping lands of landscape unit 3 with significant amounts of small pebbles throughout the B horizon (variant 8) and/or with mottled B horizons at depth (variant 9)
5	1Dyc	2A	<b>BRB</b>	8C	Solodic soil - solodized solonetz of landscape unit 1
6	1Dda 1Dyd	2B	<b>BRB</b> <b>IMC</b>	12C S12	Solodic soil - solodized solonetz of landscape unit 1
$\overline{\mathcal{U}}$	6Dda 6Dyg	2B	<b>IMW</b> <b>IMW</b>	S01 S <sub>0</sub> 2	Solodic soil - solodized solonetz of landscape unit 6
8	6Dba	2B	<b>IMW</b>	<b>S05</b>	Solodic soil of landscape unit 6
9	4Dyf	2B	<b>IMC</b>	<b>S11</b>	Solodic soil on landscape unit 4
10	5Dye	2C	<b>IMW</b>	S <sub>0</sub> 3	Alkaline duplex soil of landscape unit 5
11	5Dya 4Dyl	3B	<b>IMW</b> <b>IMC</b>	<b>S04</b> S <sub>10</sub>	Duplex soils with neutral pH on undulating rises

 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ 

<sup>1</sup> Soil subgroups of Donnollan (1991)<sup>3</sup> Mound<sup>3</sup> RRB Burdekin Right Bank (Thompson 1977)<sup>4</sup> Depression <sup>2</sup> BRB Burdekin Right Bank (Thompson 1977) IMW lnkerman West Section

IMC lnkerman Central Section



Table 3 Ratings<sup>1</sup> for nutrients and carbon/nitrogen ratio (C/N) in the bulk surface sample (0-0.1 m) for the soil types or soil groups in Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA

<sup>1</sup> Ratings are from Bruce and Rayment (1982)<br><sup>2</sup> Data only available from 3Ugc in this group<br><sup>3</sup> Data unavailable

<sup>4</sup> Profiles from the Delta and alluvial fans respectively

#### **Nutrients**

An adequate supply of nutrients is required by plants for their growth, development and reproduction. Table 3 shows the levels of nutrients in the 11 soil groups; for comparative purposes Table 3 also includes the nutrient levels of soil type 6Gna sampled from an alluvial fan position of LU6A and 6Dyg from the Delta lands of LU6B. The ratings, low, medium and high are those from Bruce and Rayment (1982).

Rayment and Bruce (1984), although recommending that these ratings should be taken as a guide only, suggest that when very low or low ratings for phosphorus, potassium, zinc and copper are recorded, the fertiliser rate required usually equals the highest normally recommended in the district for the specific crop, tree or pasture.

#### *Phosphorus*

Most soils have low to very low levels of phosphorus ranging from  $1-15$  mg kg<sup>-1</sup>. However, soil types 3Ugc in the Lake Plain area, 6Dyg on the Burdekin Delta and 6Gna on the older alluvial fans of LU6 have levels from 27 to 115 mg  $kg<sup>-1</sup>$ . The low levels are consistent with those from other areas of the BRIA (Donnollan 1991). Applications of phosphatic fertilisers will therefore be required over most of the area. The rates of P will also have to be sufficient to counteract the effects of high P sorption characteristics of many of these soils. Elliot and McDonald (1987) have shown that the Gaynor soil, solodic soil - solodized solonetz of LU1, has a high P sorption capacity. Maltby and McShane (1988) have also shown that the subsurface horizons of some cracking clays in the BRIA when exposed on levelling will require higher rates of P fertiliser to counteract the greater P sorption characteristics of these horizons.

#### *Potassium*

Both extractable and exchangeable potassium are at medium to high levels in most of the soils analysed. However, the solodic soils - solodized solonetz and the cracking clays on the pediments (1Uge) of LU1 often have low levels  $(< 0.2$  m. equiv. 100 g<sup>-1</sup>) and responses to potassium fertiliser should be expected. The soils of LU4 with coarse responses to potassium fertiliser should be expected. textured A horizons have low levels of the acid soluble fraction (extractable) (0.07 - 0.16 m. equiv. 100 g<sup>-1</sup>) but medium levels of exchangeable K (0.23 - 0.4 m. equiv. 100 g<sup>-1</sup>). The highest levels are in soil type 6Dyg of the Delta, 6Gna on the older fan deposits of LU6 and the cracking clays of LU3 in the Lake Plain area (group 3). These levels are all greater than  $0.8$  m. equiv.  $100$   $g^{-1}$ .

#### *Organic carbon and nitrogen*

Measurements of organic carbon and total nitrogen give some indication of the response by plants to nitrogen. The ratio C/N gives an indication of whether microbial conversion of organic N to mineral N or the reverse is likely (Baker 1991). Values < 15 especially in soils of medium to fine textures, usually indicate that N is released to the soil and plant systems. If the C/N values are wider there may be a tie up of mineral N in the soil.

All analysed soils are low in both organic carbon  $(<1.5\%)$  and total N  $(<0.15\%)$ except for 6Dyg (Delta), group 7 (6Dda and 6Dyg), and soil type 6Gna of the alluvial fan deposits which have medium levels of organic carbon  $(>1.5\%)$ . The C/N ratios range from about 11 to 22. Most are between 14 and 16 with 6Gna and 3Ugc the highest at 22

and 18.5 respectively. Some nitrogen immobilisation may occur in the two latter soil types. Soil type 3Ugc was carrying a heavy cover of paragrass which would explain the relatively high organic carbon level.

#### *Sulphur*

Total S is regarded as a poor indicator of soil S deficiency but Andrew *et al.* (1974) has suggested that soils with  $\leq 0.013$  percent of total S may respond to sulphur applications.

Using this criteria, the solodic soils - solodized solonetz of LU1 and the soils of LU4 (groups 5, 6, 9 and 4Dyl of group 11) may respond to sulphur.

In most soils, total S decreased down the profile, except in soil types 6Dyg (Delta) and one of the sites in soil group 2 (BRB5A). Gypsum occurred at depth in these two soils.

#### *Trace elements - copper, manganese and zinc*

The levels of copper and manganese are adequate and responses to these elements would not be expected. Most soils have values between 1 and 2 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> for copper and between 35 and  $135$  mg kg<sup>-1</sup> for manganese. However, the cracking clays of group 4 have lower manganese levels of between  $7$  and  $20$  mg kg<sup>-1</sup>.

Low to very low levels of zinc were found for the cracking clays of the sloping lands of LU3 (group 4), the solodic soils - solodized solonetz and the cracking clay (1Uge) of the pediments of LU1 (groups 2, 5 and 6) and the soils of LU4. Most soils of group 4 were below 0.4 mg  $kg^{-1}$ , some as low as 0.11 mg  $kg^{-1}$ . Soil type 4Dyf (group 9) had a level of 0.05 mg  $kg^{-1}$ . Viets and Lindsay (1973) suggest that responses to zinc may occur at levels below  $0.5$  mg kg<sup>-1</sup> although Bruce and Rayment (1982) suggest that deficiencies may occur at  $pH > 7.0$  below the 0.8 mg kg<sup>-1</sup> level. All the above soils should respond to zinc applications.

Zinc availability is very dependant on pH as the solubility of this element decreases approximately 100 fold for each unit increase in pH (Bruce 1983). Mikkelsen and Kuo, (1976) have also shown that zinc deficiencies are common in alkaline or calcareous soils with pH of 7.4 or higher. Responses to zinc are therefore expected to be more widespread when levelling is undertaken, especially if this operation exposes subsoils with pH > 7.4. All cracking clays may therefore require zinc applications.

#### **Soil pH**

Soil pH has a major influence on the availability of nutrients and the presence or absence of toxic elements can be inferred from it. Soil pH profile values have been graphed for the soil groups and are shown in figures 4, 5 and 6.







2, 3 and 4 (cracking clays) for Inker-<br>
man West and Central Sections. BRIA. The alluvial landscapes) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.



Figure 6 pH profiles for soil groups 9, 10 and 11 (duplex soils of the undulating rises) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.

The cracking clay groups (groups 1, 2, 3 and 4) have a similar pH trend with an increase of about one and a half pH units from the surface to 0.6 m and then remaining similar to depth. The groups, however, fall into two categories, with soil groups one and three being lower than soil groups two and four by about one pH unit from the surface to 0.6 m, with this difference decreasing slightly to depth.

For the solodic soil - solodized solonetz of the alluvial landscape units, soil groups 5, 6 and 7 have similar pH trends, increasing by two to two and a half pH units from at 0.1 m to 0.6 m and then remaining similar to depth. However, soil type 6Dba (group 8) does not have a maximum pH at 0.6 m but increases almost linearly from pH 7 at 0.3 m to pH $8.5$  at 1.2 m.

The pH of the duplex soils of the undulating rises, as shown in figure 6, also increases gradually down the profile with no maximum pH at 0.6 m. Soil type 4Dyg (group 9) has an acid pH in the sandy A horizon which increases by about four units to strongly alkaline from the top of the B horizon to 1.2 m. Soil types 5Dya and 4Dyl (group 10) have a neutral pH trend while 5Dye increases from pH  $6.7$  at 0.1 m to pH  $8.2$ at 0.9 m.

#### **Sodicity**

High levels of sodium can affect plant growth by direct toxicity, and by reducing the availability of, and causing imbalances between calcium and magnesium. However, the greatest effect of high sodicity is the development of poor soil physical conditions. Reduced aggregation and clay dispersion results in surface crusting with subsequent decreased water infiltration and the development of poor seedbed conditions. Poor aeration, lower permeability, reduced water storage and increased soil strength results from high levels of sodicity in the subsoil.

Sodicity is usually expressed as exchangeable sodium percentage (ESP) which is defined as:

$$
ESP = \frac{Exchangeable \text{ } Solution \text{ } (Na) \text{ } x \text{ } 100}{Cation \text{ } Exchange \text{ } Capacity \text{ } (CEC)}
$$

Northcote and Skene (1972) developed three sodicity classes based on ESP. These classes are non-sodic (ESP  $< 6$ ), sodic (ESP 6-14), and strongly sodic (ESP  $> 15$ ). These three classes are widely used to assess sodicity in soils.

Figures 7, 8 and 9 show the ESP profiles for the cracking clay and duplex soil groups.

The cracking clay groups are non-sodic in the upper depths increasing gradually, becoming sodic to strongly sodic at depth. Soil type 1Uge (group 2) has the highest levels, becoming strongly sodic by 0.6 m increasing to about 25 at 1.2 m. Group 4 which had a similar pH trend to that of group 2, had the lowest ESP levels. The pH/ESP relationship for the soils of group 4 is much closer to that developed by Baker *et al.* 1983





groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 (cracking clays) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, *BRIA.* Sections, *BRIA.* 

Figure 7 ESP profiles for soil<br>groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 (cracking clays) <br> $\begin{array}{r} \n\text{Figure 8} \text{ ESP profiles for soil groups } 5, \\
\text{6, 7 and 8 (solodic soils - solodized)}\n\end{array}$ solonetz) for Inkerman West and Central




for the cracking clays of the Left Bank of the BRIA than that for group 2. The ESP trend of soil type 1Uge is more like that shown by solodic soils - solodized solonetz which it is often associated with, in particular soil type 1Dyd.

Figure 8 shows the typical ESP trend of the strongly sodic duplex soils in the BRIA (groups 5, 6 and 7), with a relatively sharp increase from the surface to 0.3 m to 0.6 m and then remaining at similar levels to depth. Soil type 1Dyc is the most sodic with levels of 21 at 0.3 m, increasing to about 40 ESP.

The two soil types in group 6, (that is soil types 1Dda and 1Dyd) have different ESP levels at 0.3 m, 24 for 1Dda and 14 for 1Dyd but reach similar levels by 0.6 m. Soil type 6Dba (group 8), has much lower ESP levels than 6Dda and 6Dyg, only becoming sodic at 1.2 m. Soil types 6Dda and 6Dyg (group 7) have levels of 16 at 0.3m increasing to about 30 at lower depths.

The duplex soils of the undulating rises have different ESP trends to those of the alluvial plains. Soil type 5Dye (group 10), and soil group 11 (5Dya, 4Dyl) were nonsodic throughout. Soil type 4Dyf, a solodic soil also has a different trend to the solodic soils of the alluvial plains, by not having a peak ESP but increasing down the profile to extremely high levels of 80 at depth.

#### **Salinity**

Excessive quantities of total soluble salts affect crop growth by reducing water availability to the plant through osmotic pressure effects and also by toxicity effects on plant metabolism.

Total soluble salt content was determined by electrical conductivity of a 1:5 soil: water extract  $(EC_{1:5})$ . Although  $EC_{1:5}$  is a convenient laboratory measurement, the electrical conductivity of a saturation extract  $(EC_{sc})$  is a more useful determination to relate to plant response. The  $EC_{se}$  measurements were therefore converted to  $EC_{se}$  values using the mathematical model developed by Shaw *et al.* (1986).

The  $EC_{se}$  and %C1 profiles for the cracking clay groups are shown in figures 10 and 11.

The salt levels of all the groups increase down the profile. Similar trends occur but the salt levels below 0.3 m for each group are different. Soil type 1Uge (group 2) becomes highly saline ( $> 4.5$  ds/m) at 0.9 - 1.2 m, the other groups have low to medium levels by 1.2 m. Both soil groups of LU1 (groups 1 and 2) have higher levels than those of LU3 (groups 3 and 4).

The trend for the %C1 profiles for the cracking clays are similar, with groups 1 and 2 higher than soil groups 3 and 4. However, the difference between soil groups 1 and 2 is not as pronounced, indicating that salts other than chloride are in a greater proportion in group 1. The difference in salt composition has been influenced by the presence of gypsum which was observed in one of the soil profiles in group 1.









The  $EC_{se}$  and %Cl profiles for the duplex soils are shown in figures 12, 13, 14 and 15. Groups 5, 6 and 7 show the typical salt bulge associated with most solodic soils solodized solonetz. These soil groups become highly saline and peak at the 0.6-0.9 m depth. The solodic soil 6Dba (group 8) has very low levels of salt throughout the profile, atypical for this group of soils.

The other duplex soils on the undulating rises also have low levels of salts throughout, except for 4Dyf (group 9) which increases at depth to the high level.

The %Cl profiles show similar trends to the  $EC_{se}$  profiles, with soil groups 5, 6, and 7 reaching peaks at 0.6 - 0.9 m. However, the shape of the profiles suggest that group 5 has a higher proportion of salts as chloride than groups 6 and 7.

## **Plant available water capacity (PAWC)**

Plants require an adequate water supply for optimum growth. Any restriction of the soil water supply to the plant imposes a limitation to potential crop yield. Under irrigation a reduced plant available water storage capacity (PAWC) means more frequent irrigations to attain optimum yield.

PAWC can be determined by measuring the difference between the upper soil water storage limit (field capacity) and the lower storage limit (permanent wilting point). However, as direct field measurements of PAWC are difficult and costly, PAWC is usually estimated by the use of predictive mathematical relationships. Regression usually estimated by the use of predictive mathematical relationships. equations developed by Shaw and Yule (1978) using -1500 kPa moisture potential are the most suitable for estimation of PAWC for a range of soils in the BRIA (Ahem 1988).

Depth of wetting for soils with restrictive subsoil wetting has to be considered when using this equation. McCowan *et al.* (1976) showed that ESP and salt profiles were closely related to depth of wetting and rooting depth.

The mean predicted PAWC and rooting depth for the soil groups analysed for this survey are given in Table 4. These values show that due to the restricted rooting depth of some of the solodic soils-solodized solonetz (groups 5, 6, 7 and soil type 6Dyg [Delta]), the PAWC is reduced by about half of that of the cracking clays. This predicted PAWC for these soils may also be an overestimation as the rooting depth may not be as deep as 0.6 m as very high ESP levels occur by 0.3 m.

### **Soil type comparisons**

### *Soil type 6Dyg from landscape 6A and 6B*

Representative profiles of soil type 6Dyg were sampled and analysed from within UMAs on the Burdekin Delta (LU6B) and from an alluvial fan area on the creek and relict alluvial landforms (LU6A). The soil morphology of both sites was within the properties specified in the soil type description of 6Dyg for the BRIA except that the Delta site contained gypsum at depth. However, important differences in the chemical and physical attributes were shown by the results of the analyses. Graphs of pH, sodicity,  $EC_{sc}$  and chloride are shown in figures 16, 17, 18 and 19.



 $%$  $0.15$ 0.25  $\mathbf 0$  $0.05$  $0.1$  $0.2$ 0 **SOIL GROUP**  $+ + 5$ <br>  $0 - 0$ <br>  $-17$  $0.3$ 6 DEPTH<sub>(m)</sub> 0.6 **MEDIUM** HKGH  $0.9$  $\mathbf{I}$  $1.2$ 

Figure 12  $EC_{\infty}$  profiles for soil groups 5, 6, 7 and 8 (solodic soil - solodized solentz) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.

Figure 13 % Cl profiles for soil groups 5, 6, 7 and 8 (solodic soil solodized solonetz) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.



Figure 14  $EC_{\infty}$  profiles for soil groups 9, 10 and 11 (duplex soils of the undulating rises) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.



Figure 15 % Cl profiles for soil groups 9, 10 and 11 (duplex soils of the undulating rises) for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.



Figure 16 pH profiles for soil type 6Dyg from landcape unit 6A and the Delta lands of landscape unit 6B for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.







Figure 17 ESP profiles for soil type 6Dyg from landscape unit 6A and the Delta lands of landscape unit 6B for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.



Figure 19 % Cl profiles for soil type 6Dyg from landscape unit 6A and the Delta lands of landscape unit 6B for Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.

Soil group or type	<b>PAWC</b> (mm)	<b>Predicted rooting</b> depth(m)	Soil group or type	<b>PAWC</b> (mm)	<b>Predicted rooting</b> depth(m)
	97.3	0.9	$\overline{7}$	56.6	0.6
$\overline{2}$	96.0	0.9	8	91.0	0.9
3	100.4	0.9	9	79.0	0.9
$\overline{4}$	98.2	0.9	10	93.2	0.9
5	55.8	0.6	11	89.4	0.9
6	56.3	0.6	6Dyg (Delta)	57.0	0.6

Table 4 Mean predicted PAWC and rooting depths for the soil groups or soil types sampled in Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.

The pH of the Delta soil was slightly lower at 0.6 and 0.9 m than that from the alluvial fan area. The ESP trend of both soil profiles is similar with both sites increasing in ESP until 0.6, then remaining near that level to depth. However, 6Dyg (Delta) has an ESP which is 25 higher at 0.3 m increasing to greater than 30 at lower depths. Even in the top 0.1 m, 6Dyg (Delta) is strongly sodic.

Both profiles are very highly saline at 0.6 m and below, but 6Dyg (Delta) has greater values. The presence of gypsum at 0.9 m has also influenced the level of salts. The C1% profiles are remarkably similar with 6Dyg (Delta) having greater chloride levels in the upper profile but 6Dyg (alluvial fan) reaching the same very high levels at 0.9 m and remaining a little higher below. This trend indicates the higher proportion of chloride ions contributing to the soluble salts in the alluvial fan area than in the Delta soil.

# *Cracking clays of LU3 in an embayed position and on sloping lands*

The cracking clays of landscape unit 3 in an embayed position (group 3) such as in the Lakes Plain area or in the Leichardt Downs area (Donnollan *et al.* 1990) have some different attributes from those of the sloping plains in Inkerman Central (group 4).

The mean clay percentage profiles are shown in figure 20. Clay content of the soils on the sloping lands are about 20% to 30% lower as they usually contain coarse fragments. Soils with 40% to 60% clay, similar to the clay content of the soils of the sloping lands are most likely to accumulate salts due to their lower porosity with subsequent reduced leaching properties (Shaw *et al.* 1986). The lower horizons of these soils presently have slightly higher salt levels from those in the embayed position.

Exchangeable cations (Na<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>++</sup> and Mg<sup>++</sup>) are shown for these two groups of soils in figures 21 and 22. Sodium remains low and is similar throughout the profile for the two groups. However, magnesium becomes dominant over calcium below 0.3 m for the soils of the sloping lands. The Ca/Mg ratio nears 0.5 at 1.2 m, a ratio which Emerson (1977) associates with dispersion.



 $20$  $30\,$  $10$  $\mathbf 0$  $\mathbf 0$ Mg+  $0.3$ Depth (m)  $0.6$  $0.9$  $1.2$ 

meq/100g

Figure 20 Percentage clay profiles for cracking clays of landscape unit 3 in an embayed position (group 3) and on sloping lands (group 4).

Figure 21 Exchangeable calcium, magnesium and sodium for cracking clays of landscape unit 3 in an embayed position (group 3).



Figure 22 Exchangeable calcium, magnesium, and sodium for cracking clays of landscape unit 3 on sloping lands  $(group 4)$ .

### LAND USE

#### **Present land use**

Most of the survey area is used for the grazing of cattle on native pastures. Woody weeds, including prickly acacia *(Acacia nilotica),* mimosa bush *(Acacia farneseana) and*  chinee apple *(Ziziphus mauritiana)* have spread over the natural treeless plain of landscape unit 3 in the western half of the area, severely lowering carrying capacity. Rubber vine *(Cryptostegia grandiflora)* has colonised creeks and run-on areas severely restricting grass growth and accessibility. Uncontrolled regrowth, on areas where the original vegetation was poisoned, has also lowered productivity in the western portion of the area.

Some dryland cropping was undertaken on Inkerman Station in the 1970's and 1980's, but these areas have been returned to native pastures.

Small areas have been developed recently in the Lake Plain area for irrigation, as have small areas on the Delta.

#### **Land suitability assessment**

Land suitability assessment involves determining the potential of land for alternative forms of land use. In this survey, each UMA was assessed for growing sugar-cane and a number of field and horticultural crops under furrow irrigation, rice under flood irrigation, and mangoes and avocados under trickle or low volume irrigation. The field crops for which suitability was assessed included maize, sorghum, sunflower, soybean kenaf, cotton and legume seeds (that is mungbeans, chickpeas, pigeon peas and dolichos). The horticultural crops were cucumbers, rockmelons, squash, zucchini, pumpkins and beans. Three classification systems based on those developed by Donnollan and Day (1986) were used for the assessments. These classifications are explained in detail in Donnollan *et al.* (in preparation).

The first step in developing the land suitability classifications involved the ination of the crop requirements for each land use. Any soil and land determination of the crop requirements for each land use. characteristics which caused land to have less than optimum conditions for a particular land use were recognised as limitations. Land and soil attributes to measure and estimate the effects of each limitation were then selected and were ranked in terms of an increasing degree of severity for those land uses.

The overall land suitability class ranging from the best to the worst on a one to five scale was determined, usually by the most severe limitation. The standard definition of the suitability classes as adopted by Department of Primary Industries and given in Land Resources Branch staff (1990) are as follows:

- Class 1 Suitable land with negligible limitations
- Class 2 Suitable land with minor limitations
- Class 3 Suitable land with moderate limitations
- Class 4 Marginal land which is presently considered unsuitable due to severe limitations
- Class 5 Unsuitable lands

The five classes are described more fully in Appendix II.

Appendix III shows the suitability and area of each UMA for furrow irrigation of sugar-cane, maize and capsicums, flood irrigation of rice and low volume or trickle irrigation of mangoes. For ease of illustration, maize and capsicums were selected as representative crops for field crops and horticultural crops respectively. These crops are the more common of the field and horticultural crops grown in the BRIA and their requirements are 'average' for their group. The areas of each suitability class are shown in Table 5.



Table 5 Areas of the five land suitability classes of Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA, for furrow irrigation of sugar-cane, maize and capsicums, flood irrigation of rice and low volume irrigation of mangoes.

Only 62 percent of the survey area is suitable (classes 1 to 3) for sugar-cane, 56 percent for maize, 13 percent for capsicums, 19 percent for rice and 14 percent for mangoes. The relatively high proportion of unsuitable lands in the Inkerman West and Central Sections is due to large areas affected by severe erosion and secondary salinisation. These degradation factors are discussed more fully in a later section. In addition, about 1900 ha are occupied by LU4 and 5 on the gently undulating rises. Generally, the soils on these rises are regarded as class 4 for furrow irrigation as the permeable soils of the upper and mid slopes act as intake areas with resultant losses to deep drainage downslope which can also cause secondary salinisation. As well, the lower slopes are prone to secondary salinisation and are therefore regarded as class 4.

Other limitations which cause areas to be unsuitable for furrow irrigation of sugarcane, field crops and horticultural crops are soil complexity, sodicity, slope, wetness and rockiness.

The soil complexity limitation considers the difficulties in achieving optimum production from a complex area of marginally different soils. Many of the alluvial fan areas of LU6 have a complex pattern of soils of contrasting management requirements

which would prevent optimum production being achieved with normal management inputs. These UMAs have been rated as class 4. Similar ratings on the basis of soil complexity have been given to UMAs in LU5 where soil types 5Uga or 5Ugb are closely associated with soil types such as 5Dra, 5Dya and 5Dyb.

The sodicity limitation considers the affects of high sodicity levels in the upper part of the soil on crop growth. High levels of ESP  $(>6)$  can directly affect plant growth, but more importantly creates unfavourable soil physical conditions which affects water infiltration and therefore plant available water, seedling emergence and plant root penetration. High ESP and the associated high pH  $( > 8.0)$  also affects the availability of some nutrients.

Some sodic duplex soils have thin A horizons and high ESP levels in the upper B horizon. Cultivation and any levelling will mix surface soil and subsoil material creating undesirable seedbed conditions. The effects on water entry and root proliferation due to high ESP will have further undesirable effects on plant growth. Soil types with such a severe limitation include most UMAs of 1Dba, 1Dbb, 1Dyc, 6Dbh, 6Dyj and soil type 6Dyg on the Delta.

Slopes over one percent on sodic duplex soils, and two percent for other soils are regarded as class 4 for field crops and horticultural crops. Excessive soil losses from erosion, furrow overtopping and lower infiltration can occur on higher slopes. The increased cover afforded by sugar-cane allows higher slopes (up to 4 %) to be used before detrimental affects occur.

Minor areas are affected by excessive surface wetness associated with closed depressions or swamps.

Excessive rock outcrop or surface stone is the major limitation in minor areas.

The area suitable for furrow irrigation of horticultural crops in the study area is reduced due to the high proportion (48%) of cracking clays. The low permeability and poor drainage characteristics of most cracking clays is considered undesirable for horticultural crops unless high management inputs are employed.

The major limitations affecting rice production in the area are deep drainage (dd) and slope (s). Deep drainage considers the permeability of the soil profile and losses to deep drainage. As rice is more successfully grown in ponded bays, soils with very low permeability and low infiltration rate are the most suitable. Many of the soils in the area especially those of LU4, LU5 and LU6 are highly permeable and are therefore unsuitable.

Slopes greater than 0.5% prevent adequate sized bays being established on the natural slope, or necessitates major costly earthworks in order to decrease the slope to establish suitable bays for ponding water to the optimum depth for rice growing. As many of the otherwise suitable soils for rice are on slopes greater than 0.5 percent, the availability of soils suitable for rice is low.

Most horticultural tree crops require well-drained, salt-free soils. These crops are therefore limited to the freely drained soils of the undulating rises and some soil types of LU6.

Further explanation of all the limitations and their effects on land use are contained in Donnollan *et al.* (in preparation).

#### **Management**

Donnollan (1991) divided the soil types in the BRIA into 13 subgroups within four broad soil groups based on similarities of morphology, chemical and physical attributes and management requirements. A brief description of those subgroups found in Inkerman<br>West and Central Sections is given in Table 6. The range of land suitabilities and West and Central Sections is given in Table 6. limitations associated with these soil subgroups, and remarks on the management options to decrease the effects of these limitations for the various crop groups and land uses are given in Table 7. Further information on management options to reduce the effects of a range of limitations can be obtained from Donnollan *et al.* (1990) and Donnollan (1991).

Table 7 is not appropriate for obtaining information on specific UMAs, as only the suitabilities and limitations normally associated with the soil types and general management comments associated with these broad soil groups are given. Land suitability for the major crops of the area for a specific UMA can be obtained from Appendix III. Information on the suitability for other crops and a list of the limitations specific for a UMA can be accessed in digital form at the DPI office in Ayr.

Table 6 A brief description of the soil subgroups of the BRIA (Donnollan 1991), occuring in lnkerman West and Central Sections.



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Table 7 Irrigated land suitability classes<sup>1</sup>, subclasses of limitations affecting production and broad management remarks for five irrigated land uses for soil subgroups of Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.



# Table 7 (continued)





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## Table 7 (continued)



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# Table 7 (continued)





1. The range of classes and subclasses represents those for the majority of the UMAs, the numbers in the brackets denotes the range common for the remainder. Classes for specific UMAs can be obtained from Appendix III and the subclasses accessed in digital form at the DPI office in Ayr.

2. A description of the soil subgroups are given in Table 6.

3. Sugar-cane establishment should not be a problem on these soils if recommended planting techniques are used.

#### **Irrigation planning**

Long-term stability of land resources and sustained crop production are important factors to consider in the re-subdivision and farm planning stage of development. Measures to decrease the effects of potential degradation must be implemented. The distribution of soils and the suitability of land on individual farms must also be considered during subdivisional planning to ensure farms are economically viable.

Inkerman West and Central Sections pose a number of degradation concerns, mainly secondary salinisation, erosion and flooding.

### *Secondary salinisation*

Twenty-seven UMAs in this study area are presently affected by salinisation. Visible signs of the salinity effects as well as analysed profiles were used to distinguish these areas. A further 35 UMAs are either adjacent to salinised areas or have the potential to become salinised due to their position in the landscape. The list of these UMAs are shown in Table 8. A map showing the location of these areas is in figure 23.

The large areas of 3Uga9, UMAs 788, 789 and 811 are not yet visibly affected by secondary salinisation. However, the mottled B horizons of the soils at depth, the very saline  $EC_{1:5}$  levels at 1.2 to 1.5 m and the proximity of the UMAs to presently salinised areas are indications that these areas will become salinised if irrigation farming is practised upslope.

The major concern in the area is the large areas of cracking clays affected by secondary salinisation adjacent to LU3 in the west and adjacent to the Delta lands east of Inkerman Homestead. The extremely high salt load in the lower horizons of the Delta, east of Inkerman Homestead is also of some concern.

Hydro-salinity investigations by Evans (1988) in Inkerman West section have shown that: (i) large areas of shallow, relatively saline groundwater is present in the area; (ii) regional groundwater levels fluctuate considerably depending on wet season rainfall, and (iii) the saline areas identified are the result of groundwater discharge when the regional groundwater levels were high after a series of successive wet seasons. He concluded that large areas of the Lake Plain area will be susceptible to shallow watertables and salinisation during prolonged recharge periods such as irrigated water application.

Doherty (1993), using a groundwater model to emulate groundwater movement through Inkerman West section, showed that the areas most likely to be affected by salinisation when irrigated cropping is introduced are in the vicinity of the presently affected areas. Water levels are predicted to rise in other parts of the catchment, but will not be as great. He also showed that it is imperative, if irrigation is introduced to this area, that local groundwater extraction must be a part of the irrigation strategy to keep the groundwater at manageable levels. Groundwater quality is an important issue if mixing of surface and groundwater for irrigation purposes is to be successful.

<b>UMA</b>	<b>UMA</b>	Area	<b>UMA</b>	<b>UMA</b>	Area
number	name	(ha)	number	name	(ha)
20	1DycS	2.0	596	1Dyc	13.2
546	1DycS	0.8	605	1Dyc	13.2
631	1DycS	4.9	613	1Dyc	17.9
615	1DydS	4.6	622	1Dyc	7.8
226	1UgaS	34.5	632	1Dyc	18.6
37	1UgdS	4.8	788	3Uga9	92.7
227	1UgdS	2.8	789	3Uga9	53.0
429	1UgdS	0.8	811	3Uga9	69.1
19	1UgeS	3.4	625	4Dyf	3.3
478	1UgeS	2.9	496	4Dyg	5.7
28	2UgcS	22.4	541	4Dyg	17.0
674	2UghS	29.9	623	4Dyg	16.7
810	3UgaS	92.0	425	4Dyh	19.3
678	3UgeS	13.4	626	4Dyh	14.4
685	3UgeS	19.3	647	4Dyh	6.1
426	4DyhS	9.5	826	4Dyh	1.6
44	5DybS	4.5	77	5Dyc	9.4
229	5DycS	2.6	88	5Dyc	2.7
71	6DbaS	1.5	91	5Dyc	7.7
225	6DdbS	1.3	178	1.8 5Dyc-5Ugb	
212	6DyjS	3.2	268	9.4 5Dyc-5Ugb	
679	6DyjS	18.3	277	19.4 5Dyc	
204	6UfaS	2.4	314	12.4 5Dyc	
428	6UfaS	3.1	328	10.3 5Dyc	
684	6UgaS	12.1	346	5Dyc	2.3
803	6UgaS	0.8	456	5Dyc	1.8
813	6UgaS	4.4	468	5Dyc	0.4
			469	5Dyc	0.8
			483	5Dyc	1.0
			706	5Dyc	1.7
			708	5Dyc	0.9
			272	5Dyd	5.1
			270	5Dye-5Uga	4.8
			230	5Ugb	5.6
			559	6Dyj	2.2
<b>TOTAL</b>		302.2	<b>TOTAL</b>		469.3

**Table 8 Unique Map Areas (UMA) of lnkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA, affected by secondary salinisation\*.** 

\* Those UMAs with a **saline phase (denoted by the letter S after the soil name) are already salinised. Other UMAs are either adjacent to salinised areas or have the potential to become salinised due to their position in the landscape.** 

**No investigations on modelling have been done in the Inkerman Central section. However, groundwater levels are expected to rise in the vicinity of the presently salinised areas when irrigation is undertaken. De-watering by underground extraction may also prove beneficial in keeping the groundwater at satisfactory levels, as expected in Inkerman West section.** 



23. Location of areas affected by secondary salinisation in Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.

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#### *Erosion*

About 730 ha in the area covering 68 UMAs are affected by severe erosion. Most of these UMAs define natural watercourses. A list of UMAs and the area affected by erosion is given in Table 9. A map of these UMAs is shown in figure 24. Due to the pattern of surface drainage in this area, especially in the upper slopes below Stokes Range, the density of UMAs affected by erosion is relatively high.

Erosion of LU3 in Inkerman Central in the vicinity of Salt Water Creek is cause for concern. Very deep gullies have developed and are still progressing. Steps will have to be taken to prevent their further development. All eroded areas will need to be stabilised and wide buffer zones established to minimise erosion development into farms.

#### *Flooding*

The low lying areas adjoining the Delta near the northern boundary of the study area carries most of the runoff water of the area. During large flows, restriction of 'the Lake' in the Lake Plain area causes water to back-up, inundating the lower lying areas of LU3 and LU2 to the west. In addition, overflow from the Burdekin River flows into this area during high flows. At present, many of the creeks and minor streams, empty water onto the low lying cracking clay plains, causing flooding in these areas after high rainfall everlts. Suitable infrastructure must therefore be put in place to minimise the duration and extent of flooding.

#### **Other farm subdivisional considerations**

The other major considerations affecting viability of farms in the area are the complex soil distribution and the high sodicity levels of some soils.

#### *Complex soil distribution*

As mentioned previously, the complex pattern of soils in many of the fan areas of LU6 presents problems in achieving optimum production due to the management difficulties associated with irrigating these areas. The soil types and the suitability of the UMAs must be an important consideration in the location and positioning of farms in the area to minimise the effects of soil complexity.

#### *Sodicity levels*

Those UMAs which are rated as class 4 due to high ESP levels at 0.3 m (that is, the sodicity limitation subclass is 4) should not be included in farms if possible. These areas should be included in infrastructure areas such as those set aside for roads, tramways, channels or waterways. If need to be included in farms, these areas should be situated at the top or end rather than within a farm to minimise problems with irrigation management.

UMA UMA Area UMA UMA Area **number name ha number name ha**  79 1UgaE 2.3 449 6 E 25.1 299 1UgaE 17.4 1 450 6 E 12.9 487 1LTgaE 1.0 584 6 E 69.9 533 1UgaE 1.4 683 6 E 49.1  $570$   $1UgaE$   $9.5$   $575$   $6$  P  $8.7$ 581 1UgaE 3.0 3.0 50 6DbaE 1.4 583 1UgaE 3.9 172 6Dbf- 6GnaE 19.3<br>486 1UgaE 2.7 508 6DbfE 0.6 486 1UgcE 2.7 || 508 6DbfE 0.6 505 1UgcE 5.0 5.0 532 6DbaE 1.4 545 1UgcE 1.8 498 6DraE 7.8 547 1UgeE 8.4 9 6Drb2-6Dbf2 21.3<br>754 1UgeE 0.7 16 6Drb2 4.1 754 1UgeE 0.7 16 6Drb2 4.1  $672$  2UghE 43.3  $|$  17 6Gna2 11.6 431 3UgaE 21.5 47 6GnaE 3.3 594 3UgaE 8.8 3.8 53 6GnaE 0.8 702 3UgaE 3.9 72 6GnaE 2.2  $804$   $3UgaE$   $5.2$   $80$   $6GnaE$   $5.2$  $264$  3UgdE 12.2  $\parallel$  85 6GnaE 1.8  $675$  3UgeE 3.8  $\parallel$  89 6GnaE 5.2  $676$  3UgeE 5.3  $\parallel$  93 6GnaE 3.8 782 3UgeE 2.0 422 6GnaE-6Ucc2 5.0<br>783 3UgeE 7.8 472 6GnaE 9.8 783 3UgeE 7.8 472 6GnaE 9.8 785 3UgeE 23.7 488 6GnaE 5.2  $534$   $4DygE$   $1.3$   $327$   $6UfbE$   $8.4$  $311$   $5DraE$   $1.1$   $105$   $6UfcE$   $12.7$  $471$  5DraE 2.0  $\parallel$  60 6UfdE 1.3 485 5DraE 4.6 185 6UfdE 63.6 510 5DraE 3.2 415 6UfeE 8.9  $7$  5DybE 7.9 784 6UfeE 1.1 313 5DycE 1.2 321 6UfeE 4.9  $323$  5DycE 3.8 70 6UgaE 7.2 452 5DycE 2.5 2.5 30 97 6UgaE 12.3 315 6 E 78.8 320 6UgaE 2.1 444 6 E 44.2 || 805 6UgaE 4.2 TOTAL **747.4** 

Table 9 Unique Map Areas (UMA) of Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA, affected by severe erosion.



Figure 24. Location of areas affected by severe erosion in Inkerman West and Central Sections, BRIA.

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### APPENDIX I - MORPHOLOGICAL AND ANALYTICAL DATA OF THE SAMPLED SOIL TYPES IN INKERMAN WEST AND CENTRAL SECTIONS

SOIL TYPE: 1Uge SITE NO: IMC S13 PARENT MATERIAL: A.M.G. REFERENCE: 546 510 mE 7 812 600 mN ZONE GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.15 SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Linear gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: .10 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 08 m

SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SLOPE:  $1$  % LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE:

STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: Eucalyptus papuana, Grevillea striata

 $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$  .

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching



9. 12. P. 13. P. 14. P. 14<br>R. C. P. 14. P. 14 SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 3Uga9 ~zo~o ~o< ~ ul ~n ~ ~ o~ ~ O~ • • **~0 ~l ~ ~ -,-4 0** ~o~0~ ~E~ ~ ~ ~ -- O, ........ ~: • I F L NC II J SITE NO: IMC S01A SLOPE: **- <** .... ~H 01 ~ ~ 0 ፡፡<br>• -C<br>• 17<br>• 17<br>• 10<br>• 5 : R O A X S<br> L 0 mE 7 812 870 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: 0 0 tm tm r= 0 0 0 0 0 ml r= 0 0 0 0 0 ml r= 0 0 0 0 0 ml r= N \$ r / / c / i; /n 1<br>
ilu 1<br>
ilu 1<br>
ic 1 ~ ,--, o~ ~o ~ LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth<br>PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.16  $\frac{\texttt{R}}{\texttt{R}}$   $\frac{1}{\texttt{R}}$ oD ~ ~ ~ ~ o~e~o - -,"4 STRUCTURAL FORM: Very tall open shrubland<br>DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Ophiurous exaltatus, SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: ,-4 m + 2 m **oz o ~ ~ ~ ,1, ~ -~mo** tp<br>pe<br>01<br>mm  $~^{\rm T}$   $~^{\rm E}$  :  $~^{\rm H}$  :  $~^{\rm H}$  :  $~^{\rm H}$  :  $~^{\rm O}$  $\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \text{b} & \text{e} \text{ i } 1 & \text{t} \text{ e} & \text{1} \text{ i} & \text{1} \end{array}$ " g) H = 5 Y sr1 oy", drn drn - e FAO UNESCO UNIT: • ,'4 ~ ,-4 ~ ~ ~ ~ r~ • S4 ~.4 • ~,'~ ~ ...... ~ 0 ,-..4 ~O00HO ~ 0 ~ ~ . ~ ~ m ,,o o~ c~ tn O~ '~ 0 ~1~ 0 .-0 > 0 0 ~: ® .,~ .,~ .,~ u', O-, P..1 o TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai Bothriochloa species N O<br>O I N<br>S O~ ~ 0 ~ ~-~.£I ~-~ ~-~ ~-~ ~; 0 ~-~ ~ ~ ~ ~ 0-,-4 ~I 0~-~ ,~ ~-~'~o VERTICAL INTERVAL: . 10 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 06 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Mound N 0<br>
O 0<br>
...P (6 - 0 )<br>
...P (6 - - 0 ) SURFACE COARSE FRAGMENTS: Few medium pebbles, subangular **~ ~ ~** ~ 0 un u~ ~ u~.,-~-~ u~,a o :>,0::,I ;>,0>1 0 CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching H ~ A~ ~ ~0000o OO A~ ~ ~-~ **~ ~l ~ ~ ~ o** c<br>)<br>) **DEPTH** DESCRIPTION HORIZON ~ , 0 0 0 0 0 0 t.3 iml un co  $\frac{1}{2}$  and the contract of  $\frac{1}{2}$ \_\_\_\_\_\_**\_\_\_**\_\_\_ -----------Olive black (5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 2-5mm subangular blocky primary; moist; moderately firm.  $0$  to  $.08$  m -~ ~ ~ ~ ~ o 0 ~ ~ ~ ~ -,~ . • •  $A1$ **,, .o** 0 O~ 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P<br>0 O = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 P = 0 <br> **, ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~" ~ 0 ~ 0 ~ m ooo~** Abrupt to-Olive black (5Y3/1); medium heavy clay; very few small pebbles, subrounded; strong 5-10mm subangular **B21**  $.08 \text{ to } .50 \text{ m}$ **~o ~.~ o ~~ ~** o o o o o ~ ~ ~ ~-~  $1~\text{r}$   $1~\text{t}$   $1~\text{g}$  as  $0~\text{e}$  a  $~\text{o}$  ,  $~\text{x}$   $~\text{v}$   $~\text{v}$   $~\text{v}$   $~\text{v}$   $~\text{v}$   $~\text{v}$ ~ aJ ~ ~-~ r-~ 0 ~ 0 blocky primary; dry; moderately strong; few coarse carbonate nodules. Clear to-. ~ e~,o o Olive black (5Y3/1); medium clay; very few small pebbles, subrounded; strong 5-10mm lenticular **B22** ~-~0~ A ~ ~ ~ ~0 ~ .1<br>- m<br>- m<br>- s<br>- e .50 to .70 m  $\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{e} & \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{r} & \mathbf{e} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{i} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{array}$ primary, parting to strong 5-10mm subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; moderately moist; very firm; few coarse carbonate nodules. Gradual toe nem 2 n 2 n - na - 4 7458 - F - 1 Olive black (5Y3/1); few fine distinct yellow mottles; medium clay; very few small pebbles, **B23** .70 to 1.20 m cular primary, parting to strong 5-10mm subangular b many prominent clay skins; moist; very firm; few coarse carbonate nodules, few fine ferromanganiferous nodules. Gradual to-**B24** 1.20 to 1.40 m **~ 0 ~** .~ .:<br>.-,<br>... firm: few very coarse carbonate nodules, common fine ferromanganiferous nodules. Gradual to-**B25**  $1.40$  to  $1.70$  m **~ 0 ~** .~  $\frac{100}{90} - \frac{0}{10}$   $\frac{1}{9} - \frac{4}{4}$  9 0 ~1 O 0 - CM/1 - 2 2333 - r+ 0(2 m = 2 2 2 1 1 = 2 mg tions : Total Elements ! Moistures : IDisp.Rati 0 .~,u~c~.oo~co~o e .∈<br>• o ....<br>– o ....<br>– o ....  $l<sub>CaCl21</sub>$  $\mathbf{I}$  $\frac{0}{2}$ metres ! ~o ...... ~  $\mathbf{F}$  $\frac{1}{1}$  (a 80C i (a 105C i (a 40C i (a 105C i (a 40C) **0 ',.0 I-¢1'~0',~ 0 ~,**  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$ oooo~ou~m - 23 1 .40 1  $\mathbf{I}$  $\mathbf{1}$ .....  $\mathbf{1}$  $\sim 10^{-11}$  $\sim 100$  M  $_\odot$  $\mathbf{I}$  $\mathbf{I}$ **.... •**   $241.49$  1  $\sim 1$  .  $251.53$  1  $\sim$  1.000  $\pm$  $\mathbf{I}$  $0.90$  $\sim 1$  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  and  $\mathbf{1}$  $\mathbf{1}$  $1 \quad 1.20$  $.26$  1 .013 .27 111.8  $\mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{I}$  $1 \quad 1.50$ المستمسمين إ Depth lOrg.C ITot.N 1 Extr. P | HCl ICaCl2 Extr!  $\mathbf{I}$ g.C ITot.N I Extr. P | HCl |CaCl2 Extri DTPA-extr. | Extractable | P | Alternative Cati:<br>Urb)i Iboid Bioarb I K I K D I Fe Mn Cu Zn B ISO4S NO3N NH4N IBuff Equill CEC Ca Mg Na  $\mathbf{I}$  $m \cdot eq/100g$   $l$  $\mathbf{1}$  ¢0 @ 105C  $\mathbf{I}$  **•** 

SOIL TYPE: 3Uga9<br>SITE NO: IMC S01B SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: o~~<~  $SLOPE:$ 了<br>第2章<br>第2章 ;;<br>'(<br>!<br>P<br>r<br>r A.M.G. REFERENCE: 551 220 mE 7 812 870 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: FRE<br>PRI<br>BOI<br>FAC<br>FAC<br>FOR<br>JOR<br>COM PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.16 STRUCTURAL FORM: Very tall open shrubland<br>DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Ophiurous exaltatus,<br>Bothriochloa species SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: .10 m •<br>E<br>E<br>E HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 06 m OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Depressio



SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 3Uae SLOPE: SITE NO: IMC S02A A.M.G. REFERENCE: 553 160 mE 7 811 040 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.17 STRUCTURAL FORM: Very tall open shrubland SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Cryptostegia grandiflora, FAO UNESCO UNIT: Heptopogon contortus, Ophiurous exaltatus TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: . 10 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 05 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Mound CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching DESCRIPTION HORIZON **DEPTH** --------<u>and and and and the</u> Brownish black (10YR3/1); light medium clay; strong 2-5mm subangular blocky primary; moist;  $A1$  $0 \text{ to } 08 \text{ m}$ moderately firm; few fine carbonate nodules. Abrupt to-Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 5-10mm subangular blocky primary; dry; moderately **B21**  $.08 \text{ to } .32 \text{ m}$ strong: few fine carbonate nodules. Clear to-Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 5-10mm lenticular primary, parting to strong 5-10mm **B22**  $.32 \text{ to } .60 \text{ m}$ subangular blocky primary; common prominent clay skins; dry; moderately strong; few fine carbonate soft segregations. Gradual to-Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); few fine distinct brown mottles; medium clay; strong 5-10mm lenticular **B23**  $.60$  to 1.05 m primary, parting to strong 2-5mm subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; drv; moderately strong; few fine carbonate soft segregations. Gradual to-Dull yellowish brown (10YR5/4), brownish black (2.5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 10-20mm lenticular **B24** 1.05 to  $1.48$  m secondary, parting to strong 10-20mm subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; moderately moist; moderately strong; few fine carbonate soft segregations. Gradual to-Dull vellowish brown (10YR5/3); medium clay; strong 10-20mm lenticular secondary, parting to strong 1.48 to 1.70 m **B25** 10-20mm subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; dry; moderately strong; few fine carbonate soft segregations. Gradual to-Brown (7.5YR4/4); fine sandy clay; strong 5-10mm subangular blocky primary; few clay skins; dry; D1  $1.70$  to  $1.80$  m moderately strong; few fine carbonate soft segregations. Depth 1 1:5 Soil/Water !Particle Size! Exch. Cations I Total Elements ! Moistures IDisp. Ratio! Exch Exch ECEC ! pH 1 pH EC C1 1 CS FS S C 1 CEC Ca Mg Na K 1 P K S 1 ADM 33\* 1500\*1 R1 R2 1 A1 Acid  $1$ CaC $121$  $m \cdot eq/100g$  1  $\frac{1}{8}$  1  $\frac{1}{8}$  1  $m \cdot eq/100g$  1 1  $dS/m$   $\frac{1}{6}$   $\frac{1}{6}$   $\frac{1}{6}$   $\frac{1}{6}$ metres ! G 105C 1 G 40C 1 G 105C  $\sim 10^{11}$  km s  $^{-1}$  . **@** 80C 1 16 40CI **8 105C**  $\mathbf{1}$ and the control of the control of  $\mathbf{H}$ B 0.10 1 8.7 .13 .010 1  $0.10$  $0.20$  $0.30$  $0.60$ 0.90 1 9.3 .50 .042 1 4 16 15 65 1 65 18 43 8.3 .24 1 .011 .165 .012 1 7.9  $\sim 10^{-10}$  km s  $^{-1}$ 1.20  $19.2 .77 .0821$  $1, 7.6$  $\mathbf{I}$  $\mathbf{1}$ **Example 1** and 1 **Example 20** and 20 and 1.50  $\mathbf{I}$  $1\,5.3$  $\mathbf{I}$  $\mathbf{I}$  $19.2$  .  $74$  . 080 1  $\mathbf{I}$ 1.80 Depth lorg.C lTot.N i Extr. P i HCl ICaCl2 Extri DTPA-extr. I Extractable I P i Alternative Cations i 1 (W&B) I Acid Bicarb. I K P I Fe Mn Cu Zn B ISO4S NO3N NH4N IBuff Equil! CEC Ca Mg Na K I<br>1 metres 1 % I % I mg/kg I meq%l mg/kg I mg/kg I mg/kg I mg/kg I metres 1 % I % I % I % I % I % I % I % I % I<br>1 8 105C1@ 105C1 @ 10  $1 - 1$  $\mathbf{I}$ -----------

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" 0 ~ ~ 0 0~-~ 0,'-~ ~ .,~ • ~ "~ .... SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 3Uge<br>SITE NO: IMC S02B **~,o~ ~o ~ ....~, ..~ ..~ ..,~ oo ~ ., -~ ~:~ ~ ~ -~ ~c: -~ ~n~ m** ~<br>^<br>H^-<br>I^-"Y F<br>:0 .<br>: SC<br>:P*P*<br>:Al<br>:F Al<br>:PR **¢,~OD~ ~>c~ ~ ~ ~ .o ~ ~ ~ ~** • I FL NOIIL<br>I PL NOIIL<br>1 SLOPE: >E<br>)F<br>)F<br>JC MC SO2B<br>ERENCE: 553 160 mE 7 811 040 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: : ROAXS LTN O Ln ~ ~ ~ 0 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ -,~ ~ ~I • ca oco~o~n 553<br>Blac ^1.1) .---£ & 1 4 9 0 3 5 7 -1.0 .--<< 00 3 5 7 -1.0 t. !<br>.<br>.  $Z^{\prime}$   $\alpha$   $\alpha$ ~ ~ 0 0 0'~ 0 :~ 0 ~ • ~ **r.ar.a ~ H ° ~ ~** O~ ~ ~ ~ ~1 ~ ~ l~ 'U ~ ~ ~n ~ **~o~o~ o o ~ o ~ o ~ ~** }}<br>}}}}<br>}}}<br>}}}<br>}} ea<br>Jç<br>N<br>L<br>L PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.17<br>SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: STRUCTURAL FORM: Very tall open shrubland<br>DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Cryptostegia grandiflora,<br>Heptopogon contortus, Ophiurous exaltatus "~ :~ ~ e~ o~,~ ~n un ~: ~ ~ ~ ,~.~,.~ ~ C ,I3 .~ >, ~ ~:~ ~-,'~ 0 ~ C ~ ~r~ ~.~ ~0 Z ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ • **.**<br>.<br>}<br>} " -~ 'U ~ ~ ~, ~.Cl ~.~ ~ ~ l~0~ ~ ~ 0 ~'~ O~u~ FAO UNESCO UNIT: |20<br>| T = 0<br>| T = 0<br>| O = 0<br>| 0 0., p<br>0 0., p<br>0 0., p<br>0 0., p<br>0 0. TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai<br>VERTICAL INTERVAL: .10 m Zoo~ m :~ ~ ,~o o **~ ~ ~** נכ<br>ז<br>די HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 05 m O<br>N<br>T COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Depression 0<br>I<br>Z ር<br>ዐ o ~-~ o o~ o~ o,-~.~ o~ "-~ -~ ~o CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching<br>HORIZON DEPTH i<br>3 **0**  $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$   $\frac{1}{2}$ o ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ......... Z ~n co O ..... ~ ---~ -..., ..~ --~ .\_~ ,-.I "~-~ Cl **~ ~** DESCRIPTION **HORTZON** 0 ~ ~ .~ m~u~t-- ~ ~ Z ~ ~  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L} \mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L} \mathcal{L} \mathcal{L}$ Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 2-5mm subangular blocky primary; dry; moderately  $A1$ 0 to .10 m u~ u~ t:1, u ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ OC: ~ ~ 0 ~-,-~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ 0 ~ ~D 0 ~ ~ ~ ~ .~ ~-,-~'-.o **o ~ o~n O~ o.~ 0** firm. Abrupt to-50mm subangular blocky tertiary, parting to st -~ ~ ~ ~ ~ C: ~ ~ .c: ~ ~ ~n ~ -~o **B21**  $.10 \text{ to } .45 \text{ m}$ **~ '~ 0** 0 o o ~.~ ..~ l~U ~ .<br>.<br>.<br>.<br>.<br>.<br>.<br>.<br>. medium clay; strong 20-5<br>imary; dry; moderately s " .<br>.<br>. **• . • -,-~ [z.~ U~ O** 0 31<br>31<br>3 Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 5-10mm lenticular secondary, parting to strong 5-10mm  $B22$  $.45$  to  $.90$  m o-~ o-,~ 0 ~ o,-~ :n ~'~ **~ ~ o o o o o ~ ~ i i .~ ~ 0~-~ 0 ~L, 0** subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; dry; moderately strong. Gradual toc<br>c<br>c<br>c<br>c Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); medium clay; strong 5-10mm lenticular secondary, parting to strong 5-10mm  $B23k$ .90 to  $1.06$  m  $^{\rm 1c}$  c  $^{\rm e}$  of  $^{\rm 1d}$ subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; dry; moderately strong; few fine carbonate p<br>5 nodules. Gradual to-Brownish black (2.5Y3/1); few fine distinct brown mottles; medium clay; strong 5-10mm lenticular  $1.06$  to  $1.30$  m  $B24k$ **~=o ~ ~ oz~** secondary, parting to strong 5-10mm subangular blocky primary; many prominent clay skins; dry;<br>moderately strong; few fine carbonate nodules. Gradual to- $\epsilon$ <br>0  $\epsilon$ **m**  $e$   $d$   $t$ 0 ,-.~ ~o,-~ ~ ~o ~o ~o ~o ~o U Brown (10YR4/4); medium clay; strong 5-10mm lenticular parting to strong 5-10mm subangular blocky  $B25k$  $1.30$  to  $1.55$  m e.i f - o.c.m - 2 3222 - 2.091 0 ~ :~ i~ ~ ~ o-i<br>-<br>r ¤ ; r ) e - co - 7<br>.co - 7<br>.co co primary; many prominent clay skins; dry; moderately strong; few fine carbonate nodules. Gradual toe .n<br>• ... + ... e @ --<br>• ... + ...<br>• ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ... + ..  $D1k$ 1.55 to  $1.70$  m clay: strong 2-5mm subangular blocky primary; dry; very fil carbonate nodules. Depth 1 1:5 Soil/Water !Particle Size! Exch. Cations 1 Total Elements ! Moistures 1Disp.Ratio! Exch Exch ECEC ! pH 1<br>1 pH EC Cl 1 CS FS S C 1 CEC Ca Mg Na K 1 P K S 1 ADM 33\* 1500\*1 R1 R2 1 Al Acid 1 CaCl21 ~n:~ ® **.,.~ ~ ~ ,.~,-~,..~** ~ r-~ ae o ooo oormco c~o - **o** - 0 000<br> *i*enties<br> *i*enties eptr:<br>etre **o t.; > ,-~Ln** 00g **: \* ! \* ! \* ! m.eq/100g ! \***<br>05<mark>C ! @ 80C ! @ 105C ! @ 40C ! @ 105C !@ 4</mark> **"0o ..........** ..<br>..<br>..  $\sqrt{2}$  a 40C a 105C1 الأربوب والمربوب والمراجي 777889999<br>-- 0x 456804002- .<br>...aeo o o o o o o~u~ o~ ~D &~ ~' o ........  $100000000 - 5$ . ()<br>) ) ) ) ) ) ) , , , ,<br>- ,  $\mathbf{I}$ o oooo **.....** .<br>....<br>.. **Contract Design Contract Contract Contract**  $0.20$  $301.52$  1  $0.30$ **• •**   $311.61$   $1$ 0.60  $311.61$  $0.90$  $\sim 10^{-10}$  and  $\sim 10^{-10}$  $-1$  $1.20$  the contract of the contract of the contract of  $\mathbf{I}$  $\sim 1$  .  $1\,9.0\,191\,126\,1$  $18.2$ 1.50  $15.5$  $\sim 1$  $\mathbf{1}$  $\sim 10^{-10}$  $\mathbf{1}$ 1.70  $19.2$  .81 .105 l r !<br>!<br>--<br>---- .... epth IC<br>|
| netres  $U(1,1)$  is the second contract of  $U(1,1)$  in the contract of  $U(1,1)$  is the contract of  $U(1,1)$ **• o~n** .,q 0<br>) إ m.ea/100g 1/kg 1<br>.05C 1 05C1@ 105C1 @ 10 @ 105C  $0.10 \quad 1 \quad 0.9 \quad 1$  $2.1 \t0.4$ 

SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 3Uga8 SITE NO: IMC S04 SLOPE: LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: A.M.G. REFERENCE: 548 140 mE 7 812 260 mN ZONE LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.16 STRUCTURAL FORM: SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Bothriochloa species FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: . 08 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 04 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Mound SURFACE COARSE FRAGMENTS: Few medium pebbles, subangular

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching



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SOIL TYPE: 3Uga8 SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SITE NO: IMC S05 SLOPE: A.M.G. REFERENCE: 548 140 mE 7 812 260 mN ZONE LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.16 SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: STRUCTURAL FORM: FAO UNESCO UNIT: DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Bothriochloa species TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: . 08 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 04 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Depression SURFACE COARSE FRAGMENTS: Few medium pebbles, subangular

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching



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SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 3Uge8 SLOPE: SITE NO: IMC S06 A.M.G. REFERENCE: 551 230 mE 7 810 330 mN ZONE LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth **Contractor** PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.17 STRUCTURAL FORM: SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: DOMINANT SPECIES: Ziziphus mauritiana, Bothriochloa species FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: .08 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 05 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Mound SURFACE COARSE FRAGMENTS: Few medium pebbles, subangular

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching

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OIL TYP **• ,~** SITE NO: IMC S07 .. R C A X S , L T N A.M.G. REFERENCE: 551 230 mE 7 810 330 mN ZONE GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth  $\sim 10^{-11}$ PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.17 P<br>|O<br>∴N SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: ~<br>!C<br>-<br>L<br>-L FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: .08 m<br>HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 05 m **\*.~] [~I** COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Deprssion

A LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE:<br>LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE:  $SLOPE:$ 

STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: Bothriochloa species

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching



tertiary; moist; very firm; few fine carbonate nodules.



SOIL TYPE: 3Uga9 ~-' Z -z ,5~ O~ ~D ~ ~'qO ~ ~'q • .~ r~ ~ ZOH~ **SITE NO: IMC S08** • ROAXS LTN A.M.G. REFERENCE: 550 150 mE 7 812 190 mN ZONE  $\frac{1}{\Delta}$   $\frac{1}{\Delta}$   $\frac{1}{\Delta}$   $\frac{1}{\Delta}$ GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth<br>PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.16 aa<br>ال<br>D<br>D N P<br>"O<br>"מ SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: .12 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 04 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Mound

STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: Acacia nilotica, Ziziphus mauritiana,<br>Bothriochloa species, Ophiurous exaltatus

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching



LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE:<br>LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE:

SUBSTRATE MATERIAL:

SLOPE:

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SOIL TYPE: 3Uga9<br>SITE NO: IMC S09 A.M.G. REFERENCE: 550 150 mE 7 812 190 mN ZONE GREAT SOIL GROUP: Black earth PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Ug5.1 SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: FAO UNESCO UNIT: TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Normal gilgai VERTICAL INTERVAL: .12 m HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 04 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Depression

SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SLOPE: LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE:

#### STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES:

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Periodic cracking, self mulching



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SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 1Dyd<br>SITE NO: IMC S12 :I !!!<br>!!! i:s 0 }<br>S - 1 0 y U L A<br>.A A<br>.T =<br>0<br>.D =<br>b b |
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| D<br>E<br>N<br>N<br>N • IFI \_ NC11 SLOPE: LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE:<br>LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: ~ ~0~ o -~ "<br>T" m<br>A--<br>O: **o** • ~' c~O • ~E:O ~ 0 (D N a 。<br>[ D N a 。<br>[ D N STRUCTURAL FORM: SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: **0**<br>.<br>1 • . ~ w-ll:~ DOMINANT SPECIES: Eucalyptus papuana, Grevillea striata, FAO UNESCO UNIT: Bothriochloa species TYPE OF MICRORELIEF: Linear gilgai 0 E<br>S<br>S VERTICAL INTERVAL:  $^{\rm I}$  ZOA  $\rm~I~$  Z HORIZONTAL INTERVAL: 08 m COMPONENT OF MICRORELIEF SAMPLED: Shelf OARSE FRAGMENTS: Comm:

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Hard setting

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**DEPTH** 

 $\sim 10^7$ 



DESCRIPTION



SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: OIL TY!<br>~**~~** …~  $I$ T M  $E$   $I$   $I$  O  $~$  N  $~$  R F r..., He.<br>2 r...<br>2 c • . ~ ~.. ,.-.I SLOPE: c~r.~'l~H~ ~ ~ A.M.G. REFERENCE: 539 700 mE 7 815 200 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: 39 7<br>|olod<br>|onM • R<br>R<br>C<br>A<br>O<br>A LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE:  $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}$ PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Dy2.43 NOMY UNIT:<br>...mirm FAO UNESCO UNIT:

#### STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: Eucalyptus tessellaris, Eucalyptus alba, Grevillea lyptus tessellaris, Eucalyptu:<br>.s species, Heteropogon contor

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-1 -1 SOIL TYPE: 6Dba SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: 00<br>000<br>000<br>000 :<br>1<br>F: SITE NO: IMW S05 SLOPE: A.M.G. REFERENCE: 542 980 mE 7 812 050 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE:<br>GREAT SOIL GROUP: Solodic soil LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE:<br>PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Db1.33 U~<br>O<br>O<br>O<br>O o~ .. LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: }<br>|<br>C SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: STRUCTURAL FORM: FAO UNESCO UNIT: DOMINANT SPECIES: Eucalyptus alba, Grevillea striata, Chloris species

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Hard setting

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SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 4Dyf E~Zu;£\_~ o-" ~'~£-~ ~ ~ SITE NO: IMC S11  $\sim$   $\sim$ SLOPE:  $2$  % A.M.G. REFERENCE: 547 030 ME 7 813 960 MN ZONE<br>GREAT SOIL GROUP: No suitable group<br>PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Dy2.23 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: ...<br>T<br>T<br>T .<br>R<br>R<br>C LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: = P<br>|
|
| C STRUCTURAL FORM: SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: DOMINANT SPECIES: FAO UNESCO UNIT:

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Hard setting



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SOIL TYPE: 5Dye<br>SITE NO: IMW S03 SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SLOPE:  $1$  % A.M.G. REFERENCE: 542 340 mE 7 814 130 mN ZONE 55 LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: No suitable group<br>PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Dy2.23 LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: Eucalyptus alba, Eucalyptus papuana, Grevillea FAO UNESCO UNIT: SURFACE COARSE FRAGMENTS: Very few medium pebbles, striata, Bothriochloa species angular

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CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Hard setting



SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SOIL TYPE: 5Dya<br>SITE NO: IMW S04 • 1<br>• F L<br>• N SLOPE:  $1$  % 541 19<br>No su:<br>FORM· P<br>|<br>C STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: Eucalyptus alba, Planchonia careya, Heteropogon<br>triticeus, Themeda australis

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Hard setting



SOIL TYPE: 4Dyl<br>SITE NO: IMC S10 SUBSTRATE MATERIAL: SLOPE:  $3$  % A.M.G. REFERENCE: 547 160 mE 7 814 020 mN ZONE LANDFORM ELEMENT TYPE: GREAT SOIL GROUP: Yellow podzolic soil<br>PRINCIPAL PROFILE FORM: Dy2.22<br>SOIL TAXONOMY UNIT: LANDFORM PATTERN TYPE: STRUCTURAL FORM: DOMINANT SPECIES: FAO UNESCO UNIT:

CONDITION OF SURFACE SOIL WHEN DRY: Hard setting



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 $\sim 10^7$ 



 $\sim 100$  km s  $^{-1}$ 

 $\sim 100$  km s  $^{-1}$ 

#### **APPENDIX II IRRIGATION LAND SUITABILITY CLASSES, BURDEKIN**  RIVER IRRIGATION AREA

Land suitability classification is the evaluation of current knowledge of land properties based on the requirements of a specified land use. Current technology and based on the requirements of a specified land use. management are assumed and the land was assessed as it was found at the time of **the** survey. Levelling and drainage will therefore improve the land suitability in some cases. The objective is sustained production with minimal land degradation. Socioeconomic factors are considered in general terms only, either at the start of the study or in the definition of the level of inputs required to overcome each limitation. The approach is qualitative in that the land suitability classes do not equate to actual costs and benefits.

Five land suitability classes have been defined with suitability decreasing progressively from Class 1 to Class 5 as follows:

- Class 1 Suitable land with negligible limitations. This is highly productive land requiring only simple management practices to maintain economic production.
- Class 2 Suitable land with minor limitations which either reduce production or require more than the simpie management practices\* of class 1 land to maintain economic production.
- Class 3 Suitable land with moderate limitations which either further lower production or require more than those management practices of class 2 land to maintain economic production.
- Class 4 Marginal land which is presently considered unsuitable due to severe limitations. The precise effects of these limitations on the proposed land use are unknown. The use of this land is dependent upon either undertaking additional studies to determine its suitability for sustained . production or reducing the effects of the limitation(s) to achieve production.

Class 5 Unsuitable land with extreme limitations that preclude its use.

Where more than simple management practices are required, this may involve changes in land preparation, irrigation management, the addition of soil ameliorants and the use of additional measures to prevent land degradation.

**APPENDIX III LAND SUITABILITY CLASSES FOR IRRIGATION OF SUGAR-CANE, MAIZE, CAPSICUMS, RICE AND MANGOES AND AREAS OF EACH UNIQUE MAP AREA (UMA),**  INKERMAN WEST AND CENTRAL SECTIONS, BRIA.



t A UMA is a complex UMA (Y) when the dominant soil type occupies <70 % of the UMA, and a simple UMA when the dominant soil type occupies > 70% of the UMA.





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# Appendix III (continued)

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Appendix III (continued)

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