

# EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

## Gippsland Plain bioregion

### EVC 23: Herb-rich Foothill Forest

#### Description:

Occurs on relatively fertile, moderately well-drained soils on an extremely wide range of geological types and in areas of moderate to high rainfall. Occupies easterly and southerly aspects mainly on lower slopes and in gullies. A medium to tall open forest or woodland to 25 m tall with a small tree layer over a sparse to dense shrub layer. A high cover and diversity of herbs and grasses in the ground layer characterise this EVC.

#### Large trees:

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

#### Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover	Character Species	Common Name
40%	Eucalyptus obliqua Eucalyptus radiata s.l.	Messmate Stringybark Narrow-leaf Peppermint

#### Understorey:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Immature Canopy Tree		5%	IT
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub	2	10%	T
Medium Shrub	5	10%	MS
Small Shrub	2	5%	SS
Prostrate Shrub	1	1%	PS
Large Herb	2	1%	LH
Medium Herb	7	10%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	2	1%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	1	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	3	20%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	1	1%	MNG
Ground Fern	2	25%	GF
Scrambler or Climber	2	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	20%	BL

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LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
MS	Leptospermum continentale	Prickly Tea-tree
MS	Epacris impressa	Common Heath
MS	Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia
MS	Acacia stricta	Hop Wattle
SS	Pimelea humilis	Common Rice-flower
PS	Acrotriche prostrata	Trailing Ground-berry
LH	Wahlenbergia gracilis s.l.	Sprawling Bluebell
MH	Gonocarpus tetragynus	Common Raspwort
MH	Viola hederacea sensu Willis (1972)	Ivy-leaf Violet
MH	Hypericum gramineum	Small St John's Wort
SH	Hydrocotyle laxiflora	Stinking Pennywort
LTG	Lomandra longifolia	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	Gahnia radula	Thatch Saw-sedge
MTG	Lomandra filiformis	Wattle Mat-rush
MTG	Themeda triandra	Kangaroo Grass
MNG	Microlaena stipoides var. stipoides	Weeping Grass
GF	Pteridium esculentum	Austral Bracken
GF	Adiantum aethiopicum	Common Maidenhair
SC	Clematis aristata	Mountain Clematis
SC	Glycine clandestina	Twining Glycine

## Recruitment:

Continuous

## Organic Litter:

40 % cover

## Logs:

20 m/0.1 ha.

## Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MH	Hypochoeris radicata	Cat's Ear	high	low
MH	Centaurium erythraea	Common Centaury	high	low

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