

EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Gippsland Plain bioregion

EVC 6: Sand Heathland

Description:

Treeless heathland (or with occasional emergent mallee-form eucalypts and/or Banksias) occurring on deep infertile sands. Consists of a low, dense heathy shrub layer and a number of sedges and sedge-like species. Grasses and herbs are notably absent or infrequent.

Life Forms:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Medium Shrub	7	55%	MS
Small Shrub	4	10%	SS
Medium Herb	3	5%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	2	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	1	5%	LTG
Large Non-tufted Graminoid	1	1%	LNG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	15%	MNG
Ground Fern	1	1%	GF
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL
Soil Crust	na	10%	S/C

LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
MS	<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath
MS	<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia
MS	<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree
MS	<i>Leptospermum myrsinoides</i>	Heath Tea-tree
SS	<i>Dillwynia glaberrima</i>	Smooth Parrot-pea
SS	<i>Platylobium obtusangulum</i>	Common Flat-pea
SS	<i>Hibbertia fasciculata</i> var. <i>prostrata</i>	Bundled Guinea-flower
SS	<i>Leucopogon virgatus</i>	Common Beard-heath
MH	<i>Gonocarpus humilis</i>	Shade Raspwort
MH	<i>Drosera peltata</i> ssp. <i>auriculata</i>	Tall Sundew
LNG	<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge
LTG	<i>Xanthorrhoea minor</i> ssp. <i>lutea</i>	Small Grass-tree
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma concavum</i>	Sandhill Sword-sedge
MNG	<i>Hypolaena fastigiata</i>	Tassel Rope-rush
MNG	<i>Schoenus brevifolius</i>	Zig-zag Bog-sedge
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken

Recruitment:

Episodic/Fire. Desirable period between disturbances is 30 years.

Organic Litter:

20% cover

Weediness:

There are no consistent weeds in this EVC.

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