EYRE PENINSULA NRM REGION

ACIDITY

Classes are based on an interpretation of soil landscape map units. Acidity varies within soil classes (depending on management practice and climate), and within map units (which often include a complex of soils). Assessments are made according to pH measurements and extrapolation between similar environments regardless of land use or management. The map units are classified according to the acidity of the most "at risk" component, provided that it accounts for more than 30% of the area. Limited occurrences of acidic soils (i.e., 10-30% of the area) are indicated as an additional class.

Classes take account of both surface and subsoil (i.e., deeper than 30 cm) acidity and the buffering capacity of the surface soil (buffering capacity is an indication of the soil's capacity to resist acidification).

SOIL ACIDITY      SURFACE BUFFERING CAPACITY

Negligible        Any
10 - 30% of soils acidic *        Any
Surface soil only         Moderate to high
Surface soil only         Low
Surface and subsoil       Moderate to high
Surface and subsoil       Low

* Includes any susceptible soils, without distinction between surface and subsoil, or buffering capacity.

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Land management - DESWRL Soil and Land Program, April 2002

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