

495111

EGG LAGOON

An area 9.5 by 1.5 kilometres which comprises this land system includes the area known as Egg Lagoon and other small scattered areas of flat plain in the northern part of King Island.

Stephens and Hosking (1932), mapped and described these as areas of swamp soils. Soil profiles vary but all are dark, highly organic and contain finely divided particles of calcium carbonate. The most fertile soils on King Island occur within this land system.

Only small remnants of the native vegetation remain but it has been reported (op. cit.) that former stands were comprised of paperbark. These were characteristically tall, frequently reaching almost 20 metres in height, and with diameters at the base often greater than 60 centimetres. Sedges and reeds were also very common.

Once drained these flats constitute valuable grazing and cropland, and virtually the whole land system has been brought into agricultural production.

Waterlogging is the main hazard on these naturally swampy areas.

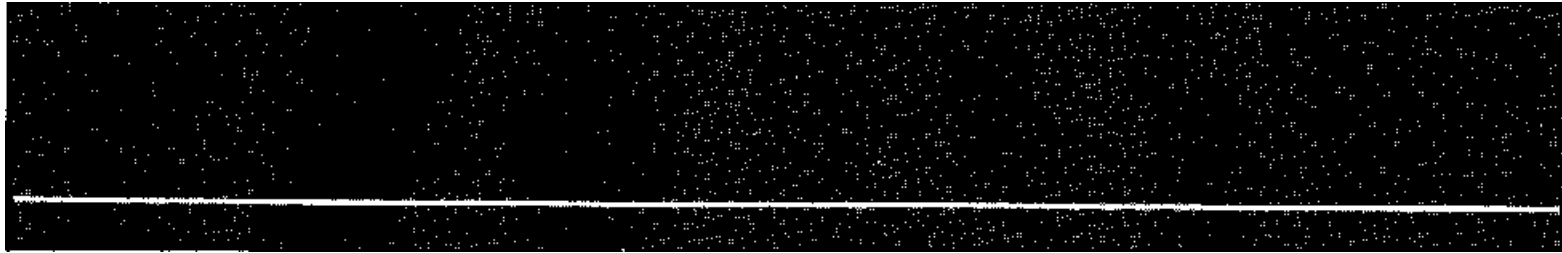


The soils became highly productive once adequately drained.

LAND SYSTEM

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Egg Lagoon



COMPONENT	1
PROPORTION %	100
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm
GEOLOGY	Quaternary sand and clay deposits
TOPOGRAPHY Land form Position Average Sideslope ⁰	Flat plain 0
NATIVE VEGETATION Structure Association	Paperbark Closed scrub
SOIL Surface Texture Permeability Average Depth m	Dark organic soils, finely divided calcium carbonate, sandy to sandy clay B horizons Peaty loam High >1.8
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing, cropping
HAZARDS	High waterlogging