THE VALUE OF NATIVE WOODLAND ON FARMS

Black gum/Brookers gum forests and woodlands



Tasmanian forests and woodlands dominated by black gum or Brookers gum are critically endangered and unique to Tasmania.

These forests are commonly found on agricultural land and bring many benefits to landscape health. Over 90% of this ecosystem has been lost to historical clearing. The condition of remaining forests will decline unless actions are taken to reduce threats.

How healthy forest communities can benefit farms



The most valuable patches are at least 0.5 ha, have large trees with hollows, native understorey plants and are connected to other native forests and vegetation.

Threats

- Native vegetation clearance
- Introduced pest animals and weeds
- Changes to water flow and quality
- Stock grazing
- Changing fire regimes
- Disease and dieback
- Climate change

Farmers can improve woodland health



Do you have this community on your property?



- Black gum or Brookers gum will be the main tree canopy species and will typically be over 5 m tall
- An understorey of native shrubs, grasses, sedges and other native herbs
- Usually found along waterways or in low-lying areas that are wet or seasonally waterlogged
- Mostly native species
- Patches connected to other native vegetation remnants
- Need help with ID? Try the Eucaflip guide or search online for the Key to Tasmanian Dicots.

More information

- NRM South factsheet, available to download from the NRM South website.
- Dept. of Agriculture, Water and the Environment factsheet

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