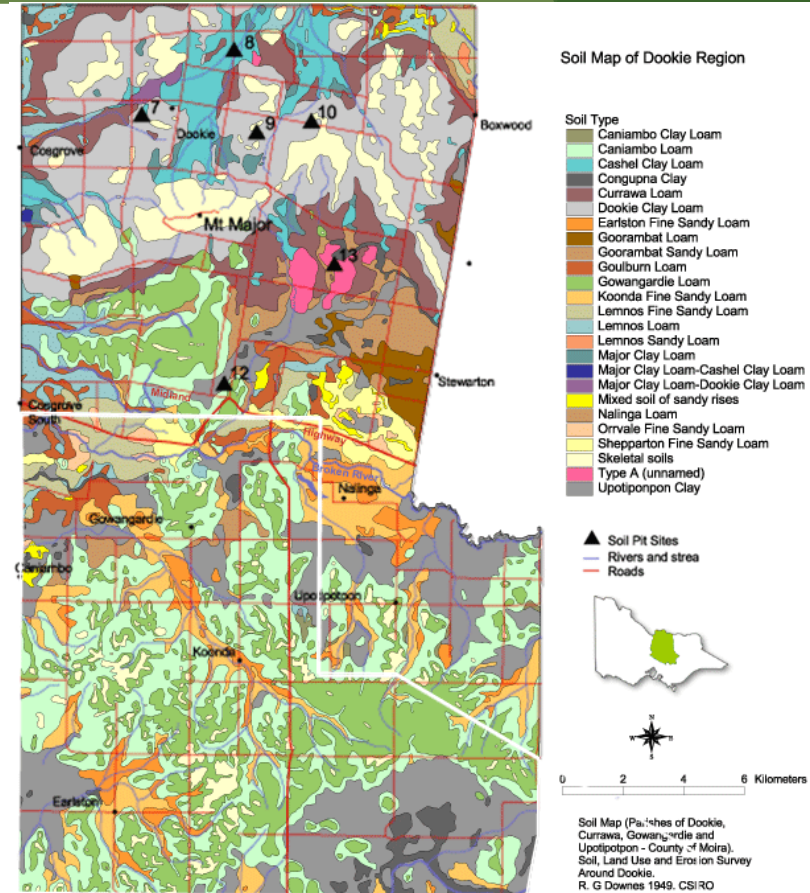


A case for soil health

Brad Costin

Soil health

- Different soils have different qualities.
- These qualities determine the level of a soils inherent potential.
- Soil health is about the 'fitness' / condition of soil to achieve this inherent potential.
- Strict definitions of healthy soil ?



However,



Supplies nutrients, water & oxygen



Allows water to infiltrate freely



Readily exchanges gases with the atmosphere



Has a range of pore spaces



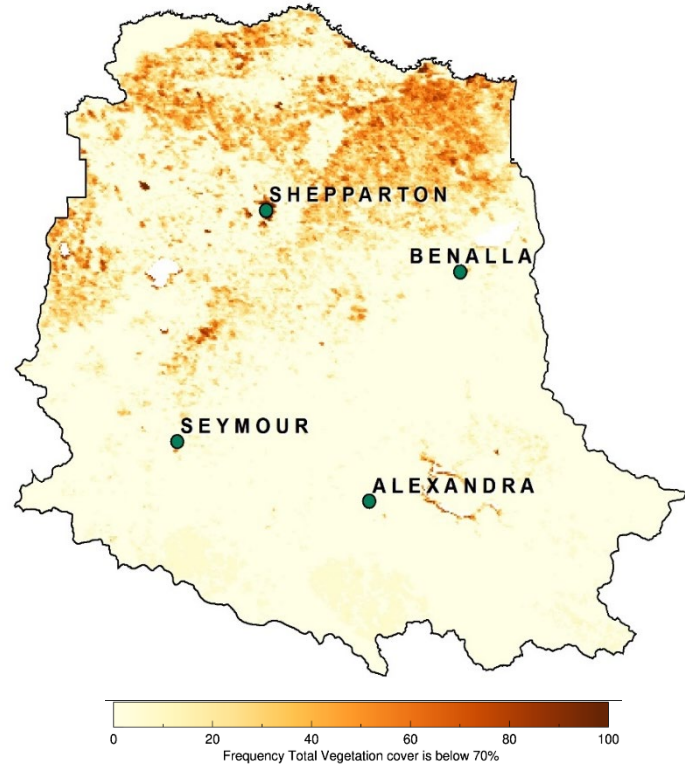
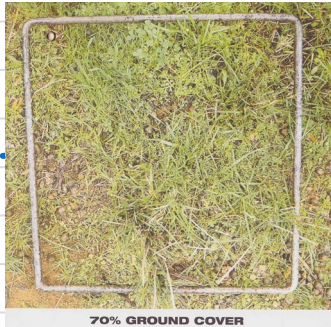
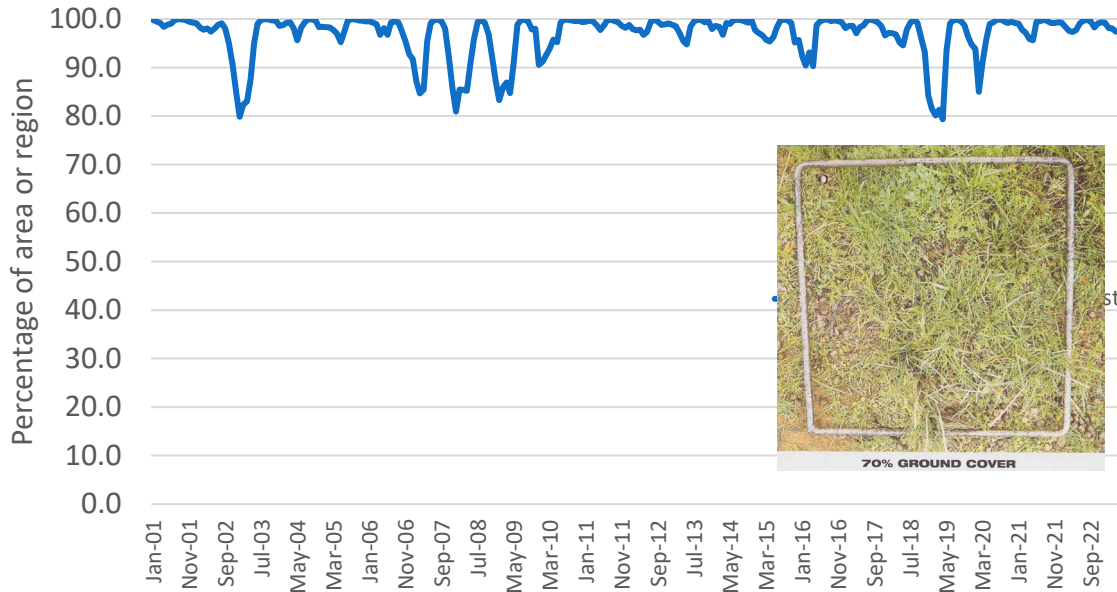
Is not acidifying or salinising



Resists erosion

Resilient soils supporting agriculture

Area of Grazing land in Goulburn Broken Catchment Protected from Water and Wind Erosion (% of catchment)



Soil- a composite of functions

