

# Land Resource Study

## **29 Land resources of central Nigeria Agricultural development possibilities Volume 1 A The Bauchi Plains Executive Summary**

# Land resources of central Nigeria Agricultural development possibilities

## Volume 1A Bauchi Plains Executive Summary

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**Land Resources Development Centre**

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**Land resources of central**

**Nigeria**

**Agricultural development**

**possibilities**

**Volume 1A Bauchi Plains**

**Executive Summary**

**Land Resources Development Centre**

**Central Nigeria Project Team**

**(ed. I D Hill)**

(J G Bennett, A Blair Rains, P N Gosden, W J Howard, A A Hutcheon, W B Kerr,  
J E Mansfield, L J Rackham, A W Wood)

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Land Resources Development Centre, Ministry of Overseas Development,  
Tolworth Tower, Surbiton, Surrey, England KT6 7DY  
1978

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## **LAND RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT CENTRE\***

The Land Resources Development Centre of the Ministry of Overseas Development assists developing countries in mapping, investigating and assessing land resources, and makes recommendations on the use of these resources for the development of agriculture, livestock husbandry and forestry; it also gives advice on related subjects to overseas governments and organisations, makes scientific personnel available for appointment abroad and provides lectures and training courses in the basic techniques of resource appraisal and development.

The Centre works in close cooperation with government departments, research institutes, universities and international organisations concerned with land resources assessment and development planning.

\*The name of the former Land Resources Division was changed to Land Resources Development Centre in June 1978.

## **CENTRE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT DES RESSOURCES DE LA TERRE\***

Le Centre de Développement des Ressources de la Terre (l'un des organismes scientifiques du Ministère britannique de Développement Outremer) apporte son aide aux pays en voie de développement en matière de cartographie, recherche et évaluation des ressources de la terre et fournit des recommandations quant à l'exploitation de ces ressources pour le développement de l'agriculture, l'élevage et la sylviculture. Le Centre conseille également, dans les domaines annexes, gouvernements et organismes outremer, se charge de trouver du personnel scientifique pour les postes à pourvoir à l'étranger et organise des conférences et des stages de formation sur les techniques de base relatives à l'évaluation et la mise en valeur des ressources.

Le Centre travaille en étroite coopération avec services gouvernementaux, instituts de recherche, universités et organismes internationaux s'occupant d'évaluation des ressources de la terre et de plans de développement.

\*L'ancienne Division des Ressources de la Terre (Land Resources Division) a été renommée Centre de Développement des Ressources de la Terre (Land Resources Development Centre) en juin 1978.

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## **List of volumes**

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Title: Land resources of central Nigeria: agricultural development possibilities. LRDC central Nigeria Project Team (Eds I D Hill & J R D Wall)

Volume 1A The Bauchi Plains, Executive Summary

Volume 1B The Bauchi Plains

Volume 2A The Jos Plateau, Executive Summary

Volume 2B The Jos Plateau

Volume 3A The Jemaa Platform, Executive Summary

Volume 3B The Jemaa Platform

Volume 4A The Benue Valley, Executive Summary

Volume 4B The Benue Valley

Volume 5A The Kaduna Plains, Executive Summary

Volume 5B The Kaduna Plains

Volume 6A The Kano Plains, Executive Summary

Volume 6B The Kano Plains

Volume 7 An atlas of resource maps

## NOTICE TO READERS

This report is derived from a draft issued to the Nigeria Federal and State authorities in 1977.

Readers concerned purely with administrative or policy decisions in relation to agricultural development will find in this volume a summary of the types of development considered and a brief account of the locations of the various development possibilities. There is also an introductory précis of the whole of the Executive Summary.

The attention of readers is drawn to the section in Part 1 on the use of the present report and other associated documents on the Bauchi Plains issued by LRDC.

Readers requiring more detailed information and discussion should consult Volume 1B.

Throughout this report the word 'agriculture' has been used in a broad sense to include crop production, range management and forestry.

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2. Present land use - the Bauchi Plains (Sheets a and b)
3. Areas with minimum environmental limitations to crop production -  
the Bauchi Plains (Sheets a and b)
4. Agricultural development possibilities - the Bauchi Plains  
(Sheets a and b)

MICROFICHES (inside back cover of Vol. 1B)

HILL I D, ALFORD M, HUTCHEON A A, RACKHAM L J, TULEY P & WOOD A W  
(1974-75) Interim report on the landforms, soils and vegetation of  
the Bauchi area. Volume 1, Landforms and soils. Volume 2, Climate and  
vegetation. Volume 3, The map units. Miscellaneous Report 152.

# Précis

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This précis summarises agricultural development possibilities in an area referred to as the Bauchi Plains. The area, shown on the accompanying Separate Maps and on Text Map 1.2b (following page 3), in relation to administrative boundaries, falls mainly within Bauchi State. It is part of a much larger area in which land resources surveys have been undertaken as part of a British technical cooperation programme (see Text Map 1.1 (p.1)).

A number of different types of agricultural development have been identified in consultation with State and Federal authorities. These are:

1. Establishment of integrated agricultural development projects
2. Establishment of large mechanised farms
3. Improvement of traditional grazing
4. Establishment of grazing reserves
5. Establishment of cattle ranches and dairy farms
6. Forestry development for timber production
7. Forestry development for production of timber and poles
8. Establishment of new forest reserves for erosion protection.

The areas which are considered environmentally suitable for the different types of development are shown on Separate Map 4, on Text Maps 1.3 to 1.9 and in Table 2 (p.10). Some areas are suitable for more than one type of development, so there may be a number of agricultural development options in one area. It must again be emphasised that the various development possibilities have been assessed on environmental criteria. No attempt has been made to rank them on the basis of socioeconomic or political factors.

Some types of agricultural development preclude other types and may also have consequences for the existing occupants of the area. For example, the development of an integrated agricultural development project might mean it is necessary to move settled farmers, but it may also be necessary to consider the needs of pastoral communities when traditional grazing areas are involved; development within a grazing area may affect both the pressure on adjacent land and the level of stocking in distant parts of the country. Thus a decision to undertake a specific type of agricultural development cannot be made by departments in isolation.

Areas in which the limitations to the growth of maize, millet, sorghum, groundnuts and cotton are at a minimum are shown on Separate Map 3 and in Table 3 (p. 12). Although the information is generalised, it is relevant to "Operation Feed the Nation!"

The conclusions are based on extensive field work by a team of nine scientists over a period of 7 years. There is therefore a large amount of information on present land use, farming systems, rangeland, forestry, landforms, soils and natural vegetation, which is contained in supplementary reports (see p. xi). Consequently, detailed surveys for development projects undertaken in future should not require an extensive reconnaissance phase.

# List of LRDC reports on the Bauchi Plains

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A full list is given below of the reports on the Bauchi Plains issued by the Land Resources Development Centre. They contain information for the specialist. They are obtainable only with the agreement of the Nigerian Government. Selected specialist reports are reproduced as microfiches inside the rear cover of the present report.

BAWDEN M G & TULEY P (1968) Preliminary observations on land resources and tsetse control in the Bauchi Area. Miscellaneous Report 63.

BAWDEN M G & RACKHAM L J (1969) The physiography of the basement land province: interim report on the land resources of central Nigeria. Miscellaneous Report 75.;

POSNETT N W, REILLY P M & WHITFIELD P (1971) Nigeria. Volumes 1, 2, 3. Land Resource Bibliography 2.

HILL I D, ALFORD M, HUTCHEON A A, RACKHAM L J, TULEY P & WOOD A W (1974-75) Interim report on the landforms, soils and vegetation of the Bauchi area. Volume 1, Landforms and soils. Volume 2, Climate and vegetation. Volume 3, The map units. Miscellaneous Report 152 (microfiches inside rear cover).

BLAIR RAINS A (1975) Livestock production in the Central Nigeria Project area. Miscellaneous Report 198.

HOWARD W J (1976) Land resources of central Nigeria. Forestry. Land Resource Report 9.

GOSDEN P N (1978) Land resources of central Nigeria. Farming systems. Land Resource Report 17.

MANSFIELD J E (in preparation) Land resources of central Nigeria. The interpretation of environmental data in terms of limitations to crop growth. Land Resource Report 22.

BLAIR RAINS A (1978) Land resources of central Nigeria. Rangeland and livestock production. Land Resource Report 18.

## **Part 1**

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# Part 1 Introduction

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## PREFACE

In June 1968 the Nigerian Government asked the British Government to investigate the land resources of parts of each of the six northern states of Nigeria. The investigations have been undertaken by the Land Resources Development Centre (then the Land Resources Division) of the British Government's Ministry of Overseas Development.

The project area covers approximately 230 000 km<sup>2</sup> (90 000 mi<sup>2</sup>). Its western and eastern boundaries are marked approximately by 7° and 10° longitude and it extends from south of the Benue Valley northwards to the border with the Niger Republic (see Text Map 1.1).

Fieldwork was completed in 1976, and a draft of this report was distributed to the Nigerian Federal and State authorities in the following year. The results of the surveys and the draft reports for the Bauchi Plains, Jos Plateau, Jema'a Platform and Benue Valley were discussed in detail at a seminar held in Kaduna in February 1978. This seminar was opened by the Hon Mr Zakariya B Gaiya, Commissioner of Agriculture, Kaduna State and was attended by senior officials from Federal and State ministries and by staff members from several universities. Permission was subsequently received to publish this report for international distribution.

The many background and specialist reports on which the recommendations of the study are based are listed on p.xi. Some are reproduced as microfiches inside the rear cover of this report.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the project were to investigate and describe the land resources with particular reference to their agricultural potential. More specifically, at the request of State and Federal authorities, an assessment has been made of the area's suitability for the growth of annual rainfed crops, maize, millet, sorghum, yams, rice, groundnuts and cotton together with its rangeland and forestry potential. Agricultural development in the more suitable areas has been considered in the context of improving and expanding existing agriculture and establishing new, large-scale, capital-intensive schemes.

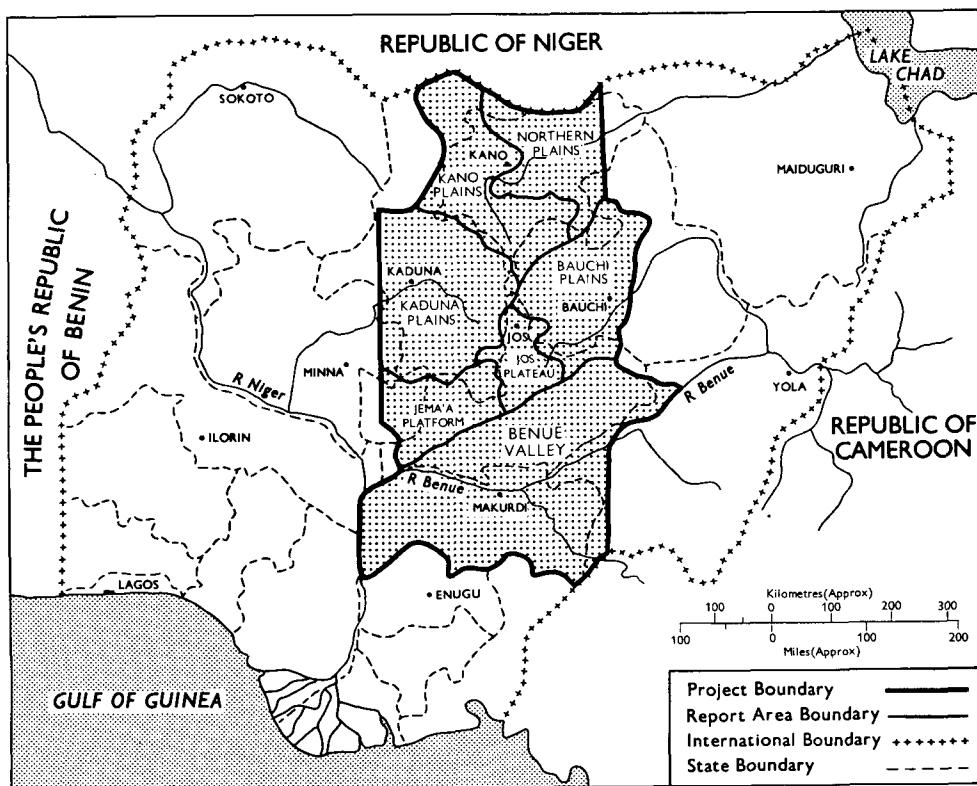
## METHODS

From a study of aerial photographs the area was divided into units with similar landforms. Ground investigations of the soils and vegetation within these units, linked with climatic studies, enabled areas with the same pattern of climate, landform, soil and vegetation to be defined. Such areas are called land systems. These land systems are identified by numbers, are shown in Separate Maps 1 - 4 which accompany this report and are referred to whenever development possibilities are discussed.

The environmental data for each land system were interpreted in terms of suitability for various crops, grazing and forestry. This information, taken in association with studies of present land use, was used to identify a number of development possibilities. More details of the methods used are contained in the reports listed on page xi.

## TEXT MAP 1.1

### LOCATION OF CENTRAL NIGERIA PROJECT



## FIELDWORK AND TEAM COMPOSITION

Fieldwork started in January 1969 and continued until December 1976. Details of the progress of fieldwork have been given in six-monthly progress reports issued by the Land Resources Development Centre.

The project team is listed below, by scientific discipline

Agriculture	P N Gosden (1974-77), J E Mansfield (1973-77)
Ecology	R M Lawton (1975), R Rose-Innes (1975-77), P Tuley (1969-72), Mrs M Alford (1970-75)
Forestry	W J Howard (1973-76)
Rangeland	A Blair Rains (1974-77), C R C Hendy (1975)
Geomorphology	M G Bawden (1968-73), L J Rackham (1970-77), Mrs J A Jones (1970-73)
Soil science	J G Bennett (1973-77), I D Hill (1969-76), A A Hutcheon (1969-77), W B Kerr (1974-77), J R D Wall (1976-77), A W Wood (1971-75)
Soil erosion	R B Jones (1975)
Agricultural economics consultant R Moyle (1975)	

## REPORTING

As the project area is so large it has been divided into six major physiographic regions, the Bauchi Plains, the Jos Plateau, the Jema'a Platform, the Benue Valley and the Kaduna and Kano Plains. These physiographic regions are shown on Text Maps 1.2a and 1.2b in relation to state boundaries. Each region has been reported on separately.

The agricultural development possibilities in each region are discussed in separate volumes of this Land Resource Study: the six volumes are listed on page v.

Environmental data collected during the survey for each of the major physiographic regions is contained in a series of reports published by this Centre; those relating to the Bauchi Plains are listed on page xi. The list also includes reports dealing specifically with rangeland and forestry for the whole project area.

## USE OF THE REPORTS

### Land Resource Study Volume 1A, The Bauchi Plains, Executive Summary

This summary will be of use to administrators in deciding development possibilities. Following discussions with Federal and State authorities, the report has been structured so that it can be used in three ways:

1. Selection of areas for a particular type of agricultural development
2. Selection of areas for increasing the production of a given crop
3. Selection of types of agricultural development within particular administrative units

#### 1. Selection of areas for a particular type of agricultural development

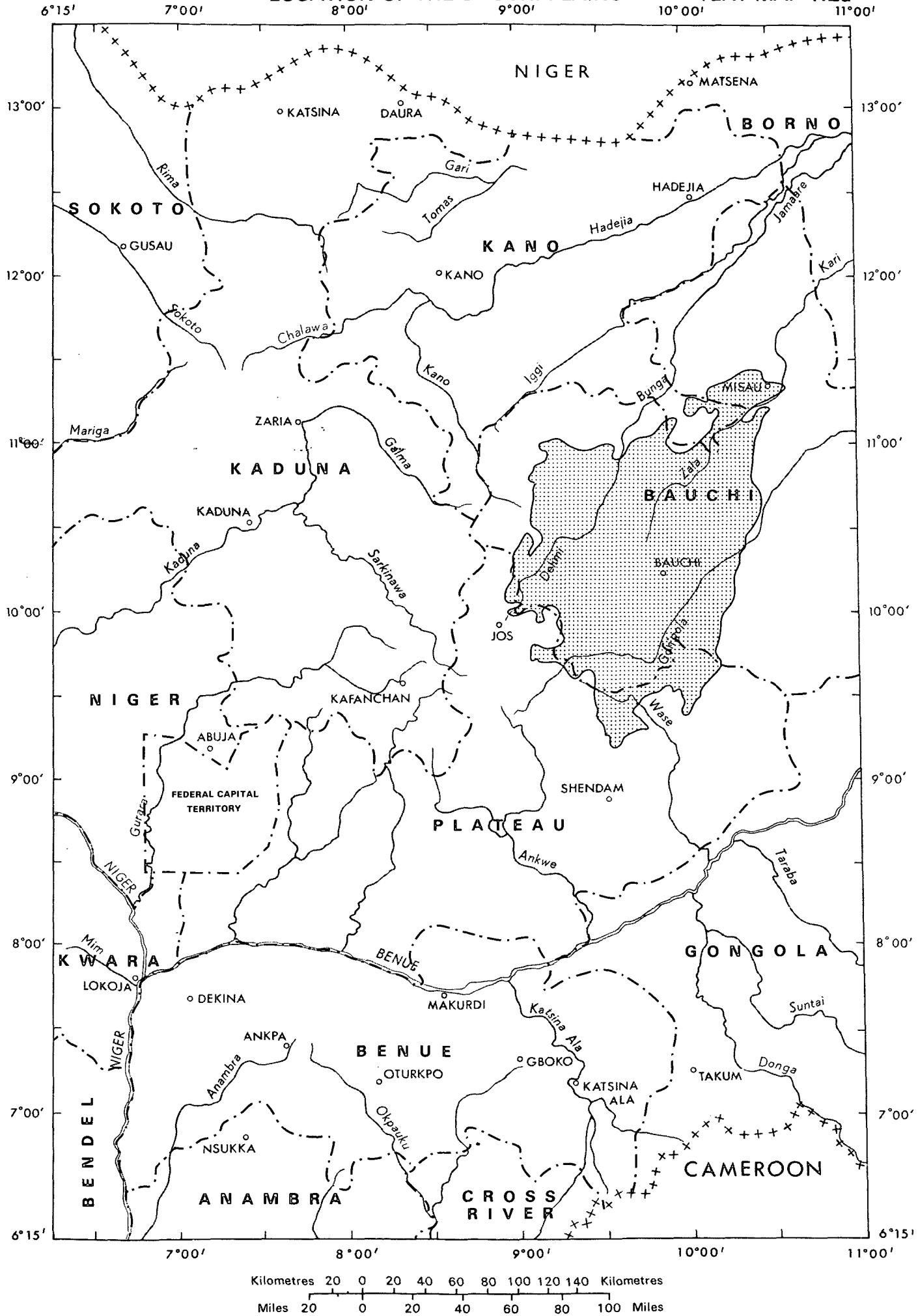
The types of development are summarised in Table 1 and discussed more fully in the main report. The areas in which the environmental limitations to particular types of development are at a minimum are shown on Text Maps 1.3 to 1.9. They can be located more specifically by reference to Table 2, where the areas are identified by land system numbers which are shown on the separate maps accompanying Volume 1B.

#### 2. Selection of areas for the production of particular crops Areas in which the environmental limitations to the growth of particular crops are at a minimum are listed in Table 3 in relation to administrative units. They are identified more specifically by land system numbers which are shown on the separate maps.

#### 3. Selection of types of agricultural development within particular administrative units Table 2 shows the location of particular types of development in relation to administrative units. Similarly Table 3 shows land system for the production of specific crops in relation to administrative units. The administrative units are shown on Text Map 1.2b.

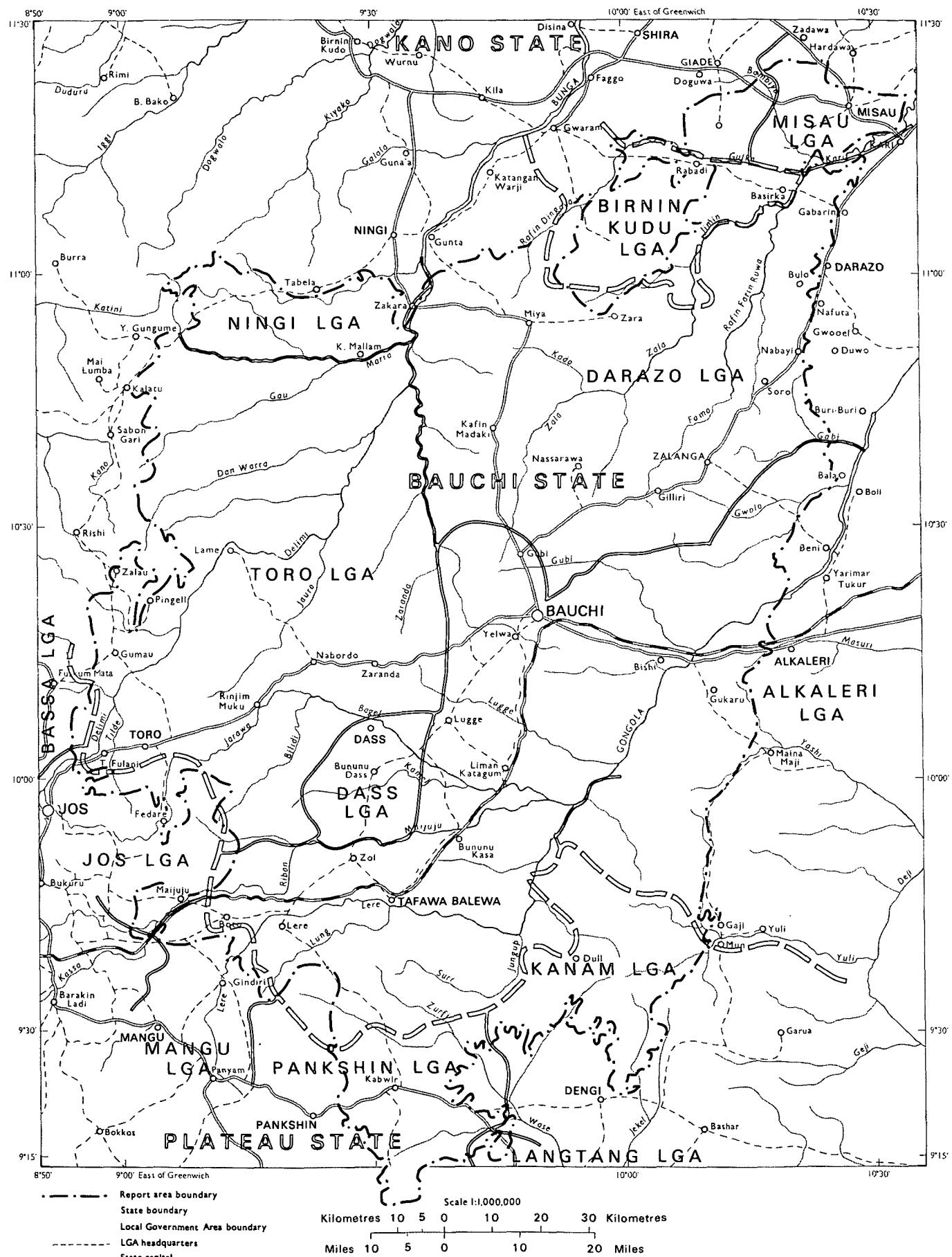
### LOCATION OF THE BAUCHI PLAINS

### TEXT MAP 1.2a



## TEXT MAP 1.2b

## POST-1976 ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES OF THE BAUCHI PLAINS



Using the report in one or all of these three ways enables a number of agricultural developments to be identified. They have been assessed on environmental criteria and no attempt has been made to rank them in economic terms. The further action necessary to decide which of the development possibilities should be implemented is outlined in Part 2.

### **Land Resource Study Volume 1B, The Bauchi Plains**

This volume will be of use to technical and planning officers concerned with the formulation of plans or responsible for the implementation of planning decisions. It contains general information about the environment and more detailed environmental and present land use data in relation to development possibilities. It also contains a discussion of the various types of development and the areas in which these could be located.

### **Land Resource Reports and Miscellaneous Reports**

These reports are listed on page xi. Land Resource Reports 9, 17, 18 and 22 are for the use of technical and planning officers; they contain more detailed assessments of forestry, present land use, cattle production and limitations to crop growth than are contained in the Land Resource Study. The remaining Land Resource Reports and Miscellaneous Reports should be of use to specialists concerned with the implementation of particular projects as they contain detailed environmental information.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS**

The boundaries of the new States announced in January 1976 have been derived from Federal Surveys 1:1 500 000 map of Nigeria (1976). Data have been referred to Local Government Areas in all States. The boundaries of these administrative units have been derived from the best available published maps.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We wish to thank the staff of the Federal and State Ministries of Agriculture and Natural Resources for assistance during the project.

Thanks are also due to the Director and staff of the Institute for Agricultural Research, Ahmadu Bello University, for help and cooperation in all stages of the survey and to the staff of the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture, Ibadan, for technical advice.

## **Part 2**

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## **Part 2 Summary of agricultural development possibilities**

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### **TYPES OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Different types of agricultural development have been considered with reference to the Third National Development Plan 1975-80 and discussions with Federal and State authorities and the staff of research institutes in Nigeria.

The definitions summarised in Table 1 are based on these discussions and experience of similar development projects in Nigeria. They are more fully discussed in Volume 1B.

### **ASSESSMENT OF AREAS FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Any particular form of development should result in increased agricultural production almost anywhere in the Bauchi Plains, but to be most effective it should be located in areas where environmental and present land use limitations are at a minimum. In assessing whether an area is suitable for a particular type of development the following factors have been considered:

Climate

Size and distribution of the land system

Soil limitations to crop growth

Slopes in relation to erosion hazard

TABLE 1 Types of agricultural development

Type of development		Summary definition of development
1. Integrated agriculture	(a) In densely cultivated areas	Establishment of integrated agricultural development projects aimed at increasing existing agricultural production per ha by improving infrastructure (communications, supply of agricultural inputs, produce marketing, credit facilities and extension service coverage). Run by a semi-autonomous project authority and making use of self-help wherever possible. Allied to general improvement of social services.
	(b) In sparsely cultivated areas	As above but also able to increase production by increasing the area under cultivation and/or introducing 'mixed farming'.
2. Mechanised farming		Establishment of large mechanised farms ( $> 1\,000$ ha) requiring a high level of management expertise and mechanisation of all stages of production from land preparation to harvest. Good planning and adequate conservation measures are essential. Limited to sparsely cultivated areas.
3. Traditional grazing		Improvement of traditional grazing including control of flock numbers, the elimination of unregulated pruning and the introduction of forage species into natural grassland. These measures, together with the establishment of grazing reserves and the allocation of grazing rights, are components of a suggested programme to be organised at inter-State level. Limited to sparsely cultivated areas.
4. Grazing reserves		Establishment of reserves in the major traditional wet and dry season grazing areas and along migration routes, with additional reserves within areas free or being freed of tsetse by the eradication programme. Provision of adequate water supplies, veterinary services and improved natural grassland, coupled with strict control of stock numbers. Limited to sparsely cultivated areas.
5. Cattle ranches and dairy farming		Establishment of ranches for 'growing out' cattle drawn from Fulani herd. Stock numbers restricted to 2 000 head until the viability of the ranch is established. Area not less than 2 000 ha per 1 000 head of cattle, with 1 200 ha for wet season and early dry season grazing and 800 ha for fodder grass to provide additional dry season roughage. Supplementary dry season feeding by cottonseed, cottonseed cake, groundnut cake, brewers grains or molasses as available. Limited to sparsely cultivated areas. Establishment of dairy herds of not more than 100 milking cows. Total area not less than 250 ha, with 130 ha improved pastures for wet and dry season grazing and 50 ha to provide additional dry season feed, supplemented by locally available concentrates and crop residues.
6/7. Production forestry	6. Development for production of timber	Development financed and managed by Government and covering a few to 100 ha in one location, usually for sawn timber production for local use, alternatively by a commercial company at minimum annual planting rate of 400 ha for sawn timber or pulp. Confined to forest reserves.
	7. Development for production of firewood and poles	(a) Production by State and Federal Departments in forest reserves. (b) Production by farmers on small woodlots, backed by extension service. (c) Extraction from areas of natural vegetation in forest reserves.
8. Protection forestry, reservation to protect areas against erosion or strict conservation resources		Protection of existing and establishment of new forest reserves in areas with slopes greater than 10% ( $6^\circ$ ) where conservation is required. Protection required only in parts of area.

Distribution and intensity of present cultivation  
Present farming systems  
Existing extension coverage  
Present grazing status and cattle movements  
Existing forestry activities  
Communications

These factors are considered within the framework of land systems. For convenience the land systems have been grouped according to the number of crop options, that is, the number of crops for which there are few environmental limitations. This grouping shown on Separate Map 3 gives an indication of the versatility of the land for crops.

It must be emphasised that the various development possibilities have been assessed on environmental criteria: no attempt has been made to rank them in economic terms.

### **SUITABLE AREAS FOR PARTICULAR TYPES OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

The areas suitable for particular types of agricultural development are shown on Text Maps 1.3 to 1.9, and given in Table 2 in relation to administrative units and land systems. The boundaries of both administrative units and land systems are shown in more detail on the separate maps.

### **SUITABLE AREAS FOR PRODUCTION OF PARTICULAR CROPS**

The areas in which the environmental limitations to the growth of certain crops are at a minimum are given in Table 3 in relation to administrative units and land systems shown on the separate maps. Although this information is generalised it is relevant to "Operation Feed the Nation."

### **POSSIBLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN EACH ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT**

The types of development possible in each administrative unit can be derived by reference to Table 2.

TABLE 2 Agricultural development possibilities in relation to administrative units and land systems in the Bauchi Plains

Administrative unit	Land systems suitable for different types of development										
	1. Integrated agriculture		2. Mechanised farming	3. Traditional grazing	4. Grazing reserve	5. Cattle ranches and dairy farming	7*. Firewood and poles production from			8. Protection forestry	
	(a) In densely cultivated areas	(b) In sparsely cultivated areas					(a) Forest reserves	(b) Farmers wood lots	(c) Natural vegetation		
Bauchi State											
Misau	LS22,25,26 (2)	LS25		LS25		LS25		LS22,25,26 (1),(2)	All LS except 30		
Shira	LS22 (2)	LS22		LS22,19			Kurba	LS20	LS22 (1)	All LS except 30	
Darazo	LS17,18,25 (1),(2),(5)	LS17,18,20,25 (1),(2),(5),(8)	LS17,18,20,25 (1),(2),(5),(8)	LS8,14,15,17, 18,19,20,25 (1),(2),(5), (13)	LS8,14,15,17, 18,19,20,25 (1),(2),(5), (13)	LS15,17,18,20,25 (1),(2),(5),(13)	Farin Ruwa Kuna Hill Sumu Zala Zalanga	LS8,13 LS8 LS15 LS8,13,15 LS8		All LS	LS1,2,8,15,17, 18,23 (5)
Alkalere				LS8,24,27,28, 30 (1),(2),(13)	LS8,24,27,28, 30 (1),(2),(13)	LS27,28,30 (1),(2),(13)	Dutsen Bello	LS8,13,14		All LS except 29	LS1,2,10,13, 23,32 (24)
Bauchi				LS7,8,14,15, 27,28 (1),(2),(5), (9),(13)	LS7,8,14,15, 27,28 (1),(2),(5), (9),(13)	LS14,15,27,28 (1),(2),(5),(9),(13)	Buli Hill Kir Hill Ran Tala Hill	LS7 LS8,28 LS7,8 LS13		All LS except 29	LS1,2,13, (7)
Dass				LS12,14,27, 28,34 (1),(5),(12)	LS12,14,27, 28,34 (1),(5),(11),(12)	LS14,27,28,34 (1),(5),(12)				All LS	LS1,12,13,28, 32,33 (5)
Tafawa Balewa		LS8,10,31 (1),(2)		LS8,10,14,27, 28,30,31 (1),(2),(5),(13)	LS8,10,14,27, 28,30,31 (1),(2),(5),(13)	LS14,27,28,30, 31 (1),(2),(5),(9),(13)		LS3,8,27, 29,36 (1),(2),(13)	All LS except 29		LS1,2,8,12,13, 27,32,36,37 (5),(27)
Ningi				LS15,16,21 (1),(2),(5), (11),(13)	LS15,16,21 (1),(2),(5), (11),(13)	LS15,16,21 (1),(2),(5),(11), (13)				All LS	LS1,2,11,21
Toro	LS4,34,36 (5),(6),(13)			LS6,7,8,12, 15,16 (1),(2),(5), (11),(12)	LS6,7,8,12, 15,16 (1),(2),(5), (11),(12)	LS7,15 (1),(2),(5),(11),(12)	Jauro Magana Panshanu Tatu Wall Hill	LS8,11,13 LS3,36 LS3,8 LS8,11 LS3	LS4,6,34, 36 (1),(5),(13)	All LS except 4, 34,35,36	LS1,2,3,8,11, 13,15,16,32 (5),(6),(14),(36)

\* There is no forestry suitable for timber production in the Bauchi Plains

/ Land systems shown in brackets occur as small pockets within the land systems recommended for development. With the exception of the floodplain areas (Land System 5) these small pockets of land are not suitable for agricultural development possibilities of Types 1-6.

TABLE 2 Agricultural development possibilities in relation to administrative units and land systems in the Bauchi Plains (cont'd)

Administrative unit	Land systems suitable for different types of development										8. Protection forestry	
	1. Integrated agriculture		2. Mechanised farming	3. Traditional grazing	4. Grazing reserve	5. Cattle ranches and dairy farming	7*. Firewood and poles production from					
	(a) In densely cultivated areas	(b) In sparsely cultivated areas					(a) Forest reserves	(b) Farmers wood lots	(c) Natural vegetation			
							Name	LS				
<u>Plateau State</u>					LS12,27,28, 30,31 (1),(2),(5)	LS12,27,28, 30,31 (1),(2),(5)	LS28,30,31 (1),(2),(5)			All LS	LS1,2,10,12, 13,23,24,30, 32,39	
Kanam					LS12,27,28, 30,31 (1),(2),(5)	LS12,27,28, 30,31 (1),(2),(5)	LS28,30,31 (1),(2),(5)			All LS	LS1,2,10,12, 13,23,24,30, 32,39	
Pankshin	(LS29)				LS3,10 (1),(2),(32)	LS3,10 (1),(2),(32)	LS3,10 (1),(2),(32)		LS29	All LS	LS10,32 (1)	
Mangu	LS8,35 (2),(13)								LS3,8,35 (2),(13)	All LS except 4, 34,35,36	LS1,2,36	
Jos	LS4,34,35 (2),(5),(13)	LS35 (2),(3),(13)							LS4,35 (2),(5),(13)	All LS except 4, 34,35,36	LS1,2	
Barakin Ladi									LS3 (2)	All LS except 4, 34,35,36		
<u>Kano State</u>												
Birnin Kudu	LS25	LS20 (2),(13)	LS20 (2),(13)	LS19,20 (2),(5),(13)	LS19,20 (2),(5),(13)	LS20 (2),(5),(13)				All LS except 30		

\* There is no forestry suitable for timber production in the Bauchi Plains

† Land systems shown in brackets occur as small pockets within the land systems recommended for development. With the exception of the floodplain areas (Land System 5) these small pockets of land are not suitable for agricultural development possibilities of Types 1-6.

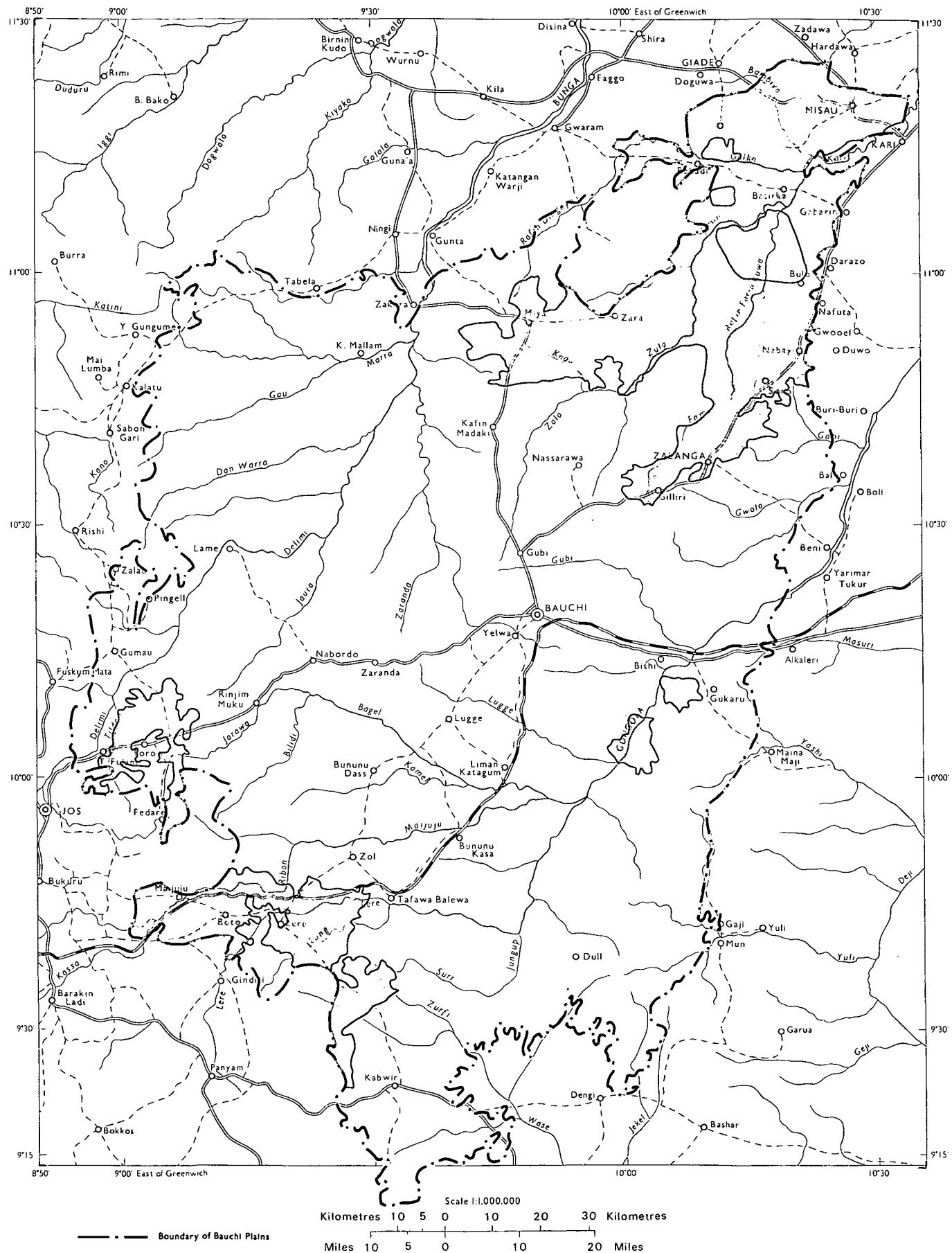
TABLE 3 Land systems with few limitations to the growth of particular crops, in relation to administrative units

Administrative unit	Land systems with few limitations to particular crops				
	Maize	Millet	Sorghum	Groundnut	Cotton
Bauchi State					
Misau		LS26	LS26	LS26	
Shira		LS22	LS22	LS22	
Darazo	LS17	LS8,17,18,20,25	LS8,17,18,20,25	LS8,17,18,20,25	
Ningi	LS9	LS9	LS9	LS9	LS9
Toro	LS9,34	LS4,8,9,36	LS4,8,9,27,34,36	LS4,8,9,27,36	LS9,34
Bauchi		LS8,10,25	LS8,10,25,27	LS8,10,25,27,28	
Alkalere		LS8,10	LS8,10,25,27	LS8,10,25,27,28,30,36	
Tafawa Balewa	LS9	LS8,9,31,36	LS8,9,27,31,36	LS8,9,27,28,29,30,31	LS9
Dass	LS9,34	LS8,9,10	LS8,9,10,27,34	LS8,9,10,27,28,34	LS9,34
Kano State					
Birnin Kudu		LS20,25	LS20,25	LS20,25	
Plateau State					
Jos	LS34	LS35,36	LS34,35,36	LS35,36	LS34
Bassa		LS4	LS4	LS4	
Mangu		LS8,35,36	LS8,35,36	LS8,35,36	
Pankshin		LS10	LS10	LS10,29	
Kanam		LS10,31,36	LS10,31,36	LS10,27,28,30,31,36	
All areas	LS9,17,34	LS4,8,9,10,17,18,20,22,25,26,31,35,36	LS4,8,9,10,17,18,20,22,25,26,27,31,34,35,36	LS4,8,9,10,17,18,20,22,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,34,35,36	LS9,34

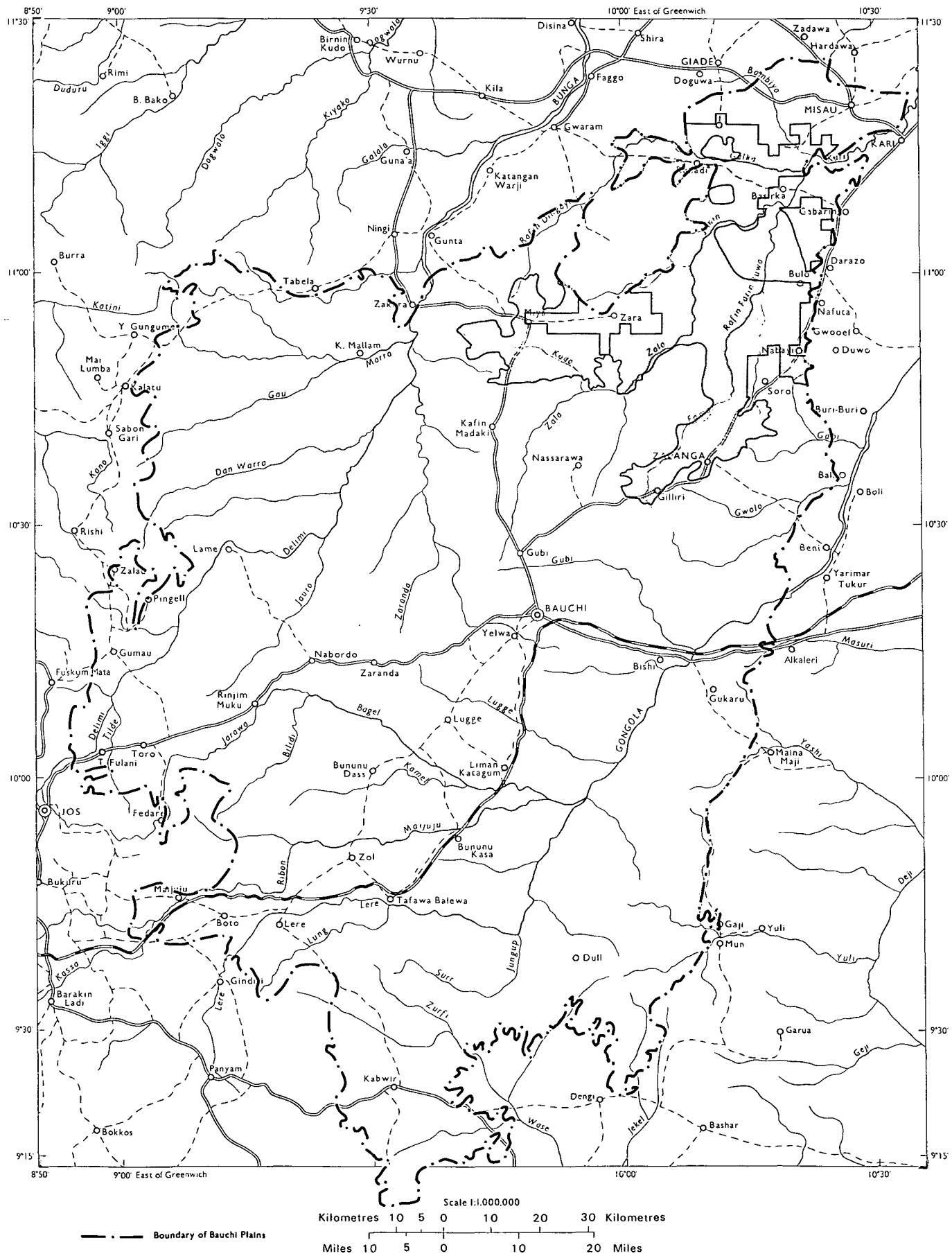
## BAUCHI PLAINS

## TEXT MAP 1.3

## AREAS SUITABLE FOR INTEGRATED AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (based on environmental and present land use factors only)



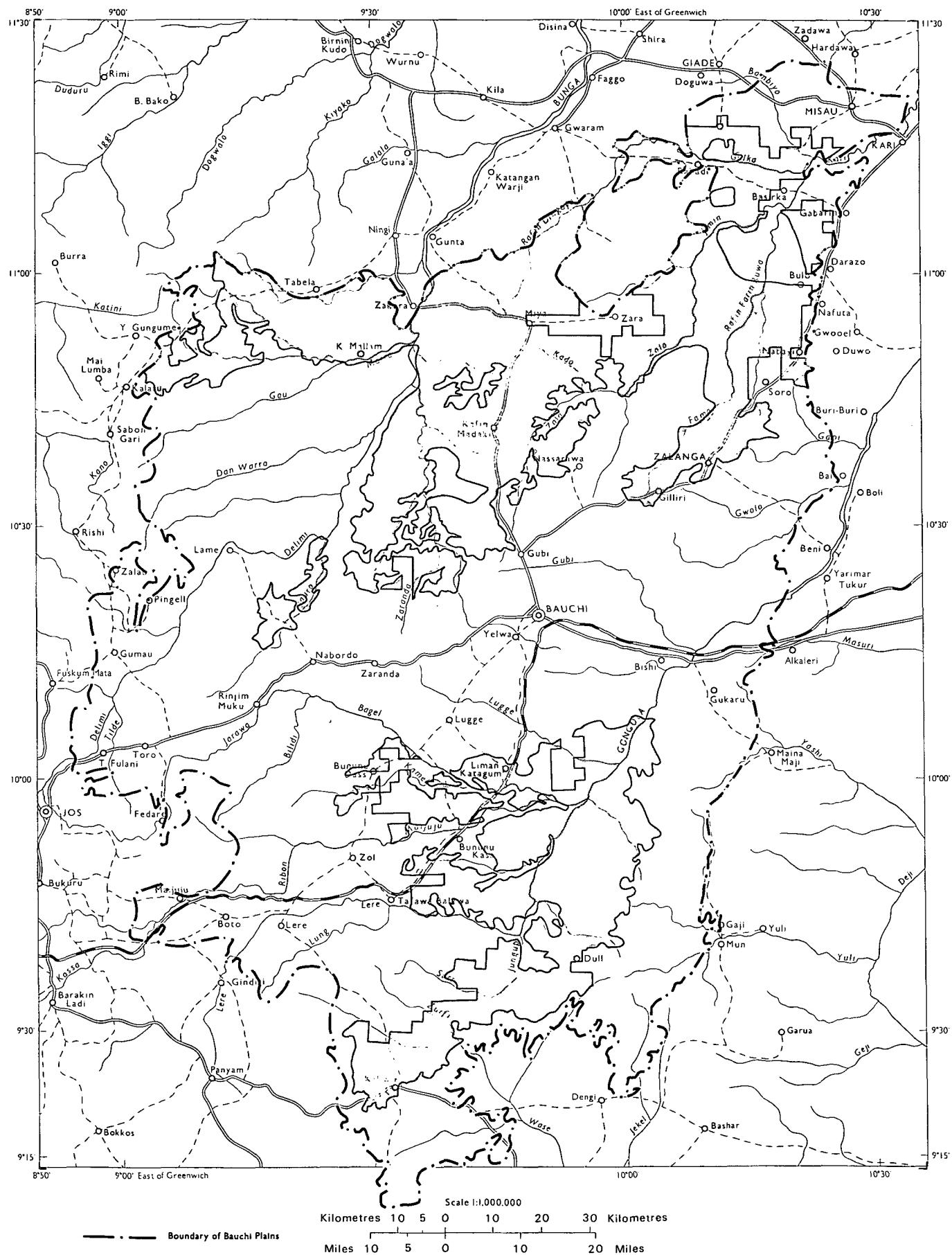
**AREAS SUITABLE FOR LARGE MECHANISED FARMS**  
(based on environmental and present land use factors only)



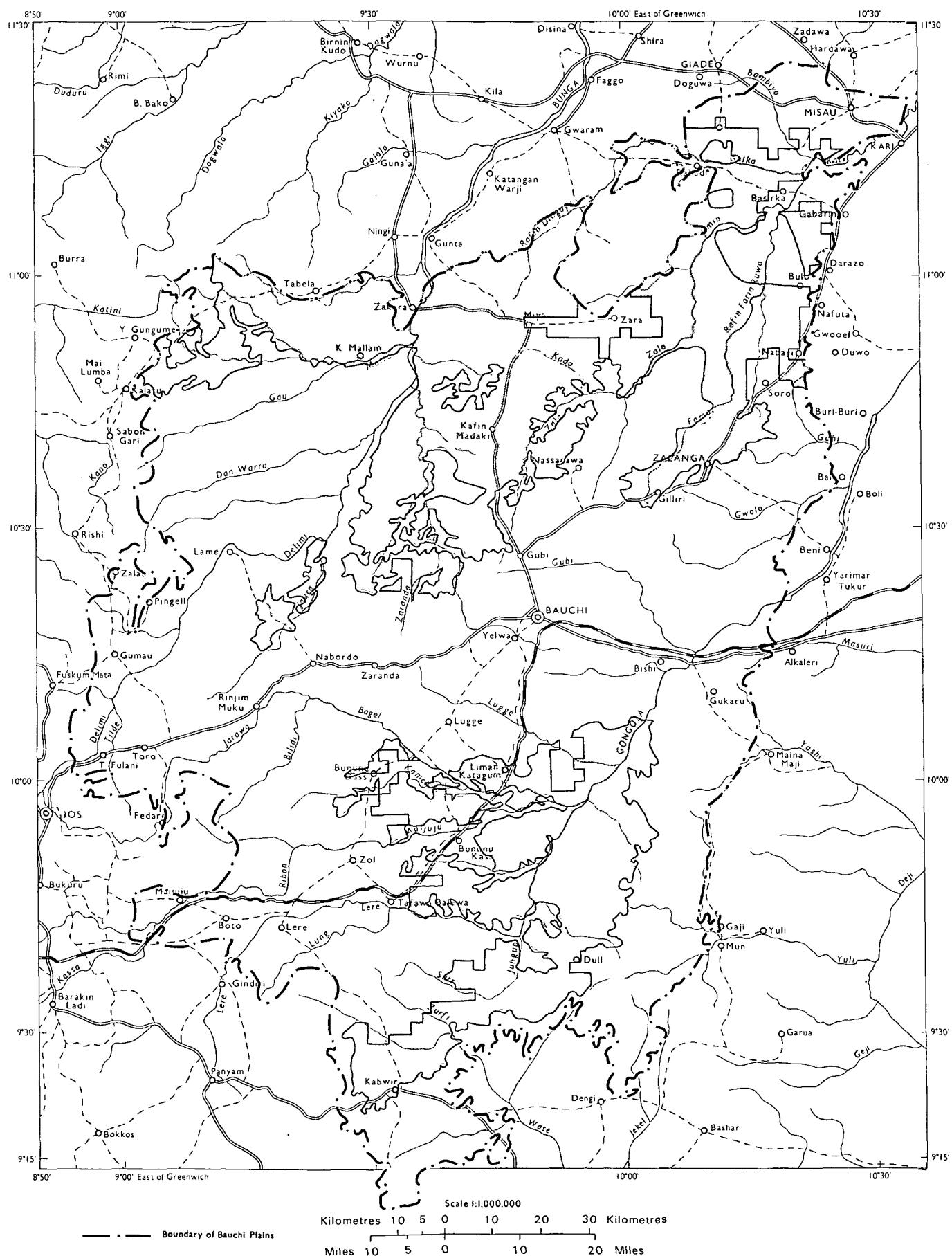
## BAUCHI PLAINS

## TEXT MAP 1.5

## AREAS SUITABLE FOR IMPROVEMENT OF TRADITIONAL GRAZING (based on environmental and present land use factors only)



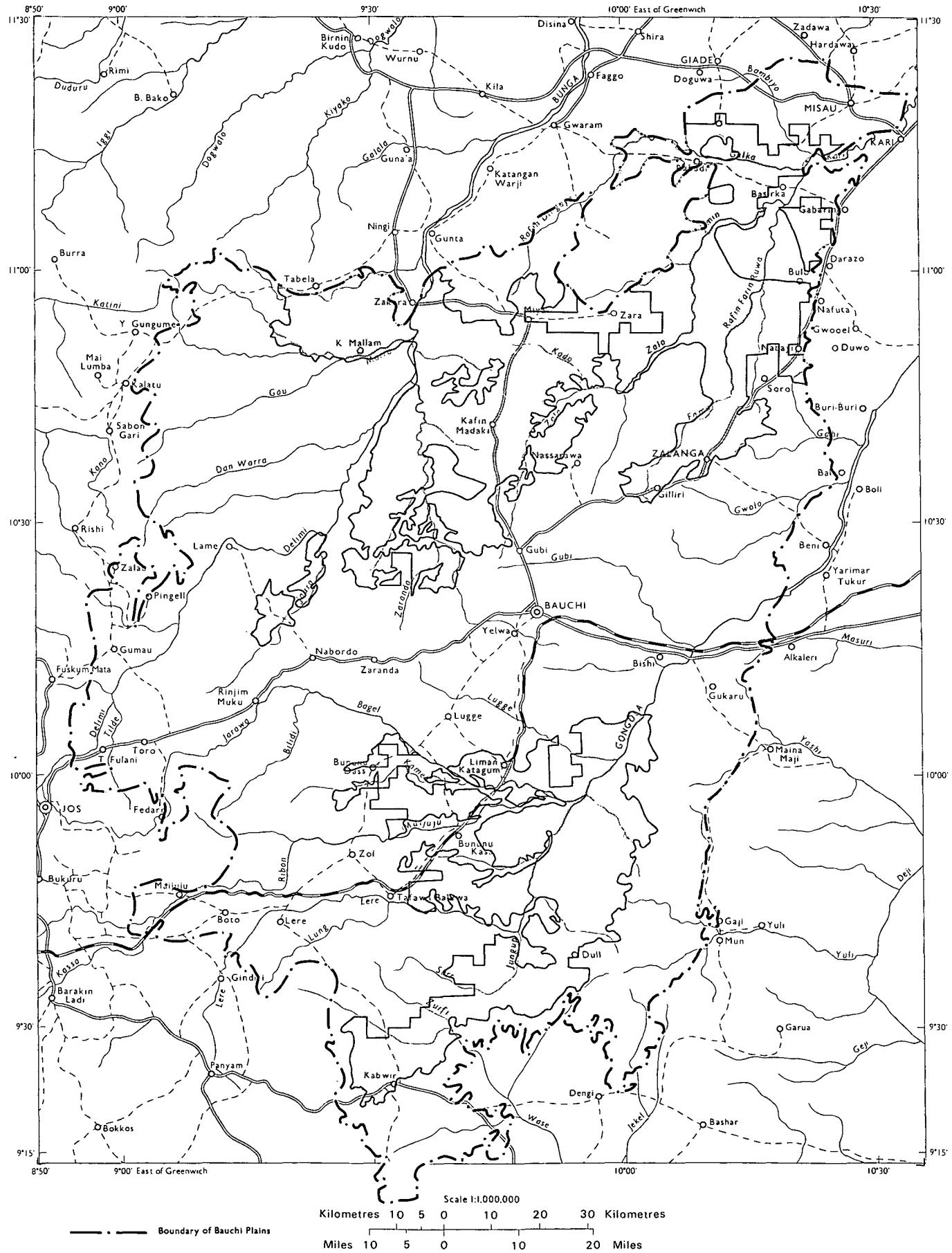
**AREAS SUITABLE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF GRAZING RESERVES**  
(based on environmental and present land use factors only)



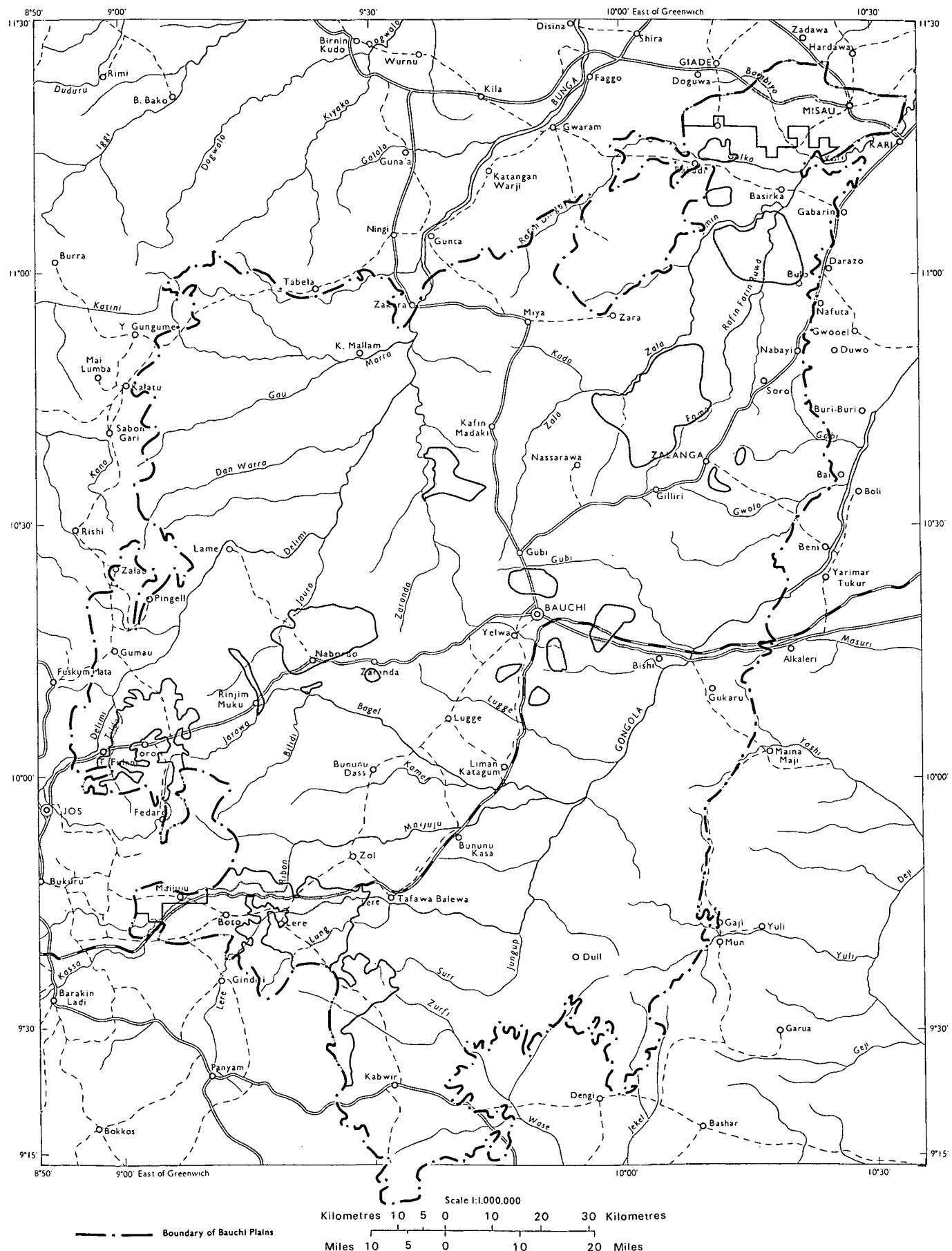
## BAUCHI PLAINS

### TEXT MAP 1.7

## AREAS SUITABLE FOR CATTLE RANCHES OR DAIRY FARMS (based on environmental and present land use factors only)



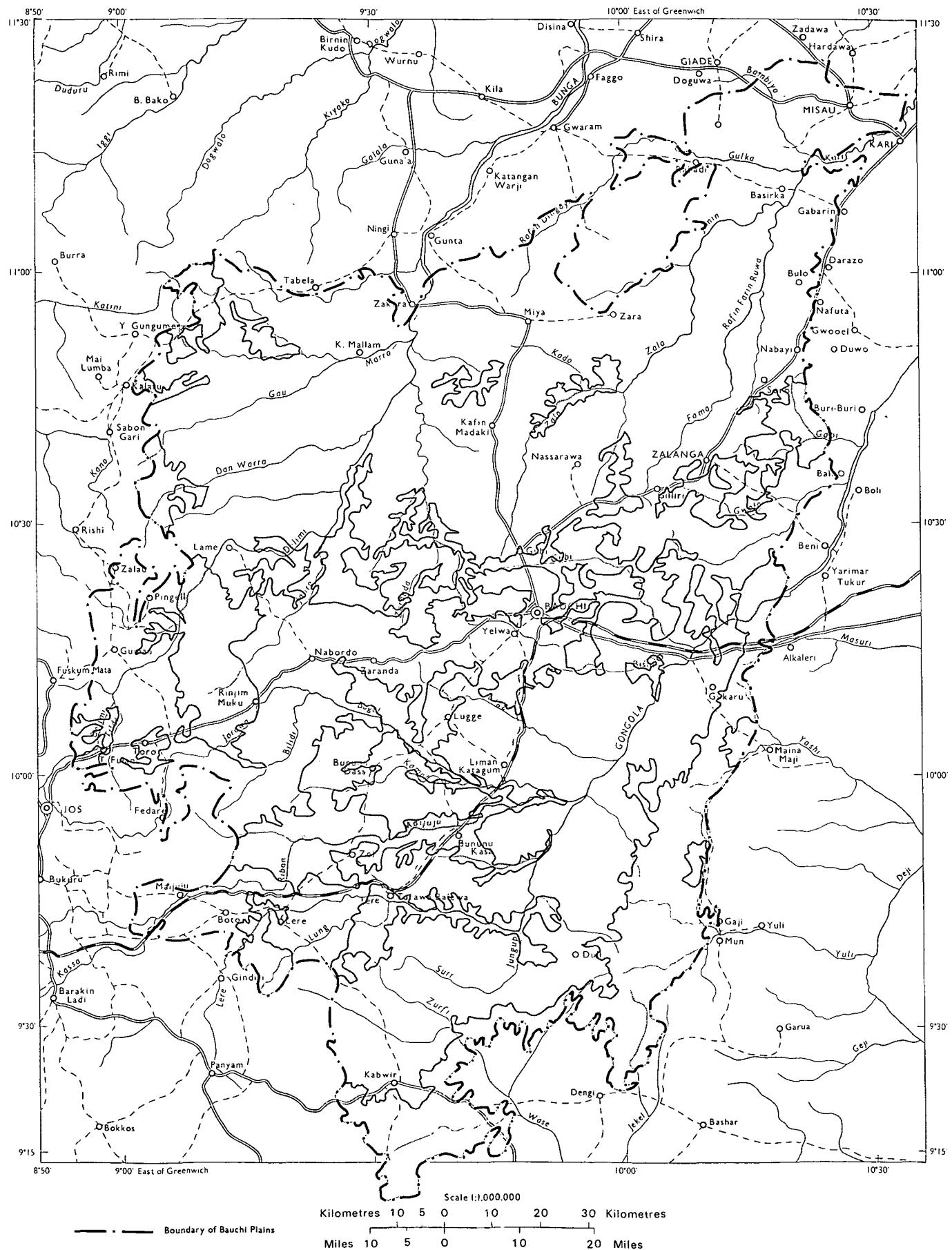
FOREST RESERVES FOR PRODUCTION OF FIREWOOD AND POLES,  
AND AREAS REQUIRING EXTENSION FORESTRY



## BAUCHI PLAINS

## TEXT MAP 1.9

#### AREAS REQUIRING RESERVATION OR STRICT CONSERVATION



## ACTION PRIOR TO AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Various agricultural development options have been set out in this report based on reconnaissance investigations of the environment and present land use. The further actions necessary to implement development are discussed below, but as both State and Federal Government agencies may be involved, coordination is important.

### Coordination of agricultural development

Although obvious, it must be emphasised that any form of agricultural development will profoundly affect existing forms of agricultural activity. For example, initiating an integrated agricultural development project, as outlined previously, will influence the amount of land available for grazing: the consequent displacement of nomadic pastoralists may affect rangeland 100 miles away.

Decisions on agricultural development are usually taken initially by a professional committee. Details vary but at the state level the committee includes the Permanent Secretary MANR, the Planning Officer, Chief Agricultural and Veterinary Officers, Chief Irrigation Engineer and Chief Conservator of Forests. At the federal level the committee includes the Permanent Secretary MANR, the Planning Officer and the Directors of the Departments of Agriculture, Livestock and Forestry.

It is very important that these committees should consider the interrelationships of the various forms of agricultural development. A decision to undertake a specific type of agricultural development cannot be made by one department in isolation.

To ensure coordination of agricultural development between States and between State and Federal Government programmes, a representative from the Federal MANR should attend State MANR committees. To ensure coordination of agricultural activity with overall development policy a representative from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning should also attend.

Once the MANR Planning Committee has approved a particular agricultural development on technical grounds, final approval for implementation is usually the responsibility of the Ministry of Economic Planning.

## **Sequence of actions prior to development**

The further actions necessary to implement development are listed in sequence and summarised in Table 4, and further discussed below. They represent the successive applications of more intensive studies to test the feasibility of the options indicated by the reconnaissance surveys.

TABLE 4 Sequence of actions prior to development

Action	Information available
1. Decide i. Type of agricultural development ii. Type of crop whose production should be increased iii. Area for development	Results of Central Nigeria Project ie agricultural development options determined from environmental factors. Economic information from Nigerian sources
2. Undertake preliminary socioeconomic studies	"
3. Review decision from 1.	Results of Central Nigeria Project and studies from 2.
4. Undertake more detailed environmental and socioeconomic studies	"
5. Final decision on implementation of development	Results of Central Nigeria Project and studies from 2 and 4.

### **Decision on type of development, type of crop, or the area for development**

A decision on the types of agricultural development required or on the type of crop whose production should be increased should be taken by State or Federal MANR Planning Committees in the light of the overall agricultural policy laid down in the Third National Development Plan. Relevant information has been provided in this report and attention is again drawn to the section on the use of the report.

### **Socioeconomic studies**

In order to complement the reconnaissance environmental investigations, preliminary

socioeconomic studies are required. This involves the collection of data on inputs and outputs, prices and costs, systems of tenure, credit and marketing, social structures and group interrelationship, personal values and capacities, and attitudes to risk and migration. Analysis of this data will enable alternative crops, farming systems or projects to be compared in terms of their social and economic consequences for individual farmers and communities. Similar studies are required where development is to be undertaken by companies or government corporations.

These studies could be made either by the Planning Units in the State or Federal Ministries of Agriculture and Natural Resources, or by external agencies.

#### **Review of decisions**

It is important that there should be a formal review of the decision to implement a proposal for development, based on the reconnaissance environmental information and the preliminary socioeconomic data.

#### **Detailed environmental and socioeconomic studies**

Once decisions about the development options have been made on the basis of reconnaissance studies, more detailed investigations of environmental and socioeconomic factors are necessary. Frequently these studies are undertaken by consultants. It is important that there should be coordination of the consultants' activities so that there is no unnecessary duplication of effort.

This coordination could most effectively be done by the Federal Department of Agriculture, possibly through its Land Resources Division keeping a register of all agricultural surveys and development projects in progress.

#### **Final decision on implementation**

If the results of the more detailed surveys indicate that development should proceed, the decision is usually made by the MANR Planning Committee in conjunction with the Ministry of Economic Planning. In the case of developments affecting more than one Ministry, responsibilities need to be clearly defined and a project authority designated.

## CONSTRAINTS ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Third National Development Plan, 1975-80, discusses the constraints on agricultural development as follows:

"The constraints are several but the most serious are

- i. Shortage of qualified manpower in key areas
- ii. Inadequate supplies of agricultural inputs
- iii. Inadequate extension service
- iv. The poor condition of feeder roads and other transport facilities
- v. Inadequate or lack of effective supporting services such as farm credit, marketing facilities, etc
- vi. The problem of land ownership imposed by the land tenure system in most parts of the country
- vii. The problem of diseases and pests
- viii. The problem posed by labour shortage in the rural areas in consequence of rural-urban migration
- ix. Lack of appropriate or complete packages of technology for many food crops
- x. Drudgery in farm work and low returns from agriculture which forces rural youth to migrate to urban areas rather than go into farming"

Interviews with 200 farmers in 13 villages scattered throughout the Bauchi Area (see Separate Map 2) confirmed that these factors are indeed constraints to agricultural development. Those factors for which data are available are discussed below and more fully by Gosden (1978).

i. Shortage of qualified manpower in key areas and (iii). Inadequate extension services

1. The ratio of field agricultural extension workers to farming families ranges from 1:10 600 to 1:2 200 within the administrative units in the Bauchi Area. Taken in conjunction with poor communications and lack of transport available to the extension worker, these high ratios mean that a large proportion of the farming population has little or no contact with advisory services. FAO suggest that a ratio of one extension worker to 1 000 farming families is an absolute minimum and existing integrated rural

development projects in Nigeria are aiming at a ratio of 1:400.

2. There are only two staff directly concerned with range management in the Bauchi Plains, one stationed in Bauchi Town and one at Ningi. Veterinary assistants are responsible for animal health rather than range management and consequently there is very little extension work on grassland improvement.
3. Professional forestry staff in Bauchi and their field assistants are mainly concerned with development of plantations and reserves. They are supported by a considerable number of forest guards in the local authorities. Lack of staff will be a constraint to the development of an extension service intended to encourage farmers to grow woodlots.
4. With any extension service, whether it be for crop production, grassland improvement, or forestry, there is a conflict between the need to encourage and advise the population and the need for policing to eliminate mal-practices. The two functions should be kept entirely separate and policing done by special inspectors.

iv . The poor condition of feeder roads and other transport facilities

Reference to the legend of Separate Map 1 shows the length of main road, secondary roads and tracks in each land system in the Bauchi Plains though these figures must be considered in relation to the area of each land system. They show that away from the main roads centred on Bauchi the lack of communications is widespread. The situation is worst south of the Maijuju River and east of the Gongola. The few existing roads are oriented towards neighbouring states and not towards Bauchi.

vii . The problem posed by labour shortage in the rural areas in consequence of rural urban migration

Gosden (1978) has produced farming calendars for a number of localities in the Bauchi Plains that show that shortage of labour is a common restraint to production, particularly at weeding times. Lack of money at this time prevents additional labour being hired, though the labour is available from other areas.

### **Additional constraints**

There is a lack of effective farmers' organisations which would enable farmers to request and benefit from more effective extension advice, bulk purchase of inputs and handling of produce, credit facilities and tractor hiring units.