


D. DURICRUSTS

Field Note D7c. Ferricretised landscape – A field guide



Ferricretised shale hilltop protrusion.

<i>Secrets of De Hoop and Environs</i>	Field notes on the GEOMORPHOLOGY, HYDROLOGY and ARCHAEOLOGY Between CAPE AGULHAS and CAPE INFANTA	 Geomorphological Research
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Field Note D7c. Ferricretised landscape – A field guide

The author thanks Dr F Netterberg for his comments on the original draft.

Ferricrete is abundant in the Study Area, on the shale hills (Rûens) north of the limestone hills (Hard Dunes) but did not receive due attention. Ferricrete was usually lumped together with silcrete as 'high-level formations'. Some of it was not researched at all (such as the 'hydrologic' ferricrete). Ferricrete appears in the field in a range of forms and sizes from tiny and small nodules to pillow-size lumps to large rocks (heavily ferruginised outcrops of silcrete, sandstones and shales).

The purpose of this field guide is to summarise the morphological features of the various ferricretes in the Study Area, which were described in many Field Notes in this chapter, and to help distinguish between the many types, habits (appearances) and textures of ferricrete. As the author makes more observations in the study Area, this field guide is expanded from time to time.

The summary is presented here in twelve plates, as follows:

1. Ferricrete outcrops identification by lichen colours
2. Ferricrete boulders identification by shape
3. Erosion surface ferricrete - textures and habits
4. River gravel terrace ferricrete - textures and habits
5. Nodular ferricrete
6. Identification of ferricrete 'hotspots'
7. Ferruginised pedogenic silcretes - hilltops
8. Ferruginised groundwater silcretes - hillslopes
9. Ferruginised shales and sandstones
10. Heavily ferruginised shales - quartz and manganese veins and other minerals
11. 'Hydrologic' ferricrete habits in lake and pan environments
12. 'Hydrologic' ferricrete habits in waterway and river environments

1. Ferricrete outcrops identification by lichen colours



Plate 1. Identification of ferricrete by lichen colours.

2. **Ferricrete boulders identification by colour**

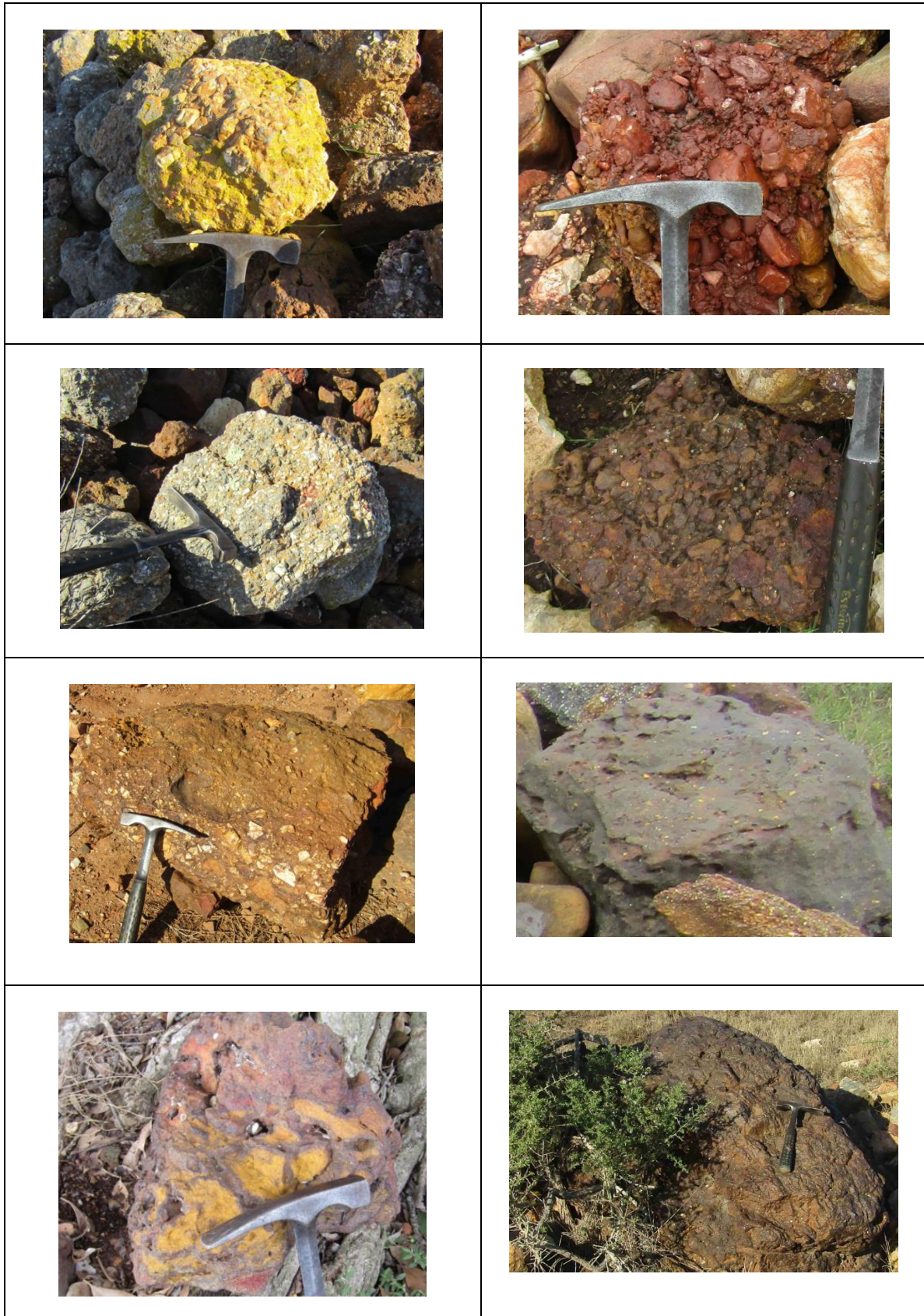


Plate 2. Common colours of ferricrete boulders.

3. Erosion surface ferricrete - textures and habits

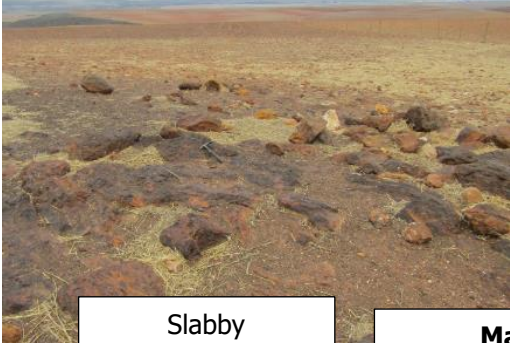
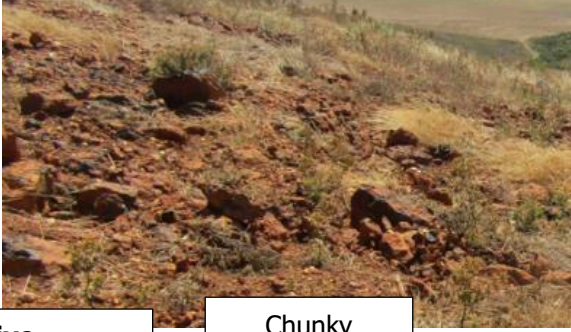


 <p>Slabby</p>	 <p>Massive</p> <p>Chunky</p>
 <p>Conglomeratic</p>	 <p>Bouldery</p> <p>Brecciated</p>

Table 3. Common erosion surface ferricrete textures and habits.

4. River gravel terrace ferricrete textures and habits

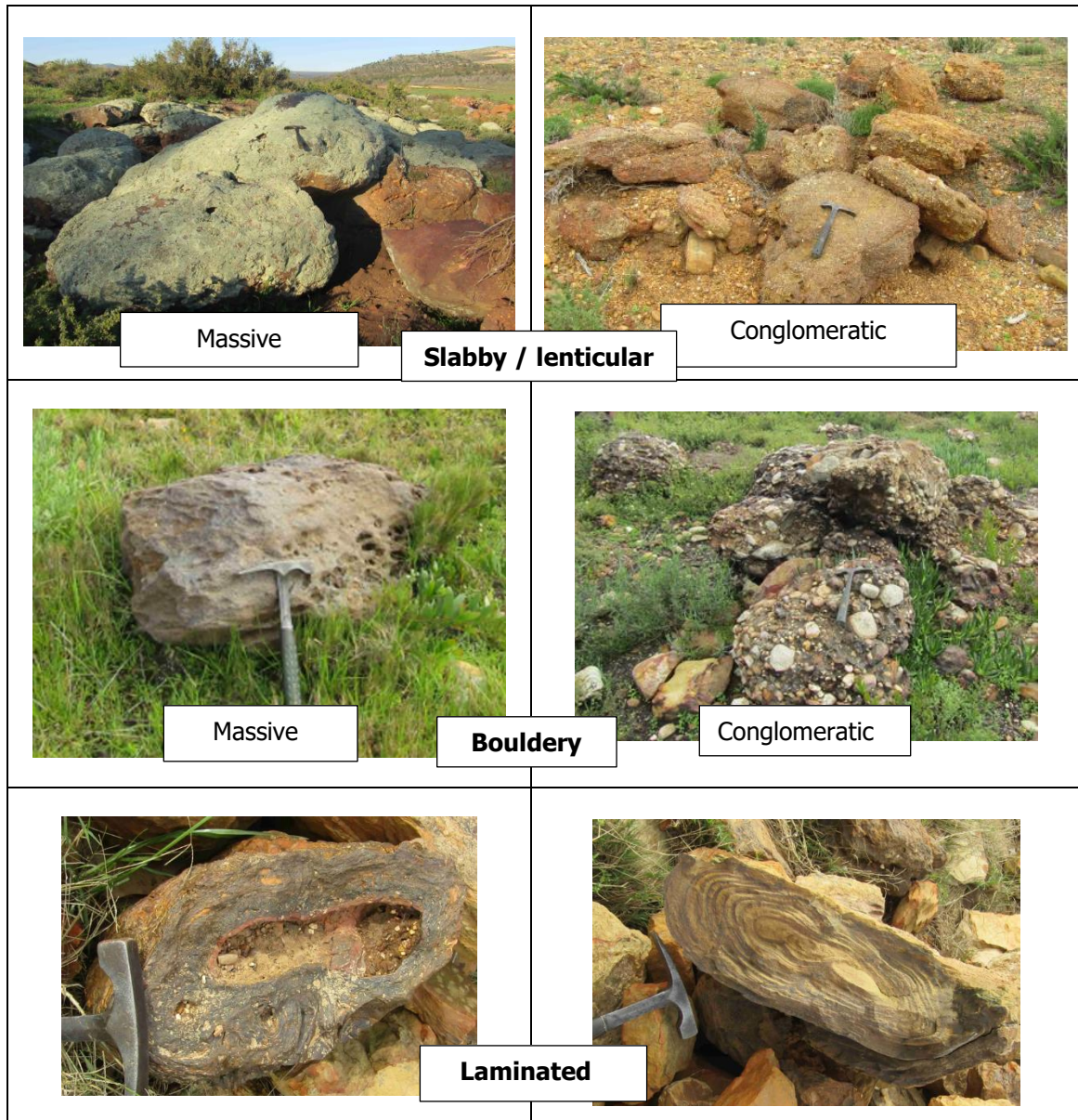


Plate 4. Common river gravel terrace ferricrete textures and habits.

5. Nodular ferricrete



Aerial view of a small plateau covered with ferricrete nodules



Ground view of a small plateau covered with ferricrete nodules



**Ferricrete
nodule
assemblages**



Plate 5. Common appearances of nodular ferricrete.

6. Identification of ferricrete 'hotspots'

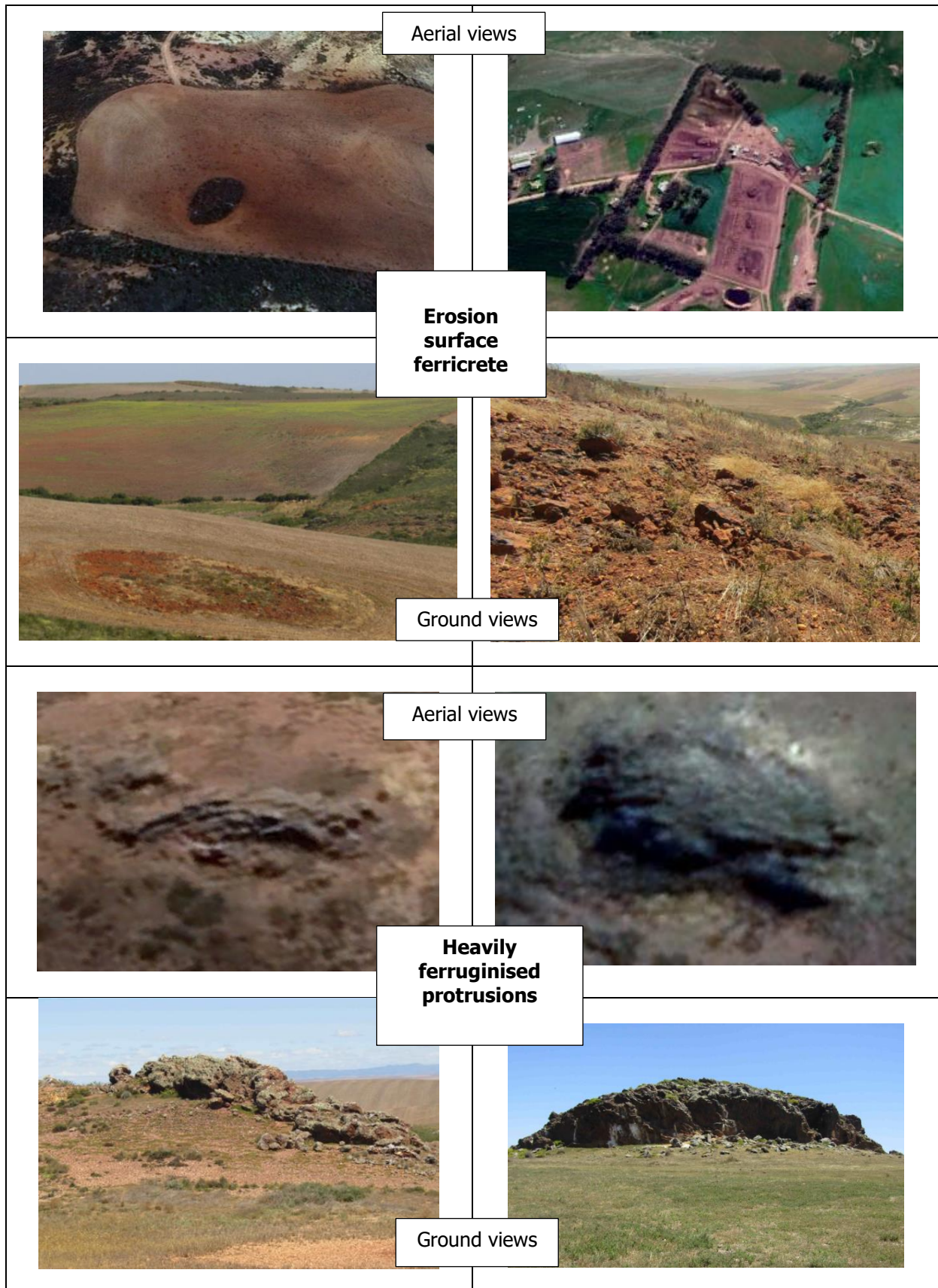
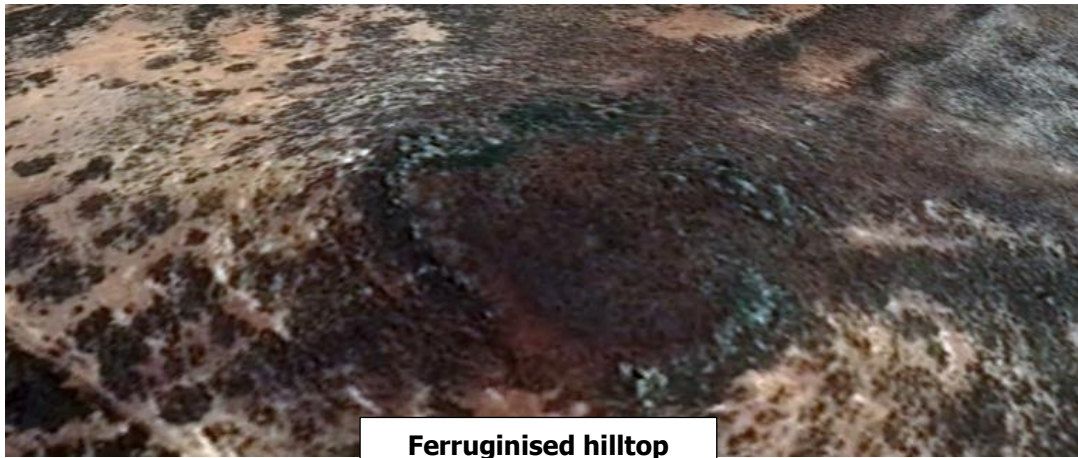


Plate 6. Common ferricrete 'hotspots'.

7. Ferruginised pedogenic silcretes - hilltops



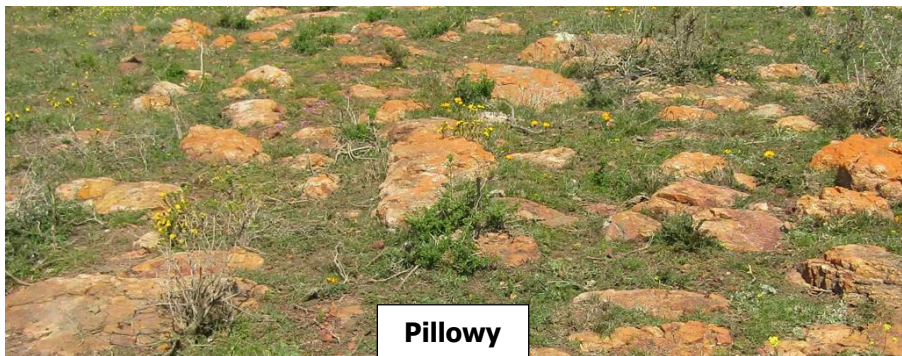
Ferruginised hilltop



Massive



Conglomeratic



Pillowy

Plate 7. Common ferruginised pedogenic silcrete hilltops.

8. Ferruginised groundwater silcretes - hillslopes

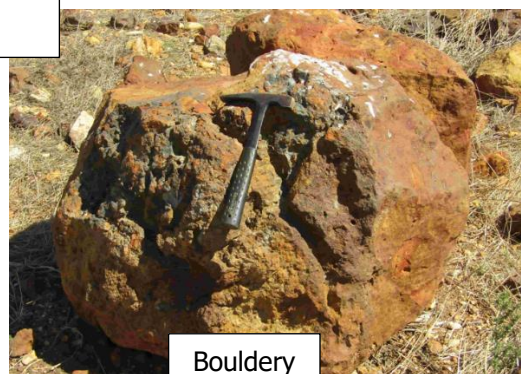
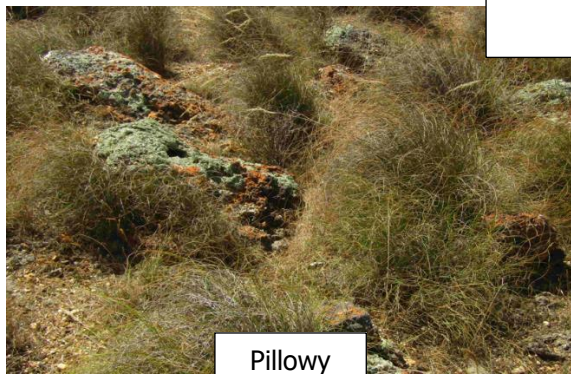
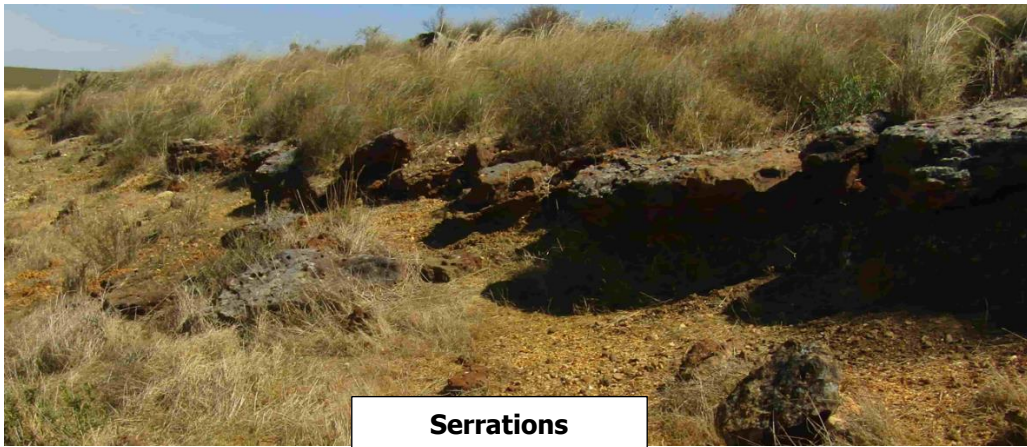


Plate 8. Common ferruginised groundwater silcrete habits and textures.

9. Ferruginised shales and sandstones

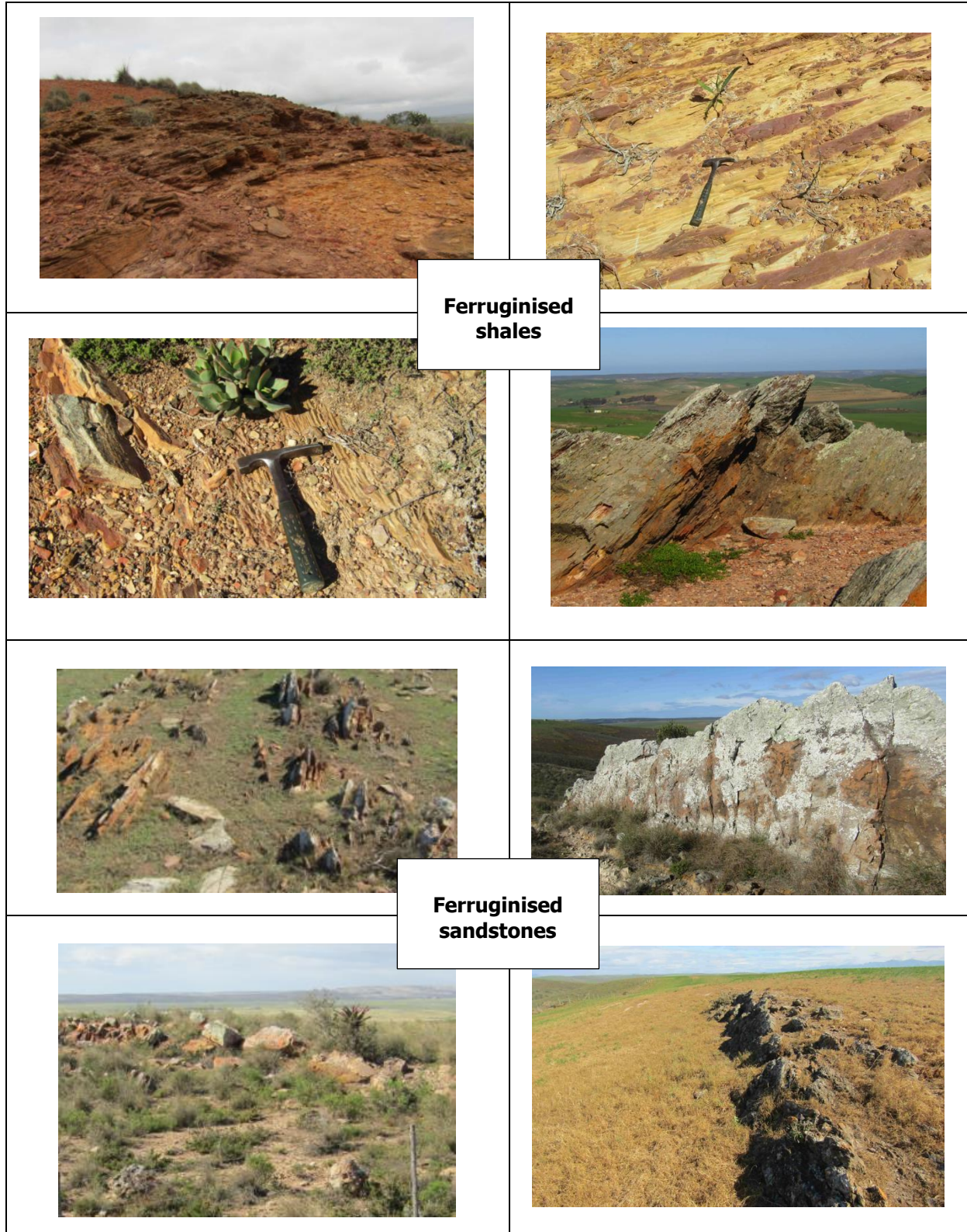


Plate 9. Common ferruginised shales and sandstones.

10. Heavily ferruginised shales - quartz and manganese veins and other minerals

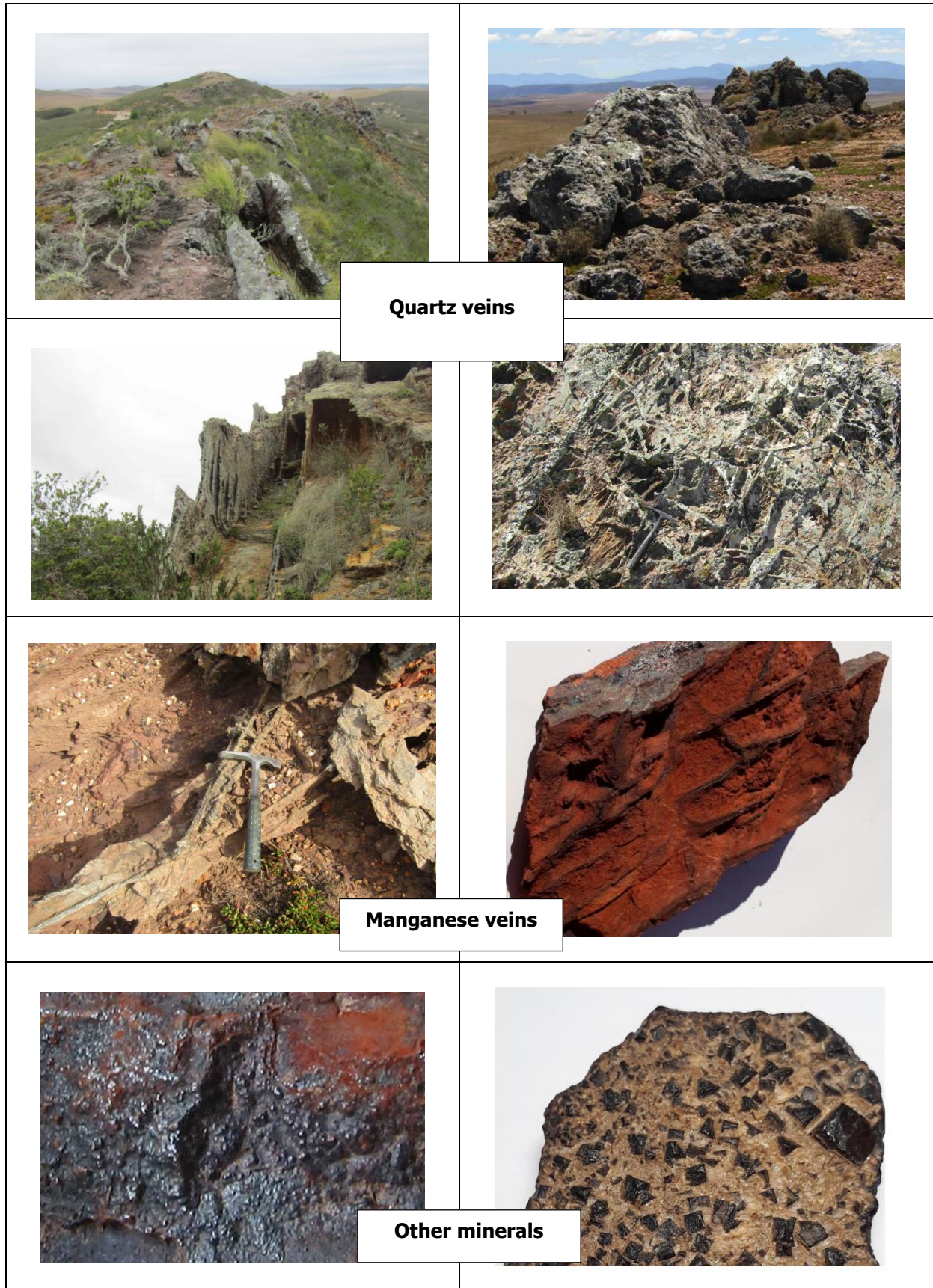


Plate 10. Quartz and manganese veins and other minerals in heavily ferruginised shales.

11. 'Hydrologic' ferricrete habits in lake and pan environments

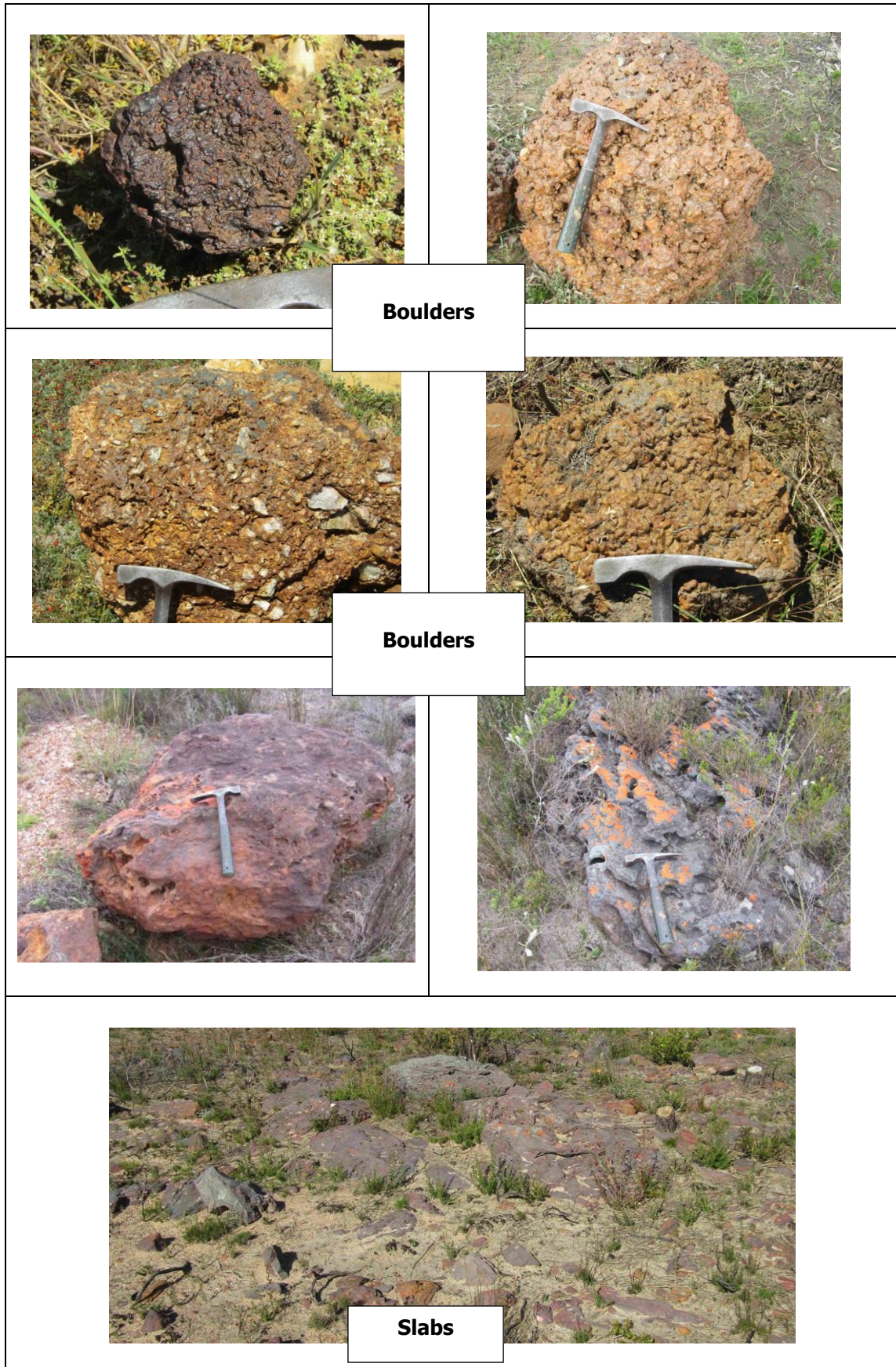


Plate 11. Common 'hydrologic' ferricrete habits in lake and pan environments.

12. 'Hydrologic' ferricrete habits in waterway and river environments

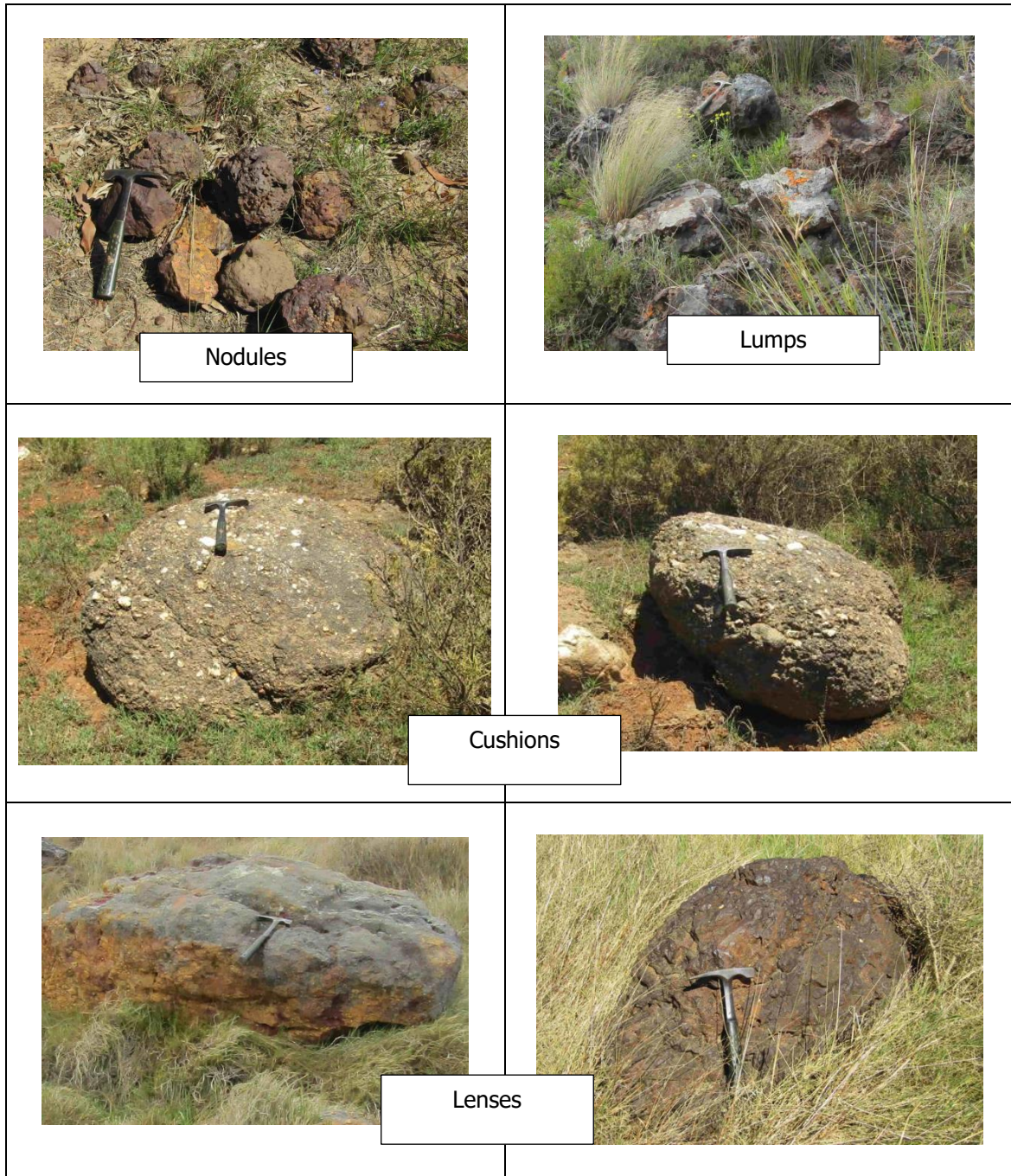


Plate 12. Common 'hydrologic' ferricrete habits in waterway and river environments.