# AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

## WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN
## CLAY LANE, BURTONWOOD, SITE 3.

**Resource Planning Team**
**ADAS Statutory Group**
**WOLVERHAMPTON**

**Job No: 55/93**
**MAFF ref: EL06/10106**

# AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR CLAY LANE, BURTONWOOD, WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN

## 1. SUMMARY

1.1 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey for this site shows that the whole site (8.6ha) is of sub-grade 3b land quality.

1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil wetness.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in October 1993. An Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey was undertaken according to the guidelines laid down in the "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales - Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land" (MAFF 1988).

2.2 The 8.6ha is situated south of Hawkshead Road and east of Clay Lane,Burtonwood.

2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with the Warrington Local Plan.

2.4 At LUPU's request this was a detailed grid survey at a scale of 1:10000, with a minimum auger boring density of one per hectare. The attached map is only accurate at the base map scale and any enlargement would be misleading.

2.5 At the time of survey the majority of the site had been ploughed.

## 3. CLIMATE

3.1 The following interpolated data are relevant for the site.

| | |
|---|---|
| Average Annual Rainfall | 858 mm |
| Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June | 1411 day °C |

3.2 There is no climatic limitation on this site.

3.3 Other relevant climatic parameters include:

| | |
|---|---|
| Field Capacity Days | 202 days |
| Moisture Deficit Wheat | 85 mm |
| Moisture Deficit Potatoes | 72 mm |

## 4. SITE

4.1 The assessment of site factors is primarily concerned with the way in which topography influences the use of agricultural machinery.These include gradient, micro-relief and flooding.

4.2 These site factors do not impose any limitations on the agricultural use of the land.

## 5. GEOLOGY AND SOILS

5.1 The solid geology of the site is comprised of Bunter Pebble beds - British Geological Survey, Sheet 97, Runcorn; 1 inch. This is overlain by deposits of Quaternary Boulder Clay.

5.2 The underlying geology influences the soils which have a clay loam texture over clay at depth.

## 6. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Sub-grade 3b land occupies 8.6ha (100%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 These soils typically have a medium clay loam topsoil texture, overlying a heavy clay loam subsoil and clay to depth.

6.1.2 The limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil wetness.

### 6.2 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

| Sub-grade | Area in Hectares | % of survey area | % of agricultural land |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3b | 8.6 | 100 | 100 |

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