

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
ROTHERHAM UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
SITE H48, IVANHOE ROAD, THURCROFT  
MARCH 1993

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 66/93  
MAFF Ref:-

siteh48.doc.mp

## SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 3ha of land at Ivanhoe Road, Thurcroft was carried out in March 1993.

All of the land was in agricultural use of which 0.6ha falls within Grade 2. Soils in this grade are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand upper subsoils and sandy clay loam lower subsoils. They are restricted to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness and by climate limitations.

Subgrade 3b land covers 2.2ha. Soils in this subgrade are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of loamy medium sand topsoils and upper subsoils over medium sand lower subsoils. These soils are limited to Subgrade 3b by severe droughtiness.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: ROTHERHAM UNITARY  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN, SITE H48, IVANHOE ROAD, THURCROFT

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site is located on the south western edge of Thurcroft around National Grid Reference SK 490886. Survey work was carried out in March 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of two borings per hectare at points predetermined by the National Grid. Land quality was assessed using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land." (MAFF 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey all of the site was in arable use. Site altitude varies between 120 and 125m AOD. The land is gently sloping.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SK 490886
Altitude (m)	: 125
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	: 1290 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 666
Climatic Grade	: 2
Field Capacity Days	: 141
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 97
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 85

#### 1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Carboniferous Coal Measures formed of interbedded sandstones and shales. There is no drift cover and soils are formed directly from weathering solid strata. Most profiles consist of loamy medium sand or medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand or medium sand subsoils. Profiles are all well drained and fall within Wetness Class I..

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectare</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2	0.6	21.4
3a		
3b	2.2	78.6
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(2.8)	(100)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>100</b>

2.1 Grade 2

Grade 2 land occurs near the eastern edge of the site. Profiles consist mainly of stoneless to very slightly stony medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand upper subsoils and sandy clay loam lower subsoils. They are well drained (Wetness Class I) and are limited to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness and by the overall climatic limitation.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Subgrade 3b land occurs over most of the site. Profiles consist either of very slightly or slightly stony loamy medium sand topsoils and upper subsoils over medium sand lower subsoils or, slightly stony loamy medium sand topsoils over shallow (60cm) sandy subsoils below which lies hard sandstone. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and are limited to Subgrade 3b by severe droughtiness.

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MAP