



AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
BRIERLEY ROAD, SOUTH HIENDLEY
PROPOSED GOLF COURSE

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 116/92
MAFF Ref:-

2 FCS 6237

BRIERLEY.AL7/MT

SUMMARY

Land covering a total of almost 42 ha was surveyed in an area adjoining Brierley Road and Low Common at South Hiendley. Almost all of this is in agricultural use of which 35.5 ha has been classified as Subgrade 3b. Better quality Subgrade 3a land covers only 4.5 ha. Also within the site is 0.4 ha of Grade 4 land and 0.9 ha of Grade 5.

The Subgrade 3b land occurring over most of the site consists typically of heavy clay loam topsoils directly overlying slowly permeable clay or silty clay subsoils. Poor drainage leads to a soil wetness limitation on this land. Also included within Subgrade 3b are small areas of shallow soil overlying sandstone where droughtiness is the main limitation. The Subgrade 3a land is somewhat lighter textured and better drained and consists of medium clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils overlying clay at depth. The small areas of Grades 4 and 5 are limited to these grades by steep slopes.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND AT BRIERLEY ROAD, SOUTH HIENDLEY,
PROPOSED, GOLF COURSE.

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods.

The site is located around National Grid Reference SE 395 121 about 5 Km north east of Barnsley. It covers an area of 41.92 ha, most of which is in agricultural use.

Survey work was carried out in November 1992 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 m intervals at points predetermined by the National Grid. Land quality assessments were made using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales" (MAFF 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

Most of the agricultural land on the site is under permanent pasture except for some fields on the eastern side which were in arable use at the time of survey.

Most of the area is gently undulating. In the central part of the site, however, there are localised areas of strongly to steeply sloping land.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	:	SE 395 121
Altitude (m)	:	70
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	:	1346
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	:	655
Climatic Grade	:	1
Field Capacity Days	:	144
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	:	100
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	:	89

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Coal Measures. There are no drift deposits and soils are formed on weathering Coal Measure Shales or, locally, sandstone. Profiles consist mainly of medium or heavy clay loam topsoils over gleyed poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. These are similar to the Dale series mapped by the Soil Survey and Land Resource Centre. Lighter medium clay loam topsoils over weathering sandstone occur locally in the eastern part of the site.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2		
3a	4.50	10.7
3b	35.49	84.7
4	0.40	1.0
5	9.94	2.2
(Sub total)	(41.33)	(98.6)
Urban	0.25	0.6
Non Agricultural	0.34	0.8
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)		
	_____	_____
TOTAL	41.92	100
	_____	_____

2.1 Subgrade 3a

A small area of Subgrade 3a land occurs in the centre of the site. Soils consist of medium clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils over, at about 40 - 50 cm from the surface, slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay lower subsoils. Profiles are imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and limited to Subgrade 3a by wetness.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Most of the agricultural land on the site falls within this subgrade. Profiles consist typically of medium or heavy clay loam topsoils over strongly gleyed slowly permeable and thus poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) clay or silty clay subsoils. Soils of this type are limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness and workability problems. Also included within this subgrade are small areas of shallow soil over sandstone where droughtiness is the main limitation.

2.4 Grade 4

A small area of Grade 4 land north of Old Colliery Farm is restricted to Grade 4 by slopes of 12°.

2.4 Grade 5

This area north east of Old Colliery Farm is restricted to Grade 5 by slopes of 18° - 20°.

2.5 Urban

The urban land on the site consists of the road running between Old Colliery Farm and Chestnut Farm.

2.6 Non Agricultural

This consists of a small area of woodland in the central northern part of the site.

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MAP