

ALC QUEDGELEY

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1. On 19 February 1998 we carried out a reconnaissance Agricultural Land Classification survey of land within the RAF Quedgeley site.
2. Of the total area of 155 ha, approximately 68 ha was initially identified as agricultural land. Discussions with the land agent revealed that of this area approximately 7 ha was contaminated with low level radioactive waste and the remnants of waste burning, and a further 3 ha was contaminated with arsenic. A further 11 ha was disturbed land. None of these areas would be graded higher than Grade 5.
3. Twelve auger borings were made in the remaining 47 ha. Seven borings were Sub-Grade 3b due to a wetness limitation. The remainder of the borings were predominantly Sub-Grade 3a, again due to wetness. There was no discernible pattern to the occurrence of the B&MV borings within the lower grade areas.
4. Taking into account the areas of Grade 5 land, it is estimated that approximately 75% of the agricultural land is Grades 3b or 5, with less than 20 ha of Best and Most Versatile land.

Peter Woode