

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

LEEDS UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

JUNCTION 30 M62

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: LAND SOUTH OF JUNCTION 30, M62 MOTORWAY

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location

National Grid Reference:- SE 365258
Location Details:- 2 kms. north west of Stanley
adjoining J30/M62.

Site Size:- 53 ha.

1.2 Survey Methods

Date Surveyed:- 26/06/92

Boring Density and Spacing Basis:- 1 boring per hectare at 100 m.
intervals predetermined by the
National Grid.

Sampling Method:- By hand auger to a depth of 1.00 m.

Number of Borings:- 31

Number of Soil Pits (used for):- 1 for soil descriptions.

All land quality assessments were made using the methods described in
"Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised Guidelines
and Criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land (MAFF 1988)".

1.3	Land Use:-	A mixture of permanent pasture and cereals along with non agricultural and urban land in the centre of the site.
1.4	Climate and Relief	
	Average Annual Rainfall (AAR):-	633 mm
	Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June):-	1386 day °C
	Field Capacity Days:-	143 days
	Altitude average:-	30 m a.o.d.
	maximum:-	45 m a.o.d.
	minimum:-	25 m a.o.d.
	Climatic limitation (based on interaction of rainfall and temperature values):-	None
	Relief:-	
	Slopes (°):-	
	Gradient Limitations:-	None
	Limiting gradient(s):-	None
	Grade(s)/subgrade(s):-	
	Occurrence on site:-	

1.5 . Geology and Soil

Solid Strata:-	Carboniferous coal measures.
Depth of solid rock from surface:-	Greater than 1.00 m.
Drift types:-	Very thin or absent.
Thickness of drift and distribution:-	N/A.
Soil Types and Distribution:-	Medium over heavy textured soils formed from weathering Coal Measure deposits. Medium textured top and upper subsoils are widespread on the higher land, passing to clay at depth. Clay occurs much closer to the surface on the lower lying southern parts of the site.
Soil Textures (topsoils and subsoils):-	Mainly medium clay loam topsoils passing to similar and heavier subsoils at varying depths.
Soil Series/Associations:-	Dale Association.
On 1/25000 map:-	
Identified on site:-	
Soil Limitations and type:-	Mainly wetness but droughtiness on the lighter soils.

1.6 Drainage

Soil type and Wetness Class:-	Wetness Class II on the lighter medium clay loam soils. Wetness Class IV where slowly permeable clay subsoils occur within 38 cm of the surface.
Drainage Limitations:-	Soils can be seasonally waterlogged where undrained.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

The ALC grades occurring on the site are as follows:-

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Agricultural Area</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1	-		
2	20.94	46.2	36.4
3a	8.64	19.0	15.0
3b	11.40	25.1	19.8
4	4.40	9.7	7.7
5	-	-	-
Non Agricultural	3.30	-	5.7
Agricultural Buildings	-	-	
Urban	8.84	-	15.4
Other			
Total	57.52	100	100

Grade 2

Distribution on site:-

Grade 2 soils cover the higher easterly parts of the site.

Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-

Mainly medium clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils passing to clay at 50 cm. or more.

Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-

More than 50 cm.

Wetness and Drainage Class:-

Mainly Wetness Class II with some Wetness Class I on the lighter soils.

Stone Percentage and Type:-

Generally stone free.

Grade Limiting Factors:-

Slight winter wetness.

Subgrade 3a

Distribution on site:-

Common in the eastern part of the site and south east of the motorway junction.

Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-

Medium clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam and clay subsoils.

Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-

More than 40 cm.

Wetness and Drainage Class:-

Mainly Wetness Class III (imperfectly drained).

Stone Percentage and Type:-

Generally stone free.

Grade Limiting Factors:-

Mainly wetness.

Other Limiting Factor:-

Slight summer droughtiness.

Subgrade 3b

Distribution on site:-

Mainly in the western part of the site and on the lower slopes in the east.

Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-

Medium and heavy clay loam topsoils over clay subsoils.

Depth of Slowly Permeable Layers:-

Less than 35 cm.

Wetness and Drainage Class:-

Mainly Wetness Class IV (poorly drained).

Stone Percentage and Type:-

Stoneless or very slightly stony
0 - 5%.

Grade Limiting Factors:-

Wetness and workability problems.

Grade 4

Distribution on site:-

In the lower western part of the site, south of the Riding School.

Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-

Medium clay loam topsoils over hard rock and gravel below 20 cm.

Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-

None.

Wetness and Drainage Class:-

Class I (well drained).

Stone Percentage and Type:-

10% large stones and 10% small stones in the topsoil. Hard rock and gravel below 20 cm.

Grade Limiting Factors:-

Droughtiness.

Other Limiting Factor(s):-

Disturbance.

Non Agricultural

Type and location of land included:-

Springs Wood in the area immediately east of the Motorway junction and an embankment west of the junction.

Urban

Type of land use included:-

Derelict colliery and other industrial buildings east of the motorway junction. The Riding School west of the junction.