

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

BEDALE LOCAL PLAN
NORTH YORKSHIRE

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR THE BEDALE LOCAL PLAN

1. Introduction and Site Characteristics

1.1 Locations

- a. The Manor House site is located around NGR SE 308853 on the north side of Burneston village.
- b. The Lane House farm site lies immediately south of Manor House site, Burneston, around NGR SE 309851.
- c. Clapham Lodge lies 500 m west of the A1 north of the A684 at Aiskew around NGR SE 276891.
- d. The Elm Tree Farm site is located around NGR SE 290900 on the south east side of Leeming Bar.
- e. The Sycamore Lane site lies to the west of Sycamore Lane, Leeming 300 m south, south west of the church, around NGR SE 292891.

1.2 Survey Methods

All sites were surveyed in August 1991 by hand auger borings to a depth of one metre at a density of over one boring per hectare. An inspection pit was also dug on each site in order to assess soil structure and to collect samples for analysis. 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 Climate and Relief

Climate throughout the Local Plan area is very similar as the following data for each site indicates:

	Manor House Burneston	Lane House Burneston	Clapham Lodge Aiskew	Elm Tree Farm Leeming Bar	Sycamore Lane Leeming
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	643	654	654	668	650
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June) (day°C)	1359	1350	1350	1349	1354
Field Capacity Days	157	157	157	165	159
Altitude: average (m)	30	40	40	40	35

Although there is no overall climatic limitation on ALC grade on any of the sites the combination of light soils and moderate rainfall can result in a slight drought limitation in some areas. None of the sites contains slopes of more than about 3°. There are therefore no gradient limitation on ALC grade.

1.4 Geology and Soils

All the sites are underlain by red Triassic sandstone over which there is a thick cover of generally light textured drift. Solid rock does not occur within one metre of the surface of any of the sites.

Soils over most of the area consist largely of deep stoneless well drained sandy loams. Heavier soils occur only very locally.

2. Agricultural Land Classification Grades

a. Manor House, Burneston

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total Area</u>
2	3.10	86.72
Urban	<u>0.47</u>	<u>13.28</u>
Total	3.57	100

Grade 2

All of the agricultural land on this site falls within grade 2. Soils consist of sandy loam or sandy clay loam topsoils over similar subsoils. The moderately light soils and slight stoniness combined with the climatic data give a slight droughtiness restriction which is the main limitation on ALC grade.

Urban

This consists of farm buildings in the southern part of the site.

b. Lane House Farm, Burneston

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total Area</u>
2	1.38	100

Grade 2

The entire site falls within Grade 2 and consists of sandy loam or sandy clay loam to depth. Soils are limited to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness.

c. Clapham Lodge, Aiskew

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total Area</u>
2	0.66	17.27
3a	0.81	21.22
Urban	2.11	55.23
Non Agricultural	<u>0.24</u>	<u>6.28</u>
Total	3.82	100

Grade 2

Grade 2 land occurs at the southern end of the site where soils consist of deep well drained, slightly stony sandy loams. They are restricted to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness.

Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs in the north and east of the site where soils are again formed of sandy loams but with a higher stone content, giving a greater droughtiness limitation.

Urban

This category dominate the site and include the poultry units in the north and west.

Non Agricultural

This consists of woodland near the middle of the site.

d. Elm Tree Farm, Leeming Bar

The ALC grades occurring on the site are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total Area</u>
2	8.85	81.1
3a	1.67	15.3
Urban	0.02	0.2
Non Agricultural	<u>0.37</u>	<u>3.4</u>
Total	10.91	100

Grade 2

Land of this grade covers most of the site. Topsoils consist generally of medium sandy loam over similar or lighter subsoils. Although there is some mottling the soils are freely draining. These soils fall into wetness class I and are limited to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness.

Subgrade 3a

A small area of subgrade 3a land is found on the south western edge of the site. Here soils are slightly lighter and subject to somewhat greater drought limitation.

Urban

This consists of a building in the western part of the site.

Non Agricultural

Land in this category consists of gardens on the southern edge of the site.

e. Sycamore Lane, Leeming

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>% of Total Area</u>
3a	1.78	97.81
Non Agricultural	<u>0.04</u>	<u>2.19</u>
Total	1.82	100

Subgrade 3a

All agricultural land on this site falls within subgrade 3a. Light soils in the south consist of sandy loams over lighter stoneless subsoils giving a droughtiness limitation. A small area in the north west of the site contains medium clay loam soils over clay at about 50 cm depth. This is slowly permeable giving a wetness limitation on ALC grade of 3a.

Non Agricultural

This consists of a small timber yard in the southern corner of the site.

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