AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

SAND LAND, WILBERFOSS, HUMBERSIDE

Proposed Golf Course

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

December 1989
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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT
ON THE PROPOSED GOLF COURSE DEVELOPMENT AT
SAND LANE, WILBERFOSS, HUMBERSIDE

1. Introduction

The site is located around National Grid Reference SE 753506, north of the A1079T Hull-York road, about 2 km east of Wilberfoss. It covers an area of about 22.7 hectares all of which is in agricultural use except for a small area of woodland. Survey work was carried out in early November 1989 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 25 points predetermined by the National Grid. In addition a soil pit was dug to collect data on soil morphology and to provide samples for laboratory analysis. Land quality assessments were made using the revised guidelines published by MAFF in 1988.

2. Climate and Relief

Salient climatic parameters at Sand Lane are as follows:-

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)		643
Accumulated Temperature Above 0°C (Jan-June)		1383
Field Capacity Days		150
Moisture Deposit (mm)	wheat	104
	potatoes	95

Although there is no overall climatic limitation light textured profiles will be droughty.

Most of the site is level except for a few hammocks which provide a very gentle relief. Average altitude is 15 m a.o.d.

3. Geology, Soils and Drainage

Solid strata are not exposed and soils are all developed on drift deposits consisting of post glacial "blown" sand. These have produced loamy fine sand topsoils over loamy fine sand subsoils. Several profiles showed evidence of podzolization. Although all the soils are freely drained (Wetness Class I) they will be subject to a droughtiness limitation.

4. Agricultural Land Classification

4.1 Subgrade 3a (20.8 ha 92% of area)

The majority of the site contains light textured soils, typically loamy fine sand topsoils over similar or lighter textured subsoils. The profiles are freely drained and have no wetness or workability limitation. They are, however, droughty. A more significant limitation though is the tendency for these topsoils to blow during dry, windy conditions when there is little crop cover (usually early spring). (Blowing describes the process of wind erosion on very light textured topsoils).

4.2 Subgrade 3b (0.25 ha/1% of area)

This small area contains sand textured topsoils. Topsoils of this texture cannot be graded higher than 3b according to the revised classification system.

4.3 Non Agricultural (1.62 ha/7% of area)

This consists mainly of woodland but also includes a small scrubby area in the middle of the most southerly field.

Resource Planning Group
Leeds Regional Office
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