

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION FOR GREAT OAK OPENCAST COAL SITE -  
ADDITIONAL AREA WEST OF GREAT OAK ROAD

1. INTRODUCTION

This 60.2 hectare area adjoins the western edge of the site. Climatic site and soil limitations are similar to the remainder of the Great Oak site.

2. CROPPING

At the time of survey the majority of the site was under grass apart from a part field of potatoes south of Oakdene Farm, and two cereal fields north of Park Farm.

3. SURVEY METHOD

The survey was undertaken in November 1991, using a 100 metre x 100 metre grid. Fifty five borings were carried out to determine the grade of the land. This information was only collected for the purposes of Agricultural Land Classification, and would not be adequate for producing soil units.

4. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

4.1 Grade 2 accounts for 9.8 hectares and 16.3% of the area. The soils are typically sandy loam to depth or overlying loamy sand. Climate is the main limitation to the agricultural use of this land.

4.2 Grade 3a accounts for 25.6 hectares and 42.5% of the area. The soils are typically sandy clay loams or occasionally sandy loams overlying sandy clay loams, heavy clay loams or clay. Soil wetness is the main limitation to the agricultural use of this land.

4.3 Grade 3b accounts for 22.5 hectares and 37.4% of the area. Soils are typically sandy clay loams or medium clay loams overlying clay. Soil wetness is the main limitation to the agricultural use of this land.

4.4 Grade 4 accounts for 1.1 hectares and 1.8% of the area. It is mapped where slopes are between 7° and 11° or where there is a micro-irregularity limitation.

4.5 Urban land accounts for 1.5 hectares and 2.0% of the area.

## 5. SUMMARY

Grade	Area (hectares)	%
2	9.8	16.2
3a	25.6	42.3
3b	22.5	37.2
4	1.1	1.8
Urban	<u>1.5</u>	<u>2.5</u>
Total	60.5	100.0

Resource Planning Group  
Woodthorne  
Wolverhampton

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