

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
CLEETHORPES DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN
HUMBERSIDE
SITE H 2
AUGUST 1993

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

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SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification of 35.6ha of land south-east of the village of Healing was carried out in August 1993.

34.6ha of the site was in agricultural production, of which 2.7ha falls within Grade 2. Profiles consist of medium or calcareous heavy textured topsoils and upper subsoils (typically medium or heavy silty clay loams) over sandy clay loam or heavy clay loam lower subsoils. Land of this type is limited to Grade 2 by slight soil wetness.

Subgrade 3a land covers 5.9ha. Profiles consist of either deep medium textured topsoils over slowly permeable heavy textured subsoil or medium textured topsoils over light textured subsoils. They are limited to Subgrade 3a either by wetness (where slowly permeable layers occur) or soil droughtiness (where light textured subsoils occur).

Subgrade 3b land covers 26.0ha. Profiles consist of either medium or heavy textured topsoils over slowly permeable heavy textured subsoils, or medium textured topsoils over very stony light textured subsoils. The first soil type is limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness and workability problems and the second is limited by soil droughtiness.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON SITE H2, CLEETHORPES
DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies approximately 2km south east of the village of Healing and is centred on Grid Reference TA 230089: It covers a total area of 35.6ha. Survey work was carried out in August 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100m intervals predetermined by the National Grid. Extra borings were made where necessary to refine grade boundaries. Land quality was assessed 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).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey 97.2% of the site was in agricultural production, all of which was in arable use.

Site altitude varies between 8 and 17m AOD and the land is level to gently sloping, with a south-easterly aspect.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: TA 230089
Altitude (m)	: 12
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	: 1394 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 619
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 138
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 111
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 103

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Cretaceous Chalk, which is covered by a layer of glacial till. In the north of the site the soils are predominantly imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) with deep medium textured topsoils overlying slowly permeable heavy-textured subsoils. In the centre of the site the soils are poorly drained (falling in Wetness Class IV) with shallow medium-textured topsoils overlying slowly permeable heavy-textured subsoils. The soils in the south of the site are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) with light, medium or peaty-textured topsoils overlying light-textured subsoils, which are moderately to very stony in places.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2	2.7	7.6
3a	5.9	16.6
3b	26.0	73.0
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(34.6)	(97.2)
Urban		
Non Agricultural	1.0	2.8
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(1.0)	(2.8)
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TOTAL	35.6	100
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2.1 Grade 2

Grade 2 land occurs in the north-east of the site. Here soils are moderately well drained (Wetness Class II) and typically consist of calcareous medium or heavy silty clay loam topsoils and similarly textured upper subsoils overlying sandy clay loam or slowly permeable heavy silty clay loam lower subsoils. Where they occur the slowly permeable layers begin at around 70cm depth. This land is limited to Grade 2 by slight soil wetness.

2.2 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs in the northern part of the site. Soils are generally imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and consist of medium silty clay loam topsoils (which are calcareous in places) overlying slowly permeable heavy silty clay loam subsoils at around 45cm depth. This land is restricted to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness problems and a pattern limitation.

2.3 Subgrade 3b

Subgrade 3b land covers most of the site. Soils within this subgrade are either well drained (Wetness Class I) or poorly drained (Wetness Class IV). The well-drained profiles occur in the south of the site and typically consist of a slightly stony medium sandy loam or medium clay loam topsoil over a moderately to very stony medium sandy loam subsoil. The land is, thus, limited to Subgrade 3b by soil droughtiness. The poorly drained profiles typically consist of mainly medium or heavy clay loam topsoils overlying slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils at around 30cm depth. This land is limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness and workability problems. Also included within Subgrade 3b is an area of very poorly drained peaty land on the south eastern edge of the site. Soils in this area consist of medium textured organic or peaty topsoils over medium sandy loam subsoils which are moderately to extremely stony in places. This area is difficult to drain satisfactorily because of its low lying situation. It remains wet for long periods in winter and early spring and is limited to Subgrade 3b for this reason.

2.4 Non Agricultural

This consists of a small area of boggy land in the south of the site.

MAP