



AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
CLEETHORPES DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN  
SITE H2 (SOUTH WEST)  
OCTOBER 1993

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

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2 FCS 6678

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## SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification Survey of 23.6ha of land south-east of the village of Healing was carried out in September 1993.

20.6ha of the site is in agricultural use, of which 8.3ha falls within Subgrade 3a. Two main soil types occur within this subgrade. The first consists of imperfectly to poorly drained soils (Wetness Class III-IV) formed of calcareous heavy clay loam, medium clay loam or medium sandy loam topsoils over gleyed heavy clay loam or clay subsoils which are slowly permeable at between 35 and 45cm depth. This land is limited to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness. The second soil type consists of medium to light textured topsoils overlying variably textured, occasionally gleyed, upper subsoils (typically heavy clay loam, medium clay loam, medium sandy loam or heavy medium sand textured material) and light textured lower subsoils. These soils are well drained to moderately well drained (Wetness Class I-II) and the land is limited to Subgrade 3a by soil droughtiness and variability.

The remaining agricultural land on the site (12.3ha) is of Subgrade 3b quality. Soil profiles are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and typically consist of calcareous heavy clay loam or medium clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed heavy clay loam or clay subsoils which are slowly permeable within 35cm depth. This land is limited to Subgrade 3b by more severe soil wetness problems.

0.6ha in the south-west of the site is covered by farm woodland.

2.4ha of land in the south-east of the site is poorly drained bog, classified as non-agricultural land.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: CLEETHORPES DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN, SITE H2 (SOUTH WEST)

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 around National Grid Reference TA 228085. Survey work was carried out in September 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100m intervals at points pre-determined by the National Grid. Additional borings were made where necessary to refine grade boundaries and two soil inspection pits were dug to examine subsoil structure. 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

21% of the site is in agricultural use. The remainder consists of small areas of farm woodland and, in the south very poorly drained land not utilised for agriculture. Site altitude varies from 4m to 16m. The land is level in the north and slopes gently in the south with a south easterly aspect.

1.2 Climate

Grid Reference	: TA 228085
Altitude (m)	: 10
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 over which there is a considerable thickness of glacial till. Soils in the centre of the site are well drained to moderately well drained (Wetness Classes I-II), and consist of medium to light textured topsoils (medium clay loam or medium sandy loam) over more variably textured upper subsoils (medium clay loam, heavy clay loam, medium sandy loam or loamy medium sand) which are occasionally gleyed within 40cm depth and generally light textured lower subsoils. Soils across the remainder of the site are imperfectly to poorly drained (Wetness Classes III-IV), and generally consist of calcareous heavy clay loam, medium clay loam or medium sandy loam textured topsoils overlying gleyed, slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay lower subsoils within 35 to 45cm depth.

## 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		
3a	8.3	35.2
3b	12.3	52.1
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(20.6)	(87.3)
Urban		
Non Agricultural	2.4	10.2
Woodland - Farm	0.6	2.5
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	<u>(3.0)</u>	<u>(12.7)</u>
TOTAL	<u>23.6</u>	<u>100</u>

## 2.1 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs in three areas, two of which lie in the north eastern and north western corners of the site. The third area lies in the centre of the site. Soils in the north-east consist of deep, calcareous medium clay loam or heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed heavy clay loam or clay subsoils which are slowly permeable at or below 40cm depth. These soils are imperfectly drained, falling within Wetness Class III and the land is limited to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness and workability restrictions. Soil profiles in the north west of the site consist of calcareous medium sandy loam topsoils overlying heavy clay loam or clay subsoils which are slowly permeable within 35cm depth. These soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and the land is limited to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness. Soils in the centre of the site consist of medium clay loam or medium sandy loam topsoils overlying variably textured upper subsoils (heavy clay loam, medium clay loam, medium sandy loam or loamy medium sand) which are occasionally gleyed within 40cm depth and generally light textured lowered subsoils (typically loamy medium sand or medium sand). These soils are well drained to moderately well drained (Wetness Classes I-II) and the land is restricted to Subgrade 3a by soil droughtiness and pattern limitations.

## 2.2 Subgrade 3b

The remaining agricultural land on the site falls within Subgrade 3b. Soil profiles are poorly drained, falling within Wetness Class IV, and typically consist of calcareous medium clay loam or heavy clay loam textured topsoils overlying gleyed, heavy clay loam or clay subsoils which are slowly permeable within 35cm. This land is limited to Subgrade 3b by more severe soil wetness and workability restrictions.

## 2.3 Farm Woodland

A small area of farm woodland lies in the south-west of the site falls within this category.

## 2.4 Non-agricultural Land

A small area of land in the south-east consists of a very poorly drained bog which is not in agricultural use.

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MAP