

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
KIRKLEES UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SITE B14:1

BRADFORD ROAD, OAKENSHAW

DECEMBER 1992

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 137/92

MAFF Ref:-

2 FCS 6272

SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 57 ha of land at Bradford Road, Oakenshaw (UDP site B14:) was carried out in December 1992. 38 ha of this land is in agricultural use of which 5 ha falls within Subgrade 3a. Soils on this land are medium textured sometimes overlying sandstone. They are well drained (Wetness Class I) and limited to Subgrade 3a by slight droughtiness or wetness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 33 ha. Soils consist of poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) heavy clay loams and clays which are limited to Subgrade 3b by wetness and workability problems.

The remainder of the site is either urban or non-agricultural, consisting of a disused railway and, in the south, a golf course.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: KIRKLEES UDP SITE B14: 1
BRADFORD ROAD, OAKENSHAW

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods.

The site lies 6 km south of Bradford City centre and is centred on Grid Reference SE 174275. Survey work was carried out in December 1992 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of 1 boring per hectare at points predetermined by the National Grid. 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 the survey 67% of the site was in permanent pasture or ley. The remainder of the site consisted of roadways, a disused railway, hospital buildings and, in the south, a golf course and accompanying club house.

Site altitude varies from 100m AOD to 150m AOD and relief varies from level to moderately sloping (0 - 4°).

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	:	SE174275
Altitude (m)	:	125m
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	:	1281
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	:	819
Climatic Grade	:	2
Field Capacity Days	:	202
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	:	85
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	:	69

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The area is underlain by Carboniferous Coal measures consisting of interbedded sandstones and shales. There is no drift cover and soils are formed directly on weathering solid strata. The majority of the soils are formed on the shales, and consist of medium clay loam topsoils over poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. The small area of sandstone in the east contains well drained (Wetness Class I) medium textured topsoils and upper subsoils overlying weathering sandstone bedrocks.

Areas of land adjacent to the disused railway show signs of disturbance.

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	4.90	8.6
3b	33.70	58.9
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(38.60)	(67.5)
Urban	4.77	8.3
Non Agricultural	13.84	24.2
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(18.61)	(32.5)
	_____	_____
TOTAL	57.21	100
	_____	_____

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Land in this subgrade occurs within two small areas in the east and west of the site. Topsoils consist of stoneless or very slightly stony medium clay loam and overlie very slightly or slightly stony freely drained (Wetness Class I) medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or medium sandy loam subsoils. Weathered sandstone occurs within 1m of the surface in the western area. The western area is limited to subgrade 3a by slight droughtiness. In the eastern area the main limitation is slight winter wetness.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Land in this subgrade covers the remaining agricultural land. Topsoils are stoneless or very slightly stony and consist of medium clay loam overlying gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay or clay subsoils. Profiles are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) with the slowly permeable layer starting at or above 30 cm. They are limited to Subgrade 3b by wetness and workability problems.

2.3 Urban

Urban land consists of a road, disused railway hospital grounds and golf clubhouse.

2.4 Non-Agricultural

This consists of the golf course located at the southern end of the site.

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