

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

PROPOSED GOLF COURSE  
LINGHOLM FARM, LEBBERSTON  
NORTH YORKSHIRE

MAFF  
Leeds Regional Office

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED GOLF COURSE,  
LINGHOLM FARM, LEBBERSTON, NORTH YORKSHIRE

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 LOCATION

The site is located around national grid reference TA 064814, approximately 4½ km west north west of Filey. It covers a total area of 65 hectares, 99.4 per cent of which is in agricultural use.

1.2 SURVEY METHODS

Survey work was carried out in April and May 1990 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 m intervals pre-determined by the National Grid. Soil profile pits were also dug where necessary to assess stoniness, soil structural characteristics and gley morphology.

All land quality assessments were made 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).

1.3 CLIMATE

Average annual rainfall in the area is approximately 671 mm. Accumulated temperature above 0° between January and June is 1345 day °C and the land is at field capacity for about 162 days a year. There is thus no overall climatic restriction on ALC grade. Soil moisture deficits of 107 mm for winter wheat and 98 mm for potatoes indicate a moderate drought limitation where light and very light soil profiles occur.

#### 1.4 RELIEF

The flat area north of the River Hertford gives way to gently and moderately undulating terrain in the northern part of the site.

#### 1.5 SOILS AND GEOLOGY

Peats dominate the southern part of the site with smaller pockets found to the north. Peat soils, loamy peats and peaty loams are identified, normally to below 100 cm. Occasionally subsoils of widely varying textures occur at depth. In the northern part of the site the dominant soil type has developed on boulder clay deposits. Here clay loam and heavy clay loam topsoils overlie heavy clay loam and clay subsoils that are distinctly gleyed and slowly permeable.

Two small pockets of slightly stony sandy loam and loamy coarse sands are identified in the south eastern part of the site.

#### 1.6 DRAINAGE

The land is drained to several ditches surrounding and running through the site. Only in the south western corner of the site does the drainage system appear to be inadequate.

#### 1.7 LAND USE

At the time of survey most of the agricultural land was in arable use with an area of permanent pasture in the north west corner of the site. There are also two small areas of woodland.

SECTION 2: AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Site Area
2	39.2	60.3
3a	3.6	5.5
3b	21.8	33.6
Non Agricultural	<u>0.4</u>	<u>0.6</u>
TOTAL	65.0	100

GRADE 2

Grade 2 land occurs dominantly on the peats where Wetness Class range is from II to IV. Gradual soil wastage and subsoil acidity are likely on these soils.

SUBGRADE 3A

Two small areas of subgrade 3a land are found in the south eastern part of the site. Here soils are slightly stony sandy loams and loamy coarse sands resulting in a moderate drought limitation.

SUBGRADE 3B

This land dominates the northern part of the site on soils of clay loam, heavy clay loam and clay textures. These soils generally fall into Wetness Class III or IV and are restricted to Subgrade 3b by moderate wetness and topsoil workability problems.

NON AGRICULTURAL

Two small areas of woodland occur on the site.

MAPS