



AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
LEES UDP
WEST YORKSHIRE
TOPIC 732
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ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group
2FCS 10361

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SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey of 8.3 ha of land south east of Ouzlewell Green (ref Leeds UDP Topic 732) was carried out in November 1994.

At the time of survey 100% of the site was in agricultural use growing cereals and grass.

The whole site has been restored following opencast coal workings.

In the centre of the site soils are heavy textured and poorly drained. In the north and south, soils are moderately drained.

4.6 ha of moderately drained soils are limited to subgrade 3a soil wetness and 3.7 ha of poorly drained land are limited to subgrade 3b by a more severe soil wetness limitation.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND SOUTH EAST OF
OUZLEWELL GREEN. REF: LEEDS UDP, TOPIC 732.

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies about 8km south east of Leeds City Centre, south east of Ouzlewell Green and has a centroid grid reference of SE342 261. It covers a total area of 8.3 ha. Survey work was carried out in November 1994 when soils were examined by hand auger boring at 100m intervals at locations predetermined by the National Grid. In addition typical soil profiles were examined in greater detail with soil profile pits. 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 100% of the site was in agricultural use growing cereals and grass. Altitude ranges from 55 m A.O.D. in the west to 45 m A.O.D. near Lee Moor Beck. Slopes are gentle and the site has an easterly Aspect.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 342 261
Altitude (m)	: 50
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1364
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 640
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 146
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 103
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 93

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

Soils on the site are all restored following open cast coal workings.

Towards the centre of the site topsoils are medium to heavy clay loam over a clayey slowly permeable subsoil. These soils are poorly drained (wetness class IV).

Elsewhere topsoils are similar but upper subsoils are typically a moderately stony, sandy clay loam over a clayey, slowly permeable, lower subsoil. These soils are moderately drained (wetness class III).

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	4.6	55
3b	3.7	45
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(8.3)	(100)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
Woodland -Commerical		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)		
TOTAL	<u>8.3</u>	<u>100</u>

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Two areas are mapped as subgrade 3a. Both contain medium clay loam topsoils over moderately stony sandy clay loam upper subsoil. The lower subsoils compacted, slowly permeable and clayey.

This moderately drained land (wetness class III) is limited to subgrade 3a by soil wetness.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Poorly drained soils are classed as subgrade 3b. Topsoils are usually medium or heavy clay loam over a compacted, clayey slowly permeable subsoil. This land is limited to subgrade 3a by a more severe soil wetness limitation.

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MAP