

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

TRANMOOR LANE, ARMTHORPE

ADAS
Leeds Regional Office

November 1990
2FCS 4969
70/90

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1. Agricultural Land Classification

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT

LAND AT TRANMOOR LANE, ARMTHORPE, SOUTH YORKSHIRE

1. INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The site is located around National Grid Reference SE 628039, south of Armthorpe and covers an area of 12 hectares.

Survey work was carried out in November 1990 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 metre intervals at points pre-determined by the Nation Grid.

All assessments of land quality were made using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification: Revised Guidelines and Criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land". (MAFF 1988)

1.1 Land Use

The site is arable use.

1.2 Climate

Average Annual Rainfall (AAR) in the area is approximately 578 mm. Accumulated temperature (ATO) above 0°C between January and June is 1413 day °C and the land is at field capacity for 118 days a year. The temperature and rainfall figures indicate that there are no climatic restrictions on ALC grade.

Summer soil moisture deficits are 113 mm for winter wheat and 106 mm for potatoes. These figures suggest that summer droughtiness is likely to be a limitation on ALC grade on light textured soils on the site.

1.3 Relief

Altitude varies between 0 and 10 metres above ordnance datum. Slopes do not exceed 7° and are therefore not a limitation on ALC grade.

1.4 Geology Soils and Drainage

The site is covered by drift deposits consisting of glaciofluvial sands and gravels. As a result stone content throughout most soil profiles is appreciable, usually 10% or more.

Soils on the site consist of fine or medium sandy loam topsoils over fine or medium loamy sand subsoils which pass into medium or coarse loamy sand or medium sand at depth. All soils are well drained and fall into Wetness Class I.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades on the site are as follows:

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
3	3.1	31.0%
3b	6.7	67.0%
urban	<u>0.2</u>	<u>2.0</u>
TOTAL	<u>10.0</u>	<u>100%</u>

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Land in this subgrade occupies an area in the middle of the site containing soils with an appreciable fine sand content. Topsoils consist of fine to medium sandy loam over subsoils of fine to medium sandy loam or loamy sand. These soils are well drained but are limited to subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Land in this subgrade consists of soils with medium sandy loam topsoils over medium sandy loam or loamy medium sand subsoils. They are well drained and fall into Wetness Class I. Because of the somewhat coarser nature of the sand however, droughtiness is more restricting than on the adjoining subgrade 3a land, and for this reason soils of this type are limited to subgrade 3b.

2.3 Urban

This consists of a track leading to Low Farm.

Resource Planning Group
Leeds Regional Office
November 1990

MAP