



Ministry of  
Agriculture  
Fisheries  
and Food

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
KIRKLEES UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
SITE B8:1  
LINDLEY MOOR ROAD, HUDDERSFIELD  
DECEMBER.1992.

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 131/92

MAFF Ref:-

2 FCS 6272

LINDLEY.AL7/MHT

## SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 53 ha of land at Lindley Moor Road, Huddersfield (UDP Site B8:1) was carried out in December 1992.

49 ha of this is in agricultural use of which 17 ha falls within Subgrade 3b. Soils on this land are medium or light textured and sometimes overlie sandstone. They are either imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and limited by soil wetness, or well drained (Wetness Class I) when they are limited to Subgrade 3b by climate.

Grade 4 land covers 31 ha. Soils consist of poorly drained (Wetness Class V) heavy clays which are limited to Grade 4 by severe soil wetness problems.

Grade 5 land (1.5 ha) consists of steeply sloping areas ( $> 18^\circ$ ). These gradients effectively prevent the use of farm machinery and this land is limited to Grade 5 for this reason.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS
2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

MAP

1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: KIRKLEES UDP, SITE B8:1  
LINDLEY MOOR ROAD, HUDDERSFIELD

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods.

The site lies 4 km north west of Huddersfield town centre and is centred on Grid Reference SE 106186. 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 94% of the land was in permanent pasture. The remainder consisted of farm buildings and non-agricultural land.

Site altitude varies from 220 m AOD to 269m AOD and the land is mainly level to moderately sloping (0 - 11°) although there are also a few strongly to very steeply sloping (12 - 35°) areas.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	:	SE106186
Altitude (m)	:	245
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	:	1150
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	:	1205
Climatic Grade	:	3b
Field Capacity Days	:	265
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	:	42
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	:	15

#### 1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The area is underlain by Carboniferous Coal Measures consisting of interbedded sandstones and shales. There is no significant drift cover and soils are formed directly on weathering solid strata. On the shales soils consist of medium or heavy clay loam or silty clay loam topsoils over gleyed slowly permeable silty clay or clay (Dale series) subsoils. Profiles are poorly or very poorly drained and fall within Wetness Classes IV and V. In sandstone areas soils are well or moderately well drained (Wetness Classes I and II) and consist of medium textured topsoils and permeable medium subsoils overlying weathering sandstone bedrock. The lighter soils are similar to the Rivington series.

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		
3b	16.96	32.0
4	31.32	59.1
5	1.5	2.8
(Sub total)	(49.78)	(93.9)
Urban	0.64	1.2
Non Agricultural	2.28	4.3
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings	0.30	0.6
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(3.22)	(6.1)
	_____	_____
TOTAL	53.0	100
	_____	_____

## 2.1 Subgrade 3b

Subgrade 3b land occurs on the northern, southern and eastern edges of the site. Topsoil textures range from medium sandy loam to medium clay loam and overlie medium sandy loam to heavy clay loam subsoils. Profiles with light textured subsoils are well drained (Wetness Class I), but restricted to Subgrade 3b by climate. Profiles with heavy subsoils are slowly permeable at or below 30 cm depth (Wetness Class IV) and are restricted to Grade 3b by wetness and climate.

## 2.2 Grade 4

Most of the site falls within Grade 4. Soils consist of medium or heavy clay loam or silty clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam, clay or silty clay subsoils. They are slowly permeable at less than 30 cm depth and are thus very poorly drained (Wetness Class V). Land containing soils of this type is limited to grade 4 by very severe wetness problems.

## 2.3 Grade 5

The three small areas of Grade 5 land are all limited to this grade by steep slopes of more than 18°.

## 2.4 Urban

This consists of the road running north to south across the centre of the site.

## 2.5 Non Agricultural

The sports ground at the western end of the site is placed within this category.

## 2.6 Agricultural Buildings

This category includes the buildings at Jericho and Peat Ponds Farm.

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MAP