

## FILE NOTE

### THE PENNINGS, AMESBURY (71/98)

#### AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

An Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey was undertaken at the end of July and the beginning of August 1998. A total of 18 auger borings and 5 soil profile pits were examined. Due to only part of the site having been harvested these observations were concentrated in the western part of the site but due to the uniform soil type and from a few auger borings in the rest of the site the findings were taken to be representative of the whole site.

Typically the profiles have a medium clay loam topsoil with 17-31 % hard rock (5-10 % greater than 2 cm) to 25 cm. There is then a narrower horizon of weathered chalk stones with some soil material in it (about 80 % chalk) which leads into complete chalk horizons at about 40 cm. Rooting was observed to 80-90 cm.

Available water calculations taken to the observed rooting depth show that the profiles are Subgrade 3b on drought.

It should be noted that if the calculations were extended to 95-100 cm, or deeper, then the land would be Subgrade 3a.

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