AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

STONEY HAGGS ROAD SOUTH
SEAMER, SCARBOROUGH

PROPOSED GOLF COURSE EXTENSION

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT

1.0 Introduction and Site Characteristics

1.1 Location

National Grid Reference:-	TA 021842.
Location Details:-	4 km south west of Scarborough town centre and lying between the villages of Seamer and Crossgates.
Site Size:-	Approximately 31 hectares.

1.2 Survey Methods

Date Surveyed:-	30 July 1991.
Boring Density and Spacing Basis:-	One per hectare at 100 m intervals at points predetermined by the National Grid.
Sampling Method:-	By hand auger to a depth of 1.00 m.
Number of Borings:-	30.

Number of Soil Pits (used for):- One, to assess stone content in the topsoil.

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 **Land Use:-** Most of the land is in arable use except for about 6 ha of permanent grazing in a band running through the centre of the site.

1.4 **Climate and Relief**

Average Annual Rainfall (AAR):- 688 mm

Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June):- 1299 day °C

Field Capacity Days:- 163 days

Altitude average:- 45 m a.o.d.
maximum:- 61 m a.o.d.
minimum:- 37 m a.o.d.

Climatic limitation (based on interaction of rainfall and temperature values:- None

Relief:-	Mostly gently sloping but undulating in the centre of the site.
Slopes (°):-	Generally 0-5° but up to 11° in the centre of the site.
Gradient Limitations:-	
Limiting gradient(s):-	7-11°
Grade(s)/subgrade(s):-	3b
Occurrence on site:-	In a band running from north to south through the centre of the site.

1.5 Geology and Soil

Solid Strata:-	Jurassic limestone.
Depth of solid rock from surface:-	Variable but generally within 1.00 m.
Drift types:-	No drift is present on the site.
Thickness of drift and distribution:-	None.
Soil Types and Distribution:-	Medium textured soils cover the entire site.
Soil Textures (topsoils and subsoils):-	Medium clay loam topsoils overlying medium clay loam subsoils.

Soil Series/Associations:-

On 1/250000 map:- Elmton 2 Association (in the north and east of the site) and Wick 1 Association (in the south western corner).

Soil Limitations and type:- Droughtiness is the main limitation and is caused by the shallow stony nature of the soils.

1.6 Drainage

Soil type and Wetness Class:- Freely drained soils (Wetness Class I).

Drainage Limitations:- None.

2.0 Agricultural Land Classification Grades

The ALC grades occurring on the site are as follows:-

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Agricultural Area	Percentage of Total Area
1			
2			
3a			
3b	29.42	95.9%	95.9%
4	1.27	4.1%	4.1%
5			
Non Agricultural			
Agricultural Buildings			
Urban			
Other			
Total	30.69	100	100

Subgrade 3b

Distribution on site:-	This subgrade covers the whole site except for a small area in the north western corner.
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	Medium clay loam topsoils and subsoils.
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	No slowly permeable layers exist.
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Soils are freely drained and fall within Wetness Class I.
Stone Percentage and Type:-	10-20% limestone occurs in the topsoil. This increases with depth.
Grade Limiting Factors:-	Droughtiness is the grade limiting factor, reflecting the shallow stony nature of the soils.

Grade 4

Distribution on site:-	A small area in the north western corner of the site.
Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):-	Medium clay loam topsoils and subsoils.
Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:-	No slowly permeable layers occur.
Wetness and Drainage Class:-	Soils are freely drained and fall in Wetness Class I.
Stone Percentage and Type:-	These soils contain up to 25% limestone in the topsoil and are increasingly stony at depth.
Grade Limiting Factors:-	Droughtiness, which reflects the stoniness and shallowness of the soil.
Other Limiting Factor(s):-	None.

Resource Planning Group
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