AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

Flixborough Grange
Flixborough
South Humberside

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

September 1991
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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND ADJOINING FLIXBOROUGH GRANGE, SCUNTHORPE, SOUTH HUMBERSIDE

1.0 Introduction and Site Characteristics

1.1 Location

National Grid Reference:- SE 857155

Location Details:- 6 km NW of Scunthorpe town centre on the eastern bank of the River Trent

Site Size:- 37 ha

1.2 Survey Methods

Date Surveyed:- 30 August 1991

Boring Density and Spacing Basis:- Approximately one boring per hectare at 100 m intervals at points pre-determined by the National Grid

Sampling Method:- By hand auger, to a depth of 1.00 m

Number of Borings:- 33

~~Number of Soil Pits (used for):-~~

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:-** With the exception of a narrow band of non-agricultural land which runs along the banks of the River Trent on the western edge of the site, all land is in arable (wheat and potatoes) production.

1.4 **Climate and Relief**

Average Annual Rainfall (AAR):-	620 mm
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June):-	1408 day °C
***Field Capacity Days*:-**	136 days
Altitude average:-	3 m a.o.d.
maximum:-	3 m a.o.d.
minimum:-	3 m a.o.d.
Climatic limitation (based on interaction of rainfall and temperature values:-	None
Relief:-	Flat
Slopes (°):-	0°
Gradient Limitations:-	None

1.5 Geology and Soil

Solid Strata:-	Mercia mudstone (Keuper Marl)
Depth of solid rock from surface:-	At considerable depth
Drift types:-	Estuarine Alluvium
Thickness of drift and distribution:-	Considerable thickness over the whole site

Soil Types and Distribution:- Calcareous heavy warp soils cover the entire site

Soil Textures (topsoils and subsoils):- Heavy textured soils consisting of heavy silty clay loam topsoils over heavy silty clay loam, silty clay or silt loam subsoils

Soil Series/Associations:-

On 1/250000 map:- Blacktoft Association

Identified on site:- Blacktoft Association

Soil Limitations and type:- Heavy topsoil texture and thus soil workability

1.6 Drainage

Soil type and Wetness Class:- The soils are generally well drained, falling within 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
2	33.6	100	91.06%
Non Agricultural	3.3		8.94%
Total		100	100

Grade 2

Distribution on site:- With the exception of the non-agricultural flood embankment on the western edge of the site, Grade 2 land covers the whole area.

Soil Type(s) and Texture(s):- Calcareous warp soils with heavy silty clay loam topsoils over heavy silty clay loam, silty clay or silt loam subsoils.

Depth to Slowly Permeable Layers:- There are no slowly permeable layers in most profiles.

Wetness and Drainage Class:- Mainly Wetness Class I. Well drained.

Stone Percentage and Type:- Soils are generally stoneless.

Grade Limiting Factors:- Heavy textured topsoils limit soil workability and this is the principal limiting factor on ALC grade.

Non Agricultural

Type and location of land included:- River Trent flood embankment running down the western edge of the site.

Resource Planning Group
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