

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
WYRE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN
SITE 3**

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**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR
WYRE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN
SITE 3**

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey for this site shows that the following proportions of ALC grades are present:

Grade/Subgrade	ha	% of site
3b	7.1	98.6
Other land		
Open water	0.1	1.4

- 1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of land on the site is soil wetness.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in May 1995. An Agricultural Land Classification survey was undertaken according to the guidelines laid down in the "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales - Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land" (MAFF 1988).
- 2.2 The 7.2 ha site is situated to the west of Garstang. The site is bounded to the west by the Lancaster canal and to the north by the River Wyre.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with Wyre Borough Local Plan.
- 2.4 At MAFF Land Use Planning Unit's request this was a detailed grid survey at 1:10000 with a minimum auger boring density of 1 per hectare. The attached map is only accurate at the base map scale and any enlargement would be misleading.
- 2.5 At the time of the survey the site was under permanent grass.

3 CLIMATE

3.1 The following interpolated data are relevant for the site (SD350427) :

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	1004
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1409

3.2 The combination of Average Annual Rainfall and Accumulated Temperature limit the site to Grade 2.

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	226
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	71
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	55

4 SITE

4.1 Three site factors of gradient, micro relief and flooding are considered when classifying land.

4.2 These factors do not impose any limitations on the agricultural use of the land.

5 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

5.1 The solid geology of the area is comprised of Glacial Till and Riverine Alluvium - British Geological Survey Sheet 67 Garstang 1:50,000.

5.2 The underlying geology influences the soils which have a clay loam texture.

6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Subgrade 3b - occupies 7.1 ha (98.6%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 The soil typically have a sandy clay loam or clay loam texture overlying clay loam and clay. The soils are gleyed and the clay forms a slowly permeable layer putting these soils in to Wetness Class IV.

6.1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil wetness.

6.2 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Grade/Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area	% of Agricultural Land
3b	7.1	98.6	100.0
Other land			
Open water	0.1	1.4	
Totals	7.2	100.0	100.0