

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
WYRE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN, KNOTT END-ON-SEA**

**V P Redfern  
Resource Planning Team  
ADAS Statutory Group  
WOLVERHAMPTON**

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## **AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR WYRE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN, KNOTT END-ON-SEA**

### **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	22.3	97
Other land		
Woodland	0.3	2
Open Water	0.4	2

- 1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of land in Subgrade 3b is soil wetness.

### **2 INTRODUCTION**

- 2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in October 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 23.0 ha site is situated to the east of Knott end-on-Sea. The land immediately to the south and east of the site is predominantly in agricultural use.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with the 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 (SD 354 482).

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	909
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1428

3.2 There is no overall climatic limitation on the site

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	204
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	80
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	66

### 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 Brekell Mudstones - British Geological Survey Sheet 66 Blackpool 1:50 000. This is overlain by deposits of Quaternary Marine/Estuarine alluvium.

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

## 6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Subgrade 3b - occupies 22.3 ha (97%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 The soil typically has a silty clay loam texture overlying silty clay to depth. Observations of gleying and the depth to the slowly permeable layer place these soils in Wetness Class IV.

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

6.2 Other land on the site includes woodland which occupies 0.3 ha (1%) and open water comprising 4 small ponds and occupying 0.4 ha (2%) of the site.

### 6.3 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Grade/Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area	% of Agricultural Land
3b	22.3	97	100
Other land			
Agricultural Buildings			
Woodland	0.3	1	
Open Water	0.4	2	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23.0</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>