MAFF Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
TYNEDALE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN
LAND NE OF CORBRIDGE
REF: LR10.1 AND LR20
NORTHUMBERLAND
NOVEMBER 1994

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group
2 FCS 10334

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SUMMARY

A total of 5.7 ha of land North East of Corbridge were surveyed in detail in November 1994.

5.0 ha were Subgrade 3a.

Soils were well drained and light textured, typically medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand subsoils. Topsoils were very slightly stony and subsoils similar or slightly stony.

Droughtiness limits the ALC grade of this land.

The remaining 0.7ha were woodland.

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TYNEDALE DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND NORTH EAST OF CORBRIDGE, NORTHUMBERLAND

REF: LR10.1 AND LR20

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

5.7 ha of land north east of Corbridge, centroid grid reference NY 999648 were surveyed in detail in November 1994. Soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of one boring per hectare at locations predetermined by the National Grid. Soil types were examined in greater detail by examination of profile pits. Land quality was assessed 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).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey 87% of the site was in agricultural use all under grass. The remaining area was woodland. Slopes were level or gently sloping with a southerly aspect.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	NY 999648
Altitude (m)	70
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	1287 Day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	639
Climatic Grade	2
Field Capacity Days	169
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	91
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	77

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

Solid Carboniferous sandstone strata are not exposed within a metre of the surface. Soils are all developed from light textured, slightly stony drift. Topsoils are typically medium sandy loam over a similar or slightly lighter textured (loamy medium sand) subsoil. Profiles are well drained (Wetness Class I) with a very slightly stony topsoil and very slightly stony to slightly stony subsoil.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2		
3a	5.0	87.7
3b		
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(5.0)	(87.7)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm	0.7	12.3
Woodland - Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(0.7)	(12.3)
TOTAL	5.7	100

2.1 Subgrade 3a

All agricultural land is Subgrade 3a. Topsoils are very slightly stony medium sandy loam over similar textured or loamy medium sand subsoils. Subsoil stoniness varies between very slight to slight. These soils are well drained (Wetness Class I). However, droughtiness limits the ALC grade of this land to Subgrade 3a.

2.2 Woodland

Remaining land on the site was Farm Woodland.

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