



AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
GRIMSBY LOCAL PLAN  
LAND AT WEELSBY, GRIMSBY,  
HUMBERSIDE  
AUGUST 1994

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 87/94  
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## SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification Survey of 34.2 ha of land at Weelsby was carried out in August 1994.

22.9 ha of Subgrade 3a land were identified. Soils are medium textured, imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and the ALC grade is limited by soil wetness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 4.9 ha. Poorly drained medium textured topsoils overlie slowly permeable clayey subsoils (Wetness Class IV). Again soil wetness is the factor limiting the ALC grade.

6.4 ha of scrub land were unsurveyed as ownership could not be established.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND AT WEELSBY,  
GRIMSBY, HUMBERSIDE

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies 2½km south of Grimsby town centre. It has a centroid grid reference of TA 285 075. Detailed survey work was carried out in August 1994 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of 1 boring per hectare at locations predetermined by the National Grid. Soil pits were dug to examine the soil in greater detail. 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 most of the land was either under grass or in arable use. Relief is mostly level or gently sloping.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: TA 285 075
Altitude (m)	: 8
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1398 day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 612
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 135
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 113
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 106

#### 1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

Soils are all developed from drift deposits. Solid chalk bedrock does not outcrop within 1 metre of the surface. Chalky boulder clay has weathered to produce imperfectly and poorly drained soils (Wetness Class III or IV). Topsoils are usually medium clay loam or sandy clay loam over similar textured upper subsoils. Lower subsoils are clayey and slowly permeable.

## 2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2		
3a	22.9	67.0
3b	4.9	14.3
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(27.8)	(81.3)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed	6.4	18.7
(Sub total)	(6.4)	(18.7)
TOTAL	<u>34.2</u>	<u>100</u>

### 2.1 Subgrade 3a

This subgrade occurs widely across the site. Topsoils are either a medium clay loam or sandy clay loam. Upper subsoils are similar and lower subsoils usually clayey and slowly permeable. Land with these imperfectly drained soils (Wetness Class III) is limited to subgrade 3a by soil wetness.

### 2.2 Subgrade 3b

A small area of this subgrade was identified on the site. Topsoils are medium clay loam and the subsoils a slowly permeable clay or silty clay. The ALC grade of these poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) soils is limited by soil wetness.

### 2.3 Unsurveyed

An unfarmed area to the east was unsurveyed as ownership could not be established.



MAP