

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN -
CROFT EAST - Site 10**

**Resource Planning Team
ADAS Statutory Group
WOLVERHAMPTON**

**Job No: 61/93
MAFF Ref: EL06/10106**

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR
WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN - CROFT EAST -
Site 10**

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey for this site shows the whole site covering 3.6 ha is classified as Sub-grade 3b.
- 1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of the land is soil wetness.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in July 1993. 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 site is situated to the east of Croft.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with the Local Plan for Warrington.
- 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 grass and cereals; although there was evidence that the land had been ploughed, the site was not actively grazed.

3 CLIMATE

3.1 The following interpolated data are relevant for the site:

Average Annual Rainfall	880 mm
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June	1422 day °C

3.2 There is no overall climatic limitation on the site

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days	208 days
Moisture Deficit Wheat	86 mm
Moisture Deficit Potatoes	73 mm

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 Upper Mottled Sandstone - British Geological Survey Sheet 97 1 inch, which is overlain by deposits of Boulder Clay.

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

6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Subgrade 3b - occupies 3.6 ha (100%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 The soil typically has a clay loam texture overlying clay below 38 cms.

6.1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use is soil wetness. Observations of gleying and the slowly permeable layer place these soils in Wetness Class IV.

6.3 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area
3b	3.6	100
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Totals	3.6	100.0
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**Resource Planning Team
ADAS Statutory Group
Wolverhampton
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