

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
ROTHERHAM UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN  
SITE H50, LILLY HALL ROAD, MALTBY  
MARCH 1993

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

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## SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 6ha of land at Lilly Hall Road, Maltby was carried out in March 1993.

5.1ha of this land was in agricultural use of which 1.7ha falls within Grade 2. Soils in this grade are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam or medium silty clay loam topsoils over heavy and medium silty clay loam subsoils. Impenetrable limestone bedrock occur at or below 60cm. Soils are limited to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness.

Subgrade 3a land covers 2.2ha. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over medium silty clay loam and soft limestone subsoils. Impenetrable hard limestone occurs at 50cm. Soils are limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 1.2ha. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium clay loam and fine sandy loam topsoils over hard limestone bedrock at or above 35cm. These soils are limited to Subgrade 3b by severe droughtiness.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: ROTHERHAM UNITARY  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN, SITE H50, LILLY HALL ROAD, MALTBY

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site is located 2km north west of Maltby and is centred on Grid Reference SK 516930. Survey work was carried out in March 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of 2 borings per hectare at points predetermined by the National Grid. Land quality was assessed using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land (MAFF 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of the survey 83.7% of the site was in agricultural production, all of which was arable use. The remainder of the site consisted of Non Agricultural land (Wood), Agricultural Buildings, and Urban (Gardens). Site altitude is 137m AOD. The site is level.

1.3 Climate

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Grid Reference                                      | : SK 516930  |
| Altitude (m)  | : 130        |
| Accumulated Temperature above 0°C<br>(January-June) | : 1233 day°C |
| Average Annual Rainfall (mm)                        | : 671        |
| Climatic Grade                                      | : 2          |
| Field Capacity Days                                 | : 138        |
| Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat                         | : 95         |
| Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes                      | : 82         |

#### 1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The area is underlain by Magnesian Limestone. Soils consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam, sandy clay loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over well drained (Wetness Class I) sandy clay loam or medium clay loam subsoils. Soft limestone occurs at varying depths over the site. Most soils are similar to those mapped as the Aberford series by the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre.

## 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                      | 1.7             | 27.9                            |
| 3a                     | 2.2             | 36.1                            |
| 3b                     | 1.2             | 19.7                            |
| 4                      |                 |                                 |
| 5                      |                 |                                 |
| (Sub total)            | (5.1)           | (83.7)                          |
| Urban                  | 0.3             | 4.9                             |
| Non Agricultural       | 0.1             | 1.6                             |
| Woodland - Farm        |                 |                                 |
| - Commercial           |                 |                                 |
| Agricultural Buildings | 0.6             | 9.8                             |
| Open Water             |                 |                                 |
| Land not surveyed      |                 |                                 |
| (Sub total)            | (1.0)           | (16.3)                          |
|                        | _____           | _____                           |
| TOTAL                  | 6.1             | 100                             |
|                        | _____           | _____                           |

## 2.1 Grade 2

Grade 2 land occurs near the south eastern edge of the site. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam or medium silty clay loam topsoils over heavy silty clay loam and medium silty clay loam subsoils. Soft limestone passing to impenetrable hard rock occurs at or below 60cm. Soils are limited to Grade 2 by slight droughtiness.

## 2.2 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs in the centre and north of the site. Profiles are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over medium silty clay loam and soft limestone subsoils. Impenetrable hard rock occurs at 50cm. This land is limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness which is more limiting than on the somewhat deeper Subgrade 3a soils.

## 2.3 Subgrade 3b

Subgrade 3b land occurs in the south west and in a small area in the north. Soil profiles consist of slightly stony medium clay loam and fine sandy loam topsoils over hard limestone bedrock at depths of about 30cm. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and are limited to Subgrade 3b by severe droughtiness.

## 2.4 Non-Agricultural

Non-agricultural land consists of a small area of woodland in the north west.

## 2.5 Agricultural Buildings

Agricultural Buildings consist of the farmhouse and barns at Lilly Hall.

2.6 Urban

This consists of the private gardens attached to Lilly Hall Farm.

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MAP