

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
HARROGATE LOCAL PLAN  
BOROUGHBRIDGE SITE.7  
JUNE 1993

ADAS  
Leeds Statutory Group

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## SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 21.4 ha of land at Boroughbridge was carried out in June 1993.

15.1 ha of this land was in agricultural use, of which 6.6 ha falls within Subgrade 3a. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist typically of medium sandy loam topsoils over medium sandy loam or loamy medium sand subsoils. This land is limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 8.5 ha. Soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and consist mainly of medium to heavy clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. They are limited to Subgrade 3b by wetness.

## CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS
2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

## MAP

1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT, HARROGATE LOCAL PLAN,  
BOROUGHBRIDGE SITE 7

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site is located west of Boroughbridge between the A1 and the River Ure, around National Grid Reference SE 387666. Survey work was carried out in June 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of one per hectare at points predetermined by the National Grid. Land quality was assessed using 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 survey 70.5% of the site was in agricultural production, most of which was in arable use. The remainder of the site consisted of Non Agricultural land (river bank and route of a dismantled railway line) and Urban land (road under construction). Site altitude is 10 m AOD and the site is level to gently sloping.

1.3 Climate (Common data set for all Boroughbridge sites)

Grid Reference	:	SE 395665
Altitude (m)	:	20
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	:	1379 day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	:	627
Climatic Grade	:	1
Field Capacity Days	:	148
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	:	106
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	:	97

#### 1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Bunter sandstone over which there is a thick cover of drift, mainly till and glaciofluvial sand. In the south profiles are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and consist of medium to heavy clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. In the north soils are typically well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand or medium sandy loam subsoils.

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	6.6	30.8%
3b	8.5	39.7%
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(15.1)	(70.5%)
Urban	3.7	17.3%
Non Agricultural	2.6	12.2%
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(6.3)	(29.5%)
	_____	_____
TOTAL	21.4	100%
	_____	_____

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land covers the northern part of the site. Typical soil profiles consist of medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand or medium sandy loam subsoils. Profiles are well drained (Wetness Class I) and limited to Subgrade 3a by soil droughtiness.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

This subgrade occurs in the southern half of the site. Typical soils consist of medium to heavy clay loam topsoils over gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. These soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and are limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness and workability problems.

2.3 Urban

This consists of the A1 improvement workings.

2.4 Non Agricultural

This category includes the river bank and the route of a dismantled railway.

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MAP