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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
GRIMSBY LOCAL PLAN
LAND WEST OF HUMBERSTON ROAD
HUMBERSTON
DECEMBER 1994

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

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SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification of 29.7 ha of land adjoining Humberston Road, Grimsby was carried out in November 1994.

At the time of the survey all of the site was in agricultural use.7.6 ha of land to the north of the site remains unsurveyed due to a lack of access permission. Two areas of Subgrade 3a land occur in the south east and west measuring 7.0 ha in total. Here soils are imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and land is limited to Subgrade 3a by moderate soil wetness restrictions. The remaining 15.1 ha of land is poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and falls into Subgrade 3b. It is restricted by severe wetness and workability problems.

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND WEST OF HUMBERSTON ROAD, HUMBERSTON

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies approximately 1 km south west of Cleethorpes town centre directly west of the A1031 Humberston road around National Grid Reference TA 291075. It covers a total of 29.7 hectares. Survey work was carried out in December 1994 when the soils on the site were examined by hand auger borings at 100m intervals predetermined by the National Grid. In addition a soil pit was dug to assess subsoil structure. 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 the survey all of the land was in agricultural use. Land to the south of the track was in arable use. Land to the north of the track was in pasture, but was not surveyed due to access problems. The land is level to gently sloping (0 to 2°) and lies between 6m and 8m AOD.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	:	TA 291075
Altitude (m)	:	8
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	:	1398
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	:	612
Climate Grade	:	1
Field Capacity Days	:	134
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	:	113
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	:	106

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Flamborough Chalk with a Drift cover of Boulder Clay. Soils profiles are imperfectly to poorly drained (Wetness Class III and IV) and consist of mainly heavy clay loam topsoils, with occasional medium clay loams, over slowly permeable clay subsoils between 35 and 50 cm depth. Soil profiles are similar to those mapped as the Holderness Association by the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows :

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2		
3a	7.0	24
3b	15.1	51
4		
5	(22.1)	(75)
(Sub total)		
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed	7.6	25
(Sub total)	(7.6)	(25)
Total	29.7	100

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Two areas, to the west and south east of the site fall within this Subgrade. Soils consist of imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III), very slightly stony, calcareous heavy clay loam topsoils over gleyed, stoneless, permeable heavy clay loam upper subsoils in turn over gleyed, stoneless to very slightly stony, slowly permeable, clay subsoils. Slowly permeable layers occur between 40cm and 50cm depth. The combination of heavy topsoils over imperfectly drained clay subsoils results in a moderate wetness limitation restricting the land to Subgrade 3a.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

The remaining surveyed area falls within Subgrade 3b. Soils consists of very slightly stony calcareous heavy clay loam topsoils over stoneless to very slightly stony gleyed slowly permeable clay subsoils. Soils are slowly permeable within 35cm and are poorly drained, falling into (Wetness Class IV). The combination of heavy topsoils over poorly drained clay subsoils results in severe wetness and workability problems, limiting the land to Subgrade 3b.

2.3 Unsurveyed

An area in the north of the site was not surveyed due to access problems.

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