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Ministry of
Agriculture
Fisheries
and Food

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
DONCASTER UDP
SITE EMP 2 (18)
SOUTH YORKSHIRE
OCTOBER 1995

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

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SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey of 27.5 ha of land at Edenthorpe - "Doncaster U.D.P. Site EMP 2 (18)" - was carried out in October 1995. At the time of the survey, 99% of the site was in agricultural use and 7.5 ha of this falls in Subgrade 3a. The soils are well drained, with medium sandy loam topsoils overlying loamy medium sand subsoils, or loamy medium sand topsoils overlying medium sandy loam subsoils. Both topsoils and subsoils are stoneless to very slightly stony and the ALC grade is limited by a moderate soil droughtiness restriction. The remainder of the agricultural land on the site (19.6 ha) falls in Subgrade 3b. The soils are well drained in these areas, with loamy medium sand topsoils overlying loamy medium sand or medium sand subsoils. Topsoils and subsoils are again stoneless to very slightly stony, but a more severe soil droughtiness limitation further restricts this land to Subgrade 3b.

The remaining land on this site (0.4 ha) has been mapped as Urban land and consists of an access road.

CONTENTS

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND AT EDENTHORPE, DONCASTER UDP, SITE EMP 2 (18)

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

This site lies approximately 5½ Km north-east of Doncaster town centre, on the west side of the village of Edenthorpe. Survey work was carried out in October 1995 when the soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 m intervals predetermined by the National Grid and two soil pits were dug to allow the soils to be described in greater detail. The 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, 99% of the site was in agricultural use (recently ploughed or harrowed or under sugar beet) while 1% was Urban land.

Site altitude varies from 12 m AOD in the south-east to 8 m AOD in the east and west and the land is generally level.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE611 065
Altitude	: 10
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1412 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 578
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 119
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 113
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 106

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by Bunter Sandstone over which lie fluvioglacial deposits. The soils on the site are well drained (Wetness Class I) with medium sandy loam or loamy medium sand topsoils overlying medium sandy loam, loamy medium sand or medium sand subsoils. Both topsoils and subsoils are stoneless to very slightly stony, with up to 3% hard stones.

The soils on the site correspond to the Newport 1 association as mapped 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	7.5	27.3
3b	19.6	71.2
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(27.1)	(98.5)
Urban	0.4	1.5
Non Agricultural		
Woodland		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(0.4)	(1.5)
TOTAL	27.5	100

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs along Dodge Dike, which runs through the centre and north of the site. The soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium sandy loam topsoils and loamy medium sand subsoils or loamy medium sand topsoils and medium sandy loam subsoils in most cases. Both topsoils and subsoils are stoneless to very slightly stony, containing up to 3% total hard stones, and it is a moderate soil droughtiness restriction which limits this land to Subgrade 3a.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

The remainder of the agricultural land on the site falls in Subgrade 3b. Again, the profiles are well drained (Wetness Class I), with loamy medium sand topsoils overlying loamy medium sand or medium sand subsoils in this case. Both topsoils and subsoils are

stoneless to very slightly stony, containing up to 3% total hard stones, but these soils have a very low water-holding capacity and it is severe soil droughtiness which limits the ALC grade of the land.

2.3 Urban

A newly built access road in the south of the site has been mapped as Urban.

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