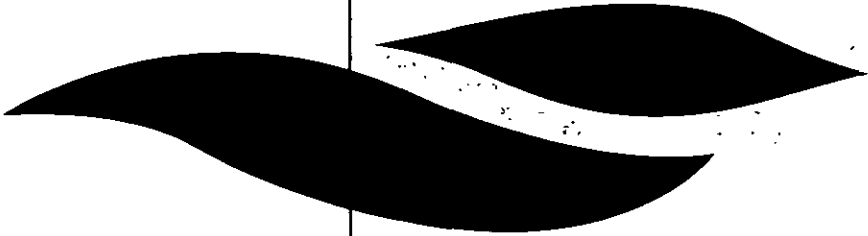


FRCA



FARMING AND RURAL CONSERVATION AGENCY
An Executive Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Welsh Office

**REDCAR AND CLEVELAND
LOCAL PLAN
OBJECTORS SITES**

**Agricultural Land Classification
ALC Map and Summary Report**

May 1997

Resource Planning Team

**Northern Region
FRCA Leeds**

**RPT Job Number: 12-19 and
21/97**

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION SUMMARY REPORT

REDCAR AND CLEVELAND LOCAL PLAN OBJECTORS SITE

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of detailed Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) surveys of nine sites in the district. The surveys were carried out during April and May 1997, except land at Church Lane, Guisborough which was surveyed in November 1989.

The survey was carried out by the Farming and Rural Conservation Agency (FRCA) for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF), in connection with the Redcar and Cleveland Local Plan. These surveys supersede previous ALC information for this land.

The work was conducted by members of the Resource Planning Team in the Northern Region of FRCA. The land has been graded in accordance with the published MAFF ALC guidelines and criteria (MAFF, 1988). A description of the ALC grades and subgrades is given in Appendix I.

At the time of the survey land use was as follows:

Land south of A183 and west of Gladstone Street, Brotton.

This site was mostly in arable use growing cereals.

Land south of New Hospital, Brotton.

All land on this site was in arable use growing oilseed rape.

Land west of Kilton Lane, Brotton.

This contains cereals.

Land east of Kilton Lane, Brotton.

Land use was a mixture of cereals and oilseed rape.

Land north of Green Acres, Saltburn Road, Brotton.

The land had recently been sown to spring barley.

Land at Church Lane, Guisborough.

All this site is in arable use growing cereals.

Land north of Thames Avenue, Tidkin Lane, Fanacurt Road and Meynell Avenue, Guisborough.

Agricultural land here was all grass, other uses include allotments, farm buildings and scrub woodland.

Land north of Long Bank Farm, Ormesby

All of the agricultural land was sown to winter wheat. A small area of non-agricultural land was mapped in the south of the site.

Summary

Fieldwork was conducted at an average density of 1 boring per hectare and at least one soil profile pit was dug at each site.

Survey findings are shown on the attached maps which are drawn at a scale of 1:5,000. They are accurate at this scale but any enlargement would be misleading.

The areas of ALC grades and subgrades are shown on the attached table.

Table 1

	Area (ha)					
	Grade 2	Subgrade 3a	Subgrade 3b	Grade 4	Grade 5	Other land
Land south of A173 and west of Gladstone Street, Brotton			10.8			0.2
Land south of New Hospital, Brotton			2.2			
Land west of Kilton Lane, Brotton			3.8			
Land east of Kilton Lane, Brotton			6.9			
Land north of Green Acres, Saltburn Road, Brotton			3.0			
Land at Church Lane, Guisborough	0.7	5.8	5.8			
Land north of Thames Avenue, Tidkin Lane, Fanacurt Road and Meynell Avenue, Guisborough			9.4		0.5	4.0
Land at Windy Hill Farm, Marske		6.4	17.6			
Land north of Long Bank Farm, Ormesby			4.3			0.1

APPENDIX I

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE GRADES AND SUBGRADES

Grade 1: Excellent Quality Agricultural Land

Land with no or very minor limitations to agricultural use. A very wide range of agricultural and horticultural crops can be grown and commonly includes top fruit, soft fruit, salad crops and winter harvested vegetables. Yields are high and less variable than on land of lower quality.

Grade 2: Very Good Quality Agricultural Land

Land with minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. A wide range of agricultural or horticultural crops can usually be grown but on some land of this grade there may be reduced flexibility due to difficulties with the production of the more demanding crops such as winter harvested vegetables and arable root crops. The level of yield is generally high but may be lower or more variable than Grade 1 land.

Grade 3: Good to Moderate Quality Land

Land with moderate limitations which affect the choice of crops, the timing and type of cultivation, harvesting or the level of yield. When more demanding crops are grown, yields are generally lower or more variable than on land in Grades 1 and 2.

Subgrade 3a: Good Quality Agricultural Land

Land capable of consistently producing moderate to high yields of a narrow range of arable crops, especially cereals, or moderate yields of a wide range of crops including cereals, grass, oilseed rape, potatoes, sugar beet and the less demanding horticultural crops.

Subgrade 3b: Moderate Quality Agricultural Land

Land capable of producing moderate yields of a narrow range of crops, principally cereals and grass, or lower yields of a wider range of crops or high yields of grass which can be grazed or harvested over most of the year.

Grade 4: Poor Quality Agricultural Land

Land with severe limitations which significantly restrict the range of crops and/or the level of yields. It is mainly suited to grass with occasional arable crops (e.g. cereals and forage crops) the yields of which are variable. In moist climates, yields of grass may be moderate to high but there may be difficulties in utilisation. The grade also includes very droughty arable land.

Grade 5: Very Poor Quality Agricultural Land

Land with severe limitations which restrict use to permanent pasture or rough grazing, except for occasional pioneer forage crops.