



Ministry of
Agriculture
Fisheries
and Food

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
CLEETHORPES DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN

SITE 3

OCTOBER 1993

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

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2 FCS 6678

SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification Survey of 53.1ha of land at Walks Farm, Cleethorpes, (District Local Plan Site 3) was carried out in September 1993.

45.1ha of this was in agricultural use of which 23.8ha falls within Subgrade 3a. There are two soil types in this subgrade. the first, covering the majority of the land consists of imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) medium clay loam topsoils over slightly gleyed permeable heavy clay loam upper subsoils which in turn pass into gleyed slowly permeable lower subsoils. These soils are limited by wetness. The second soil type occurs in a small area west of Walks Farm and consists of permeable well drained (Wetness Class I) medium sandy loam topsoils over permeable loamy medium sand and medium sand subsoils. These soils are limited to Subgrade 3a by summer droughtiness.

The remaining agricultural land ^{21.3}~~8.0~~ha falls within Subgrade 3b. Soils are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) and consist of medium and heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay loam subsoils. These soils are limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: CLEETHORPES DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN, SITE 3, WALKS FARM, LACEBY

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site is located 2km north east of Laceby and is centred on Grid Reference TA230077. Survey work was carried out in September 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 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 85% of the site was in agricultural production, the remainder being urban land, non-agricultural woodland, scrub and open water. The site is level to moderately sloping (0-4°) and lies between 5m AOD and 20m AOD.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: TA 230077
Altitude (m)	: 15
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	: 1391 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 627
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 141
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 109
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 102

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by chalk over which there is a thick cover of boulder clay. Soils, in the central higher part of the site, consist of imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) stoneless to very slightly stony medium clay loam topsoils over stoneless, gleyed, permeable heavy clay loam upper subsoils which in turn pass into gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay loam lower subsoils. A smaller area of similar soils occurs in the north west of the site. Within the central area, to the west of Walks Farm, there is also a small area of lighter soils. Here profiles consist of well drained (Wetness Class I) stoneless medium sandy loam topsoils over loamy medium sand and medium sand subsoils. These soils are limited by droughtiness.

The remaining soils in the lower peripheral parts of the site consist of poorly drained, (Wetness Class IV), stoneless to very lightly stony medium and heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay 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	23.8	44.8
3b	21.3	40.2
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(45.1)	(85.0)
Urban	0.8	1.5
Non Agricultural	6.5	12.2
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water	0.7	1.3
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(8.0)	(15.0)
 TOTAL	 <u>53.1</u>	 <u>100</u>

2.1 Subgrade 3a

Two areas of Subgrade 3a land occur on the site: one small area in the north west and a larger central area surrounding Walks Farm. Soils consist mainly of imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) stoneless to very slightly stony medium clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed (within 40m) heavy clay loam, but permeable upper subsoils. These in turn overlie, between 40-60cm depth, gleyed slowly permeable heavy clay loam lower subsoils. This land is limited to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness. Also included within this subgrade is a small area of lighter land to the west of Walks Farm. Here profiles consist of well drained (Wetness Class I) stoneless medium sandy loam topsoils overlying stoneless loamy medium sand and medium sand subsoils. This land is limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

The remaining agricultural land falls within Subgrade 3b. Soils consist of poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) stoneless to very slightly stony medium and heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed slowly permeable stoneless to very slightly stony heavy clay loam and clay subsoils. The slowly permeable layer occurs at or above 38cm depth and the land is limited to Subgrade 3b by wetness.

2.3 Urban

This consist of Walks Farm and private dwellings on the southern edge of the site.

2.4 Non-Agricultural

This consists of woodland and scrub in the northern part of the site.

2.5 Open Water

This consists of an artificial pond within the Non-Agricultural area.

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MAP