

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

BOWES LANE, GRISTHORPE,
FILEY, NORTH YORKSHIRE

Proposed Golf Course

MAFF
Leeds Regional Office

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1. Agricultural Land Classification

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND ADJOINING BOWES LANE,
GRISTHORPE, FILEY

INTRODUCTION

the site is located around National Grid Reference TA095824 approximately 2 Km north west of Filey, North Yorkshire. It covers 58 hectares, all of which is in agricultural use.

Soils on the site were examined at regularly spaced intervals, pre-determined by the National Grid using a 1 metre hand auger. 27 borings were made in all, giving a survey density of approximately 1 boring per 2 hectares.

LAND USE

The site was under cereals at the time of survey.

CLIMATE

Average annual rainfall (AAR) is approximately 650 mm. Accumulated temperature above 0°C, between January and June is 1338 day °C and the land is at field capacity for 157 days a year.

The rainfall and accumulated temperature figures indicate that there is no overall climatic limitation on ALC grade.

RELIEF

The site slopes in a general southerly direction away from the coast. Altitude ranges from 87 m aod on top of the cliffs in the north down to 38 m aod where the site adjoins the A165 Scarborough to Filey road. Gradients seldom exceed 5-6° and do not restrict the use of agricultural machinery.

SOILS AND GEOLOGY

Soils on the site consist typically of medium or heavy clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils over reddish, slow permeable Boulder Clay. There are also some localised patches of coarse loamy topsoil. The topsoil and upper subsoil horizons overlying the boulder clay are often thicker on lower slopes near the southern site boundary because of post-glacial down-slope soil movement. Soil wetness is often less restricting here because of the greater profile depth at which poorly structured Boulder Clay occurs.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

SUBGRADE	HECTARES	PER CENT OF TOTAL SITE AREA
3A	19.6	34%
3B	38.4	66%
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TOTAL	58.0	100%

SUBGRADE 3A

Land in this subgrade occurs mainly in the southern quarter of the site. Soils fall within Wetness Class III and consist of medium clay loam topsoils and upper subsoils over slowly permeable boulder clay at depth.

A combination of profile wetness and topsoil workability problems form the main restriction on ALC grade.

SUBGRADE 3B

Subgrade 3B occurs extensively in the northern part of the site. Soils are somewhat heavier than on the adjoining subgrade 3a land and the underlying boulder clay tends to occur closer to the surface. These soils fall within Wetness Class IV and are restricted by and workability problems which are more severe than on the subgrade 3a land.