



AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
LACEBY ROAD, CLEETHORPES
HUMBERSIDE
PROPOSED SUPERSTORE DEVELOPMENT SITE
NOVEMBER 1993

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 184/93
MAFF Ref:- EL 10222
Commission No: 823

Lfcs 6745

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification Survey of 6.5ha of land at Laceby Acres, Cleethorpes was carried out in September 1993.

4.5ha of this was in agricultural use of which 1.5ha falls within Subgrade 3a. Soils consist 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 remaining agricultural land (3.0ha) 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.

2.0ha of the site is covered by the A46 road and is classified as Urban Land.

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND AT LACEBY ROAD,
CLEETHORPES, HUMBERSIDE

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies to the north of Laceby Road approximately 2km north east of Laceby. It is centred around National Grid Reference TA 234076. 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. Two soil inspection pits were dug to assess subsoil structure. 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 most of the site was in agricultural production, the remainder being urban land. The site is level to moderately sloping (0-4°) and lies between 17m AOD and 20m AOD.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: TA 234076
Altitude (m)	: 18
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 covering of boulder clay. Soils across most of the site consist of medium clay loam or heavy clay loam topsoils overlying gleyed, slowly permeable, heavy clay loam subsoils. These soils are poorly drained falling within Wetness Class IV. Soils in the north western corner of the site are better drained, falling within Wetness Class III. Medium clay loam topsoils overlie gleyed, permeable heavy clay loam upper subsoils and gleyed, slowly permeable heavy clay loam lower 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	1.5	23.1
3b	3.0	46.2
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(4.5)	(69.3)
Urban	2.0	30.7
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(2.0)	(30.7)
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TOTAL	6.5	100
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2.1 Subgrade 3a

Land in the north west of the site is of Subgrade 3a quality. Soils consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam topsoils over upper subsoils of gleyed, permeable heavy clay loam. Lower subsoils consist of gleyed, heavy clay loam which is slowly permeable below 38cm. These soils are imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and the land is limited to Subgrade 3a by slight soil wetness and workability restrictions.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

Most of the land on the site 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 a more severe soil wetness and workability limitation.

2.3 Urban

This consists of the A46 Laceby Road in the south of the site.

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MAP