

FILE NOTE

STOCKPORT, AMESBURY (70/98)

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

An Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey was undertaken at the beginning of August 1998. Due to none of the site having been harvested and the tight deadline the survey was carried out at a reconnaissance level where borings were easily accessible. A total of 10 auger borings and 2 soil profile pits were examined. due to the uniform soil and geology types, and after the findings at The Pennings these few observations were taken to be representative of the whole site.

Typically the profiles have a flinty medium clay loam topsoil with 20-35 % hard rock (8-15 % greater than 2 cm) to 25 cm. There is then a narrow horizon of weathered chalk stones with some soil material in it (about 80% chalk) which leads into chalk at about 35-40 cm. Many of the auger borings proved to be impenetrable at depth. Rooting was observed to about 85 cm.

Available water calculations taken to the observed rooting depth show the profiles to be Subgrade 3b on drought.

It should be noted that if the calculations were extended to 95-100 cm, or deeper, then they would be Subgrade 3a.

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21/8/98