

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION  
ALLERDALE DISTRICT WIDE LOCAL PLAN: SITE 5**

**S KANGH**  
Resource Planning Team  
ADAS Statutory Group  
WOLVERHAMPTON

**ADAS Ref: 25/RPT/0715**  
**Job No: 152/95**  
**MAFF Ref: EL 08/10715**

# AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR ALLERDALE DISTRICT WIDE LOCAL PLAN: SITE 5

## 1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Survey for this site shows that the following proportions of ALC grades are present:

Grade/Subgrade	ha	% of site
3b	2.7	100

- 1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of land in Subgrade 3b is soil wetness.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in March 1996. An Agricultural Land Classification survey was undertaken according to the guidelines laid down in the "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales - Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land" (MAFF 1988).
- 2.2 The 2.7 ha site is situated to the South of Wigton. The land immediately to the north, and west of the site is predominantly in urban use. Land immediately to the south and east of the site is in agricultural use.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with Allerdale District Wide Local Plan.
- 2.4 At MAFF Land Use Planning Unit's request this was a detailed grid survey at 1:10000 with a minimum auger boring density of 1 per hectare, additional borings were carried out over the site. The attached map is only accurate at the base map scale and any enlargement would be misleading.
- 2.5 At the time of the survey the site was under permanent grass.

### 3 CLIMATE

3.1 The following interpolated data are relevant for the site (NY261474) :

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	986
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1329

3.2 The combination of annual average rainfall and accumulated temperature limit the site to Climatic Grade 2.

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	235
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	69
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	51

### 4 SITE

4.1 Three site factors of gradient, micro relief and flooding are considered when classifying land.

4.2 These factors do not impose any limitations on the agricultural use of the land.

### 5 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

5.1 The drift geology of the area is comprised of Boulder Clay, British Geological Survey Sheet 23 Cockermouth 1 Inch.

5.2 The underlying geology influences the soils which have a clay loam texture over the whole of the site.

## 6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Subgrade 3b - occupies 2.7 ha (100%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 The soil typically has a clay loam texture overlying heavy clay loam and clay to depth. Variation in the depth to the slowly permeable layer and observations of gleying place these soils in Wetness Class III or IV. The topsoil texture and number of field capacity days result in the same agricultural land classification grade irrespective of the difference in wetness class.

6.1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of this land is soil wetness.

### 6.2 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Grade/Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area	% of Agricultural Land
3b	2.7	100	100
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>