

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
ALLERDALE DISTRICT WIDE LOCAL PLAN
SITE 14**

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**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR
ALLERDALE DISTRICT WIDE LOCAL PLAN
SITE 14**

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	3.3	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 3.3 ha site is situated to the north of Seaton. The land immediately to the north and west of the site is predominantly in agricultural use. The land to the south is in urban use with derelict land adjoining the site to the east.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with the 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. 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 (NY018312) :

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	983
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1342

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

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	233
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	71
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	53

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 solid geology of the area is comprised of Millstone Grit - British Geological Survey Sheet 22 Maryport 1 Inch. This is overlain by deposits of Boulder Clay.

5.2 The underlying geology influences the soils which have a clay loam texture.

6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Subgrade 3b - occupies 3.3 ha (100%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 The soil typically has a clay loam texture overlying clay to depth. Observations of gleying and the depth to the slowly permeable layer place the soil in Wetness Class IV.

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	3.3	100	100
Totals	3.3	100	100