

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN, SITE 2 -
GLAZEBROOK NORTH.**

**S Y Hunter
Resource Planning Team
ADAS Statutory Group
WOLVERHAMPTON**

**ADAS Ref: 25/RPT/0761
Job No: 172/95
MAFF Ref: EL 06/10106A**

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR
WARRINGTON LOCAL PLAN, SITE 2 -
GLAZEBROOK NORTH.**

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
1	2.1	27
2	5.6	73

- 1.2 There are no limitations to the agricultural use of land in Grade 1.
- 1.3 The main limitation to the agricultural use of land in Grade 2 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 7.7 ha site is situated to the north east of Warrington, east of Glazebrook. The site is bounded to the west by residential housing, and to the south by a railway line. Glaze Brook runs approximately 100m from the eastern boundary of the site.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with Warrington 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 cereals.

3 CLIMATE

3.1 The following interpolated data are relevant for the site (SJ 697 927) :

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	866
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1428

3.2 There is no overall climatic limitation on the site.

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	205
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	87
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	74

4 SITE

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

4.2 Gradient and flooding do not impose any limitations on the agricultural use of the land.

4.3 Across the centre of the site a small vertical rock face feature was observed, but was too small to map at this scale.

5 GEOLOGY AND SOILS

5.1 The solid geology of the area is comprised of Keuper Sandstone - British Geological Survey Sheet 98 Stockport 1 Inch.

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

6 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

6.1 Grade 1 - occupies 2.1 ha (27%) of the survey area and is found in the southern part of the site.

6.1.1 These soils typically have a sandy loam texture overlying sandy loam and loamy sand to depth, with few or no stones within the profile.

6.1.2 There are no limitations to the agricultural use of this land.

6.2 Grade 2 - occupies 5.6 ha (73%) of the survey area and is found over the remainder of the site.

6.2.1 The soil has a sandy loam texture over sandy loam and sand. Observations of gleying place these soils into Wetness Class II.

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

6.5 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Grade/Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area
1	2.1	27
2	5.6	73
Total	7.7	100