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Ministry of
Agriculture
Fisheries
and Food

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
LEEDS UDP, TOPIC 901
WEST OF LEEDS ROAD, COLLINGHAM
WEST YORKSHIRE
JANUARY 1995

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

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SUMMARY

A detailed Agricultural Land Classification survey of 5.0 ha of land ½ Km west of Collingham town centre, south of the A659 (Topic 901 Leeds UDP) was carried out in January 1995.

At the time of the survey 4.5 ha of the land was in agricultural use and 2.8 ha falls into Grade 2. Soils consist of moderately well drained (Wetness Class II), medium clay loam topsoils, over permeable heavy clay loam subsoils in turn over slowly permeable clay subsoils. Slight soil wetness restrictions limit this land to Grade 2.

1.7 ha of land falls into Subgrade 3b. Two distinct soil types occur within this subgrade. Soils to the south are poorly drained consisting of heavy silty clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable silty clay subsoils. Severe soil wetness and workability restrictions limit this land to Subgrade 3b. The remaining land consists of restored soils on a disused railway line. These consist of heavy clay loam topsoils, containing stone and rubble, overlying compacted platy slowly permeable silty clay subsoils. These soils are also restricted to Subgrade 3b by severe soil wetness and workability limitations. The remainder of the site (0.5 ha) consists of non agricultural shrub and trees and a sub-station (mapped as Urban), both south of the stream.

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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND WEST OF LEEDS ROAD, COLLINGHAM, WEST YORKSHIRE, TOPIC 901 LEEDS U.D.P.

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site lies approximately ½ Km west of Collingham, adjacent to site - Topic 839 and south of the A659. It is centred around National Grid Reference SE 378 454. The site covers a total area of 5.0 ha. Survey work was carried out in January 1995 when the soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 m intervals predetermined by the National Grid.

One soil pit was dug to allow the profile to be described in greater detail. The land quality was assessed using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales. Revised guidelines and criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land". (MAFF, 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of the survey 4.5 ha of the site were under arable and permanent grass, with the remaining 0.5 ha being non agricultural and urban. The site is level to moderately sloping (0 -4°), and lies between 30 m and 40 m AOD.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 378 454
Altitude (m)	: 30
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1377 day° C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 675
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 173
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 100
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 89

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The area is underlain by Lower Magnesian Limestone with a drift cover of Fluvoglacial terrace and alluvium to the south.

Soils to the far south near the river consist of poorly drained (Wetness Class IV), very slightly stony heavy silty clay loam topsoils over gleyed slowly permeable silty clay subsoils.

Soils in the centre of the site consist of very slightly stony moderately well drained (Wetness Class II) medium clay loam topsoils over ungleyed heavy clay loam upper subsoils, in turn over slowly permeable clay subsoils.

The remaining soils to the far north of the site are restored. These soils consist of slightly stony heavy clay loam topsoils over slightly stony compacted, platy, slowly permeable silty clay subsoils.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2	2.8	56.0
3a		
3b	1.7	34.0
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(4.5)	(90.0)
Urban	0.1	2.0
Non Agricultural	0.4	8.0
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(0.5)	(10.0)
TOTAL	5.0	100

2.1 Grade 2

Grade 2 land covers the centre of the site. Soils consist of moderately well drained (Wetness Class II), very slightly stony (1% small/medium hard stones) medium clay loamtopsoils over stoneless heavy clay loam upper subsoils in turn over gleyed slowly permeable clay at 70 cm depth. Upper subsoils are gleyed within 70 cm but not within 40 cm depth. These soils are limited to Grade 2 by a slight soil wetness restriction.

2.2 Subgrade 3b

The remaining agricultural land falls within this subgrade. Two distinct soil types occur. Soils to the far south consist of poorly drained (Wetness Class IV), very slightly stony (1% small/medium hard stones) heavy silty clay loam topsoils overlying stoneless, gleyed, slowly permeable silty clay subsoils. This land is limited to Subgrade 3b by severe wetness and workability restrictions.

The remaining Subgrade 3b land occurs in the north of the site. Soils are restored, seemingly having been part of railway line. These soils consist of slightly stony (8 - 10% medium and large hard stones, with house bricks and clay pipe rubble also present) heavy clay loam topsoils overlying compacted, platy, slowly permeable silty clay subsoils, containing 3 - 4% medium/large hard stones. This land is limited to Subgrade 3b by severe soil wetness and workability restrictions.

2.3 Non Agricultural

This category consists of dense scrub and trees to the south of the stream.

2.4 Urban

This category consists of a sub-station with surrounding hard access and standing.

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MAP