

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
HARROGATE LOCAL PLAN
SITE 9 HAUGHS FARM
KNARESBOROUGH
APRIL 1993

ADAS
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SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of 13.8 ha of land at Haughs Farm, Knaresborough was carried out in April 1993.

All of this land was in agricultural use of which 10.3 ha falls within Grade 2. Soils in this grade are well drained (Wetness Class I) or moderately well drained (Wetness Class II). Well drained soils consist of stoneless to very slightly stony loamy medium sand, medium sandy loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over medium sandy loam, sandy clay loam and sand subsoils. This land is limited to Grade 2 by droughtiness. The moderately well drained soils consist of very slightly stony medium clay loam topsoils over gleyed heavy silty clay loam and sandy clay loam subsoils. Profiles of this type are limited to Grade 2 by wetness.

Subgrade 3a land covers 2.7 ha. Soils are well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of medium sandy loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over medium and coarse sand and heavy silty clay loam subsoils. This land is limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 0.8 ha. Soils are again well drained (Wetness Class I) and consist of loamy medium sand topsoils over gravel at between 30 and 40cm depth. This land is limited to Subgrade 3b by severe droughtiness.

Differences in all grades compared with the original 1986 survey result from the revised (1988) ALC system which contains a more accurate droughtiness assessment.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS
2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

MAP

1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT:- HARROGATE LOCAL PLAN, SITE 9,
HAUGHS FARM, KNARESBOROUGH

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

The site is located 1½ Km south east of Knaresborough around Grid Reference SE 368566. Survey work was carried out in April 1993 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at a density of one per hectare at points pre-determined by the National Grid. 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 all of the site was in arable or permanent pasture. The site is level to gently sloping (0-2°).

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 368566
Altitude (m)	: 35
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	: 1355 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 689
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 170
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 99
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 89

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by middle Permian Marls over which there are drift deposits of alluvium and terrace deposits. Soils consist of well drained (Wetness Class I) medium and fine sandy loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over sandy loam, loamy sand and sand subsoils. A small area of heavier land occurs in the centre of the site. Soils here consist of medium clay loam topsoils over moderately well drained (Wetness Class II) gleyed sandy clay loam subsoils.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2	10.3	74.6
3a	2.7	19.6
3b	0.8	5.8
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(13.8)	(100)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	13.8	100
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2.1 Grade 2

Grade 2 land occurs in the centre and north east of the site and in the south west. Soils consist of a mixture of stoneless to very slightly stony loamy medium sand, medium sandy loam, sandy clay loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils over well drained (Wetness Class I) to moderately well drained, (Wetness Class II) stoneless to very slightly stony medium and fine sandy loam, medium silty clay loam and medium to coarse sand subsoils. Soils are mainly limited to Grade 2 by droughtiness except for a small central area of heavier soil which is limited by slight wetness.

2.2 Subgrade 3a

Subgrade 3a land occurs in the central part of the site. Soils here consist of stoneless to very slightly stony medium sandy loam and medium silty clay loam topsoils overlying well drained (Wetness Class I) medium and coarse sand and heavy silty clay loam subsoils. Depth to gravel varies from 60-120cm and soils are limited to Subgrade 3a by droughtiness.

2.3 Subgrade 3b

Subgrade 3b land occurs in a small area in the south eastern part of the site. Soils consist of stoneless to very slightly stony loamy medium sand topsoils over gravel overburden at 30-40cm depth. Profiles of this type are limited to Subgrade 3b by severe droughtiness.

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