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Ministry of
Agriculture
Fisheries
and Food

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
BEVERLEY BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN
SITE 1, GREAT GUTTER LANE
WILLERBY
DECEMBER 1992

ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group

Job No:- 140/92
MAFF Ref:-

site1.alc

SUMMARY

An Agricultural Land Classification survey of approximately 43ha of land at Great Gutter Lane, Willerby was carried out in December 1992.

Virtually all of this is in agricultural use, of which 10.2ha falls within Grade 2. Soils in this grade are moderately well drained and consist of medium clay loam or medium to fine sandy loam topsoils overlying medium clay loam upper subsoils and slowly permeable heavy clay loam lower subsoils. This land is limited to Grade 2 by slight soil wetness.

Subgrade 3a land covers 12.8ha. Soils are imperfectly drained and consist of medium clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam subsoils which become slowly permeable at depths of between 40 and 50cm. This land is restricted to Subgrade 3a by soil wetness.

Subgrade 3b land covers 19.5ha. Profiles are poorly drained and consist of medium or heavy clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. They are limited to Subgrade 3b by soil wetness and workability problems.

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SITE 1, GREAT GUTTER LANE, WILLERBY

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods.

The site is located around Grid Reference TA 011303, between Great Gutter Lane and Riplingham Road. It covers a total area of 43.2ha. Survey work was carried out in December 1992 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100m intervals at points predetermined by the National Grid. Land quality was assessed using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales" (MAFF 1988).

1.2 Land Use and Relief

At the time of survey, 98% of the site was in agricultural use, mainly under arable crops. There are also small areas of permanent pasture and horticulture.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	:	TA 011303
Altitude (m)	:	50
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January-June)	:	1347 day°C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	:	677
Climatic Grade	:	1
Field Capacity Days	:	150
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	:	100
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	:	90

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by chalk over which there is a thick cover of boulder clay (Till). Soils developed on the till generally consist of medium or heavy clay loam topsoils over slowly permeable heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. There are also several small areas where profiles are formed of medium to fine sandy loam topsoils over medium or heavy clay loam subsoils which become slowly permeable at depth. Drainage varies from moderately well drained (Wetness Class II) where topsoils are light and the slowly permeable layer occurs at depth to imperfectly or poorly drained (Wetness Classes III and IV) where the upper subsoil is heavy and slowly permeable.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2	10.25	23.7
3a	12.83	29.7
3b	19.56	45.2
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(42.64)	(98.6)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings	0.6	1.4
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(0.6)	
TOTAL	43.24	100

2.1 Grade 2

Areas of Grade 2 land occur in the north and east of the site. Profiles consist of medium clay loam or medium or fine sandy loam topsoils, over medium clay loam upper subsoils and, at about 55cm depth, slowly permeable heavy clay loam lower subsoils. These soils are moderately well drained (Wetness Class II) and slight soil wetness is the main factor restricting this land to Grade 2.

2.2 Subgrade 3a

Land in this subgrade occurs in the western half of the site. Profiles generally consist of medium clay loam topsoils over heavy clay loam subsoils which become slowly permeable between 40 and 50cm from the surface. Soils are imperfectly drained (Wetness Class III) and soil wetness is the main factor restricting this land to Subgrade 3a.

2.3 Subgrade 3b

Land in this subgrade occurs along the south western edge of the site and in the eastern half. Profiles generally consist of medium or heavy clay loam topsoils over, at about 30cm depth, heavy clay loam or clay subsoils. Subsoils are slowly permeable and profiles are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV). Soil wetness and workability problems are the main factors restricting this land to Subgrade 3b.

2.4 Agricultural Buildings

These consist of the farm buildings at Willerby Bottom.

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