

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
WYRE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN
SITE 1A**

**V P Redfern
Resource Planning Team
ADAS Statutory Group
WOLVERHAMPTON**

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**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT FOR
WYRE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN
SITE 1A**

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
3a	4.8	21.8
3b	16.6	75.5
Other land		
Agricultural buildings	0.4	1.8
Open water	0.2	0.9

- 1.2 The main limitation to the agricultural use of land in Subgrades 3a and 3b is soil wetness.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 The site was surveyed by the Resource Planning Team in May 1995. 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 22.0 ha site is situated to the east of Thornton and is bounded by Raikes Road to the east and Lambs Road to the west. The land immediately to the east of the site is predominantly in agricultural use.
- 2.3 The survey was requested by MAFF in connection with the Wyre Borough 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 (SD 351419) :

Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	941
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C January to June (day °C)	1419

3.2 There is no overall climatic limitation on the site

3.3 Other relevant data for classifying land include:

Field Capacity Days (days)	209
Moisture Deficit Wheat (mm)	78
Moisture Deficit Potatoes (mm)	64

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 Singleton Mudstones - British Geological Survey Sheet 66 Blackpool 1:50 000. This is overlain with 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 3a - occupies 4.8 ha (21.8%) of the survey area.

6.1.1 The soils within this Subgrade typically have a sandy clay loam texture overlying sand clay loam, occasionally with clay at depth. The soils are gleyed and are placed in Wetness Class III

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

6.2 Subgrade 3b - occupies 16.6 ha (75.5%) of the survey area.

6.2.1 The soil has a clay loam texture over sandy clay loam and clay. The soil is gleyed and the clay forms a slowly permeable layer, placing these soils in to Wetness Class IV.

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

6.3 Other land on the site includes agricultural buildings which occupy 0.4 ha (1.8%) of the survey area and are found in the south of the site.

6.4 SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION GRADES

Grade/Sub-grade	Area in Hectares	% of Survey Area	% of Agricultural Land
3a	4.8	21.8	22.4
3b	16.6	75.5	77.6
Other land			
Agricultural Buildings	0.4	1.8	
Open Water	0.2	0.9	
Totals	22.0	100.0	100.0