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AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
RYEDALE LOCAL PLAN
SITES 5, 6 AND 7, PICKERING
NORTH YORKSHIRE
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ADAS
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SUMMARY

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION: RYEDALE LOCAL PLAN

A total of 10.7 ha of land was surveyed in detail on three sites around Pickering (Sites 5, 6 and 7).

Site 5 consists of 2.1 ha of Subgrade 3a land,0.2 ha of Urban land, 1.0 ha of Non Agricultural land and 0.1 ha of Woodland. The Subgrade 3a land consists of slightly stony medium clay loam topsoils over permeable very stony medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or medium sandy loam subsoils. The land is restricted to Subgrade 3a by topsoil stoniness and soil droughtiness.

Site 6 consists of 1.9 ha of Subgrade 3b land, 1.0 ha of Non Agricultural land and 0.2 ha of Agricultural Buildings. The Subgrade 3b land consists of well-drained medium sandy loam topsoils and subsoils overlying weathering bedrock at between 20 and 45cm depth. Severe soil droughtiness limits this land to Subgrade 3b.

Site 7 consists of 4.2 ha of Subgrade 3b land. Medium clay loam topsoils overlie slowly permeable clay subsoils at between 20 and 40 cm depth. Soil wetness is the factor which restricts the land to this subgrade.

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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT: RYEDALE LOCAL PLAN SITES 5, 6 AND 7 AT PICKERING

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

All of the sites lie within 1km of Pickering town centre, Site 5 to the south-west, Site 6 to the east, and Site 7 to the south-east. The three sites cover a total area of 10.7 ha and the agricultural land quality of each is described in the following sections of this report. Detailed survey work was carried out in October 1994 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100m intervals predetermined by the National Grid. A soil profile pit was dug on each site to examine the soil in greater detail. 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 survey most of the agricultural land surveyed was under permanent grass although the western part of Site 5 was under horticultural crops. Other areas included Non Agricultural land, Agricultural Buildings, Woodland and Urban land. Sites 5 and 7 lie at an altitude of approximately 30m AOD and Site 6 at an altitude of 50m AOD. All of the sites are level or gently sloping (0-3%) with a southerly aspect.

2.1 SITE 5

2.1.1 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 794 834
Altitude (m)	: 30
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1350 day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 689
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 178
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 100
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 90

2.1.2 Geology, Soils and Drainage

The site is underlain by deposits of Kimmeridge Clay over which lie post-glacial sand and gravel deposits. The soils are well-drained (falling in Wetness Class I) with medium-textured topsoils overlying light to medium-textured subsoils. Topsoils are slightly stony (containing 6-12% small, medium and large rounded hard stones) and subsoils are very stony (containing over 50% very small to large hard stones in places).

2.1.3. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2		
3a	2.1	61.8
3b		
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(2.1)	(61.8)
Urban	0.2	5.8
Non Agricultural	1.0	29.5
Woodland	0.1	2.9
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(1.3)	(38.2)
TOTAL	3.4	100

2.1.4 Subgrade 3a

All of the agricultural land on this site falls in Subgrade 3a. Profiles are well drained (Wetness Class I) with medium clay loam topsoils overlying medium clay loam, sandy clay loam or medium sandy loam subsoils. Topsoils are slightly stony, containing up to 12% rounded hard stones greater than 2cm in diameter and subsoils are very stony, with over 50% very small to large hard stones in places. The grade of this land is limited by topsoil stoniness and soil droughtiness.

2.1.5 Urban

This category includes a house and gardens in the west and a paved area and sheds in the east.

2.1.6 Non Agricultural

This category includes a garden in the south-east and an area in the centre of the site previously associated with Pickering saw mill , which was used for dumping saw dust. Assuming that this area has not been too seriously disturbed, the land would probably be of similar quality to adjoining areas were it to be returned to agriculture.

2.1.7 Woodland

A small area of recently-planted conifers occurs in the west.

2.2 SITE 6

2.2.1 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 805 839
Altitude (m)	: 50
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1327 day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 703
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 181
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 97
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 85

2.2.2 Geology, Soils and Drainage

Site 6 is underlain by deposits of Calcareous Grit, which outcrop to within 50 cm of the soil surface over most of the site. Profiles are well drained (Wetness Class I) with slightly stony medium sandy loam topsoils and subsoils overlying bedrock at between 20cm and 45cm depth.

2.2.3. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2		
3a		
3b	1.9	61.2
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(1.9)	(61.2)
Urban		
Non Agricultural	1.0	32.3
Woodland		
Agricultural Buildings	0.2	6.5
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(1.2)	(38.8)
TOTAL	3.1	100

2.2.4 Subgrade 3b

All of the agricultural land on this site falls in Subgrade 3b. Typically slightly stony medium sandy loam topsoils and subsoils overlying weathering bedrock at between 20 and 45cm depth. Severe soil droughtiness restricts this land to Subgrade 3b.

2.2.5 Non Agricultural

This category includes gardens in the south-west of the site and an area of disturbed land in the north-west.

2.2.6 Agricultural Buildings

These occur in the north-western corner of the site.

2.3 SITE 7

2.3.1 Climate

Grid Reference	: SE 807 832
Altitude (m)	: 30
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1350 day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 690
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 179
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 100
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 90

2.3.2 Geology, Soils and Drainage

This site is underlain by Kimmeridge Clay over which lie deep deposits of boulder clay and lacustrine clay. Profiles are poorly drained (Wetness Class IV) with medium clay loam topsoils overlying clay subsoils.

2.2.3. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

Grade/Subgrade	Hectares	Percentage of Total Area
1		
2		
3a		
3b	4.2	100.0
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(4.2)	(100.0)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland - Farm		
- Commercial		
Agricultural Buildings		
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)		
TOTAL	4.2	100

2.3.4 Subgrade 3b

All of the land on Site 7 falls in Subgrade 3b. Profiles are poorly drained, with medium clay loam topsoils overlying slowly permeable clay subsoils at between 20cm and 40cm depth. Soil wetness is the factor restricting this land to Subgrade 3b.

MAPS