

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

Burringham Informal Residential
Consultation

Leeds Regional Office

2FCS 4496, S1.89

Lds.ALC5.Burringham

CONTENTS

1. Agricultural Land Classification

MAP

1. Agricultural Land Classification

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON LAND AT BURRINGHAM, SCUNTHORPE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

23.4 hectares of land at Burringham (Grid Reference SE 838 095) were surveyed in early July 1989. All the land is located just to the east of Burringham, a village adjoining the River Trent 5 km west of Scunthorpe.

Soils were examined by hand auger borings at 18 points predetermined by the National Grid. A profile pit was also dug to obtain data on soil morphology and to provide samples for laboratory analysis. Land quality assessments were made using the revised guidelines published by MAFF in 1988.

1.2 LAND USE

All the agricultural land is in arable use.

1.3 CLIMATE AND RELIEF

The important climatic parameters at Burringham are as follows:-

Average Annual Rainfall	607 mm
Accumulated Temperature above 0 ^o C (Jan-June)	1413 day
Field Capacity Days	129
Moisture Deficits:- Wheat	111 mm
Potatoes	103 mm

The rainfall and temperature figures indicate that there is no overall climatic limitation on ALC Grade.

The site is level at an altitude of 2 m a.o.d.

1.4 GEOLOGY, SOILS AND DRAINAGE

Most soils are formed on medium to heavy textured calcareous estuarine alluvium (warp). Topsoils are either of medium or heavy silty clay loam over similar, or occasionally lighter, sandy silt loam subsoils. There are no slowly permeable subsoil horizons and most soils fall within Wetness Class I and II. One small area south of Stone Lane, however, contains heavier textured soils formed on stoneless clayey drift. Topsoils here consist of heavy clay loam over clayey slowly permeable subsoils. These soils fall within Wetness Class III.

1.5 AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

Grade	Area (ha)	% of total area
1	11.8	50
2	4.5	19
3b	1.6	7
Non Agricultural	0.9	4
(Not Surveyed)	4.6	20
Total	23.4	100

1.5.1 Grade 1

Land which meets the requirements of Grade 1 is widespread. It consists of fertile, calcareous, medium textured topsoils with a large available water capacity, but no wetness limitation. Land of this type is easy to work for most of the year and will give high yields from a wide range of crops. It is amongst the best farmland in Northern England.

1.5.2 Grade 2

Although very similar to the grade 2 land, topsoils in these areas are heavier, usually of heavy silty clay loam, making them slightly more difficult to work during wet weather.

1.5.3 Subgrade 3b

Land in this subgrade occupies a small area south of Stone Lane. Topsoils consist of heavy clay loams over slowly permeable (Wetness Class III) clayey subsoils. Land of this type is difficult to work for much of the year and is limited to subgrade 3b by wetness and workability problems.

1.5.4 Non Agricultural

This land is part of the local playing field.

1.5.5 Not Surveyed

Access was refused to these areas.

RPG Leeds

July 1989

MAP.