AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT

SWALE BOROUGH LOCAL PLAN

LAND AT MURSTON, SITE BB

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Summary

- 1.1 ADAS was commissioned by MAFF's Land Use Planning Unit to provide information on land quality on land at Murston, Site BB. This work was in connection with the Swale Borough Local Plan.
- 1.2 Approximately 66.5 hectares of land relating to this area was surveyed in July 1994. The survey was undertaken at a detailed level of approximately one boring per hectare. A total of 76 borings, 5 soil inspection pits and 9 riddle location points were assessed in accordance with MAFF's revised guidelines and criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land (MAFF, 1988). These guidelines provide a framework for classifying land according to the extent to which its physical or chemical characteristics impose long term limitations on its use for agriculture.
- 1.3 The work was carried out by members of the Resource Planning Team in the Huntingdon Statutory Group of ADAS.
- 1.4 At the time of survey, the agricultural land use comprised cereals, potatoes and grass. The Non-agricultural area comprised areas of scrub and a golf course, while the area of Urban included East Hall and the golf course buildings at West Tonge Farm. Farm buildings at East Hall are included in the Agricultural Buildings category, while scattered woodland has been included in the woodland class.
- 1.5 Previous ALC field survey work has been carried out nearby at sites 18 and 20, Swale Borough Local Plan (Ref No. 2011/127/92) and sites B and C, Swale Local Plan (Ref No. 2011/047/94).
- 1.6 The distribution of the grades and subgrades is shown on the attached ALC map and the areas are given in the table below. The map has been drawn at a scale of 1:10,000. It is accurate at this scale but any enlargement would be misleading. This map supersedes any previous survey information for this site.

Table 1 : Distribu	tion of Grades a	and Subgrades	
Grade	Area (ha)	% of Site	% of Agricultural Area
2	32.3	48.6	55.5
3a	15.7	23.6	27.0
3b	10.2	15.3	17.5
Non Agricultural	3.8	5.7	
Agricultural Bldgs	0.5	0.8	
Woodland	3.1	4.7	
Urban	0.9	1.3	
Total	66.5	100%	100% (58.2 ha)

- 1.7 A general description of the grades, subgrades and land use categories is provided in Appendix 1. The main classes are described in terms of the type of limitation that can occur, the typical cropping range and the expected level and consistency of yield.
- 1.8 The land quality on the site has been classified as a mix of grades 2, 3a and 3b (very good to moderate quality land). Land graded 2 is restricted by minor droughtiness imperfections, while land graded 3a is subjected to moderate droughtiness or wetness/workability limitations depending on location. Subgrade 3b land is precluded from a higher grade due to significant wetness/workability constraints.

2.0 Climate

- 2.1 The climatic criteria are considered first when classifying land as climate can be overriding in the sense that severe limitations will restrict land to low grades irrespective of favourable site or soil conditions.
- 2.2 The main parameters used in the assessment of an overall climatic limitation are average annual rainfall, as a measure of overall wetness, and accumulated temperature, as a measure of the relative warmth of a locality. The combination of rainfall and temperature at this site means an overall climatic grade of 1.

Table 2: Climatic Interpolation

Grid Reference	TQ 928 645
Altitude (m, AOD)	5
Accumulated Temperature	1494
(° days, Jan-June)	
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	606
Field Capacity Days	119
Moisture Deficit, wheat (mm)	122
Moisture Deficit, potatoes (mm)	119
Overall Climatic Grade	1

3.0 Relief

3.1 The majority of the site lies at around 5 m AOD. To the south of the track joining East Hall and Lomas Road, a pit face shows one edge of the brickearth extraction area and leads to land lying 14 m AOD. However, neither gradient nor altitude restrict land quality on this site.

4.0 Geology and Soils

4.1 The published geology map for the site area, (BGS Sheet 272, Chatham, 1977) shows the site to be underlain by Thanet Bed Sands, which outcrop to the south. These are overlain in part by alluvium in the north, Head gravel and Brickearth in the central and southern parts of the site.

- 4.2 The published soils information for the area (SSEW 1983, Sheet 6, 1:250,000) shows the site to comprise the Hamble 1 association, described as deep, well drained, often stoneless silty soils.
- 4.3 However, the current more detailed survey of soils indicates that because the majority of the site has been worked for brickearth extraction and cement quarrying in the past (c.1930-1960), deep silty soils do not now exist throughout the site.
- 5.0 Agricultural Land Classification
- 5.1 The ALC classification of the site is shown on the attached ALC map.
- 5.2 The location of the soil observation points is shown on the attached sample point map.

Irrigation

5.3 Irrigation is available on site and is extracted from the lakes to the north.

However, it has not been taken into account when assigning an ALC grade because there is insufficient water available over the site to warrant an upgrade.

Grade 2

5.4 Land graded 2 is associated with profiles comprising very slightly or slightly stony silt loams or medium silty clay loams which overlie gravel deposits at depths below 70/100 cms, occasionally 60 cms. The gravel typically comprises 50% flints in a sandy clay loam matrix and the depth at which it is encountered (70-100 cm) varies with location. The gravel at depth slightly reduces the available profile water for crop growth consequently minor droughtiness imperfections restrict this land to grade 2. Occasional topsoil stone contents between 6 and 10% flints >2 cm impose a minor limitation on the successful establishment of seedlings, thus excluding the land from grade 1. Although land of grade 1 quality occurs within this area, where gravel is not encountered until at least 80 cms, it forms too small an area to delineate separately.

Grade 3a

Land graded 3a occurs in two situations.

5.5 Firstly, on droughtier land than that graded 2, where gravel is encountered at shallower depths within the profile and/or topsoil stone contents of between 11 and 15% flints >2 cm in size occur. The presence of gravel at moderate depths in the profile reduces the available water for crop growth consequently, resulting in droughtiness imperfections. Where topsoils contain stones >2 cm in size in the abundance range 11-15% cultivation and harvesting equipment and seedling germination is hindered slightly due to the presence of these stones. As a result land is excluded from a higher grade. Locally, less droughty profiles occur but cover too small an area to delineate separately.

Secondly, 3a land has been mapped adjacent to the boundary with the 3b land, and to the extreme south of the site. Profiles typically comprise very slightly stony medium silty clay loam topsoils which directly overlie slowly permeable clays. The wetness class (assessed as III) combines with the fine textured, non calcareous topsoils to impose moderate wetness and workability imperfections which exclude the land from a higher grade.

Subgrade 3b

5.7 Land graded 3b occurs in two areas on site; on low lying land in the north east corner and in a smaller area near the south of the site. Soils typically comprise heavy silty clay loam or silty clay topsoils over slowly permeable clays. The heavy textured topsoils combine with the wetness class (assessed as III) to impose significant wetness and workability imperfections which restrict the land to subgrade 3b. Locally, moderately droughty profiles graded 3a occur on slightly raised ground, but form an area too small to delineate seperately.

Non Agricultural

5.8 The golf course in the east of the site at West Tonge Farm and areas of scrub in the north east are classed as non-agricultural.

Agricultural Buildings

5.9 The farm buildings at East Hall have been included in this category.

Woodland

5.10 Small areas of woodland and scrub woodland are scattered over the site.

Urban

5.11 East Hall and the golf club house at West Tonge Farm are classed as urban.

ADAS Reference: 2011/131/94 MAFF Reference: EL 20/245 Resource Planning Team
Huntingdon Statutory Group
ADAS Cambridge

REFERENCES

- GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1977. Sheet 272 Chatham, 1:50,000 scale.
- MAFF 1988. Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales (Revised Guidelines and Criteria for Grading the Quality of Agricultural Land). Alnwick.
- METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE 1989. Published climatic data extracted from the agroclimatic dataset compiled by the Meteorological Office.
- SOIL SURVEY OF ENGLAND AND WALES 1983. Soils of South East England, Sheet 6, 1:250,000 scale.
- SOIL SURVEY OF ENGLAND AND WALES 1984. Soils and their use in South East England by M G Jarvis et al. Harpenden.

Appendix 1

DESCRIPTION OF THE GRADES AND SUBGRADES

The ALC grades and subgrades are described below in terms of the types of limitation which can occur, typical cropping range and the expected level of consistency of yield. In practice, the grades are defined by reference to physical characteristics and the grading guidance and cut-offs for limitation factors in Section 3 enable land to be ranked in accordance with these general descriptions. The most productive and flexible land falls in Grades 1 and 2 and Subgrade 3a and collectively comprises about one-third of the agricultural land in England and Wales. About half the land is of moderate quality in Subgrade 3b or poor quality in Grade 4. Although less significant on a national scale such land can be locally valuable to agriculture and the rural economy where farmland predominates. The remainder is very poor quality land in Grade 5, which most occurs in the uplands.

Grade 1 - excellent quality agricultural land

Land with no or very minor limitations to agricultural use. A very wide range of agricultural and horticultural crops can be grown and commonly include top fruit, soft fruit, salad crops and winter harvested vegetables. Yields are high and less variable than on land of lower quality.

Grade 2 - very good quality agricultural land

Land with minor limitations which affect crop yield, cultivations or harvesting. A wide range of agricultural and horticultural crops can usually be grown but on some land in the grade there may be reduced flexibility due to difficulties with the production of the more demanding crops such as winter harvested vegetables and arable crops. The level of yield is generally high but may be lower or more variable than Grade 1.

Grade 3 - good to moderate quality agricultural land

Land with moderate limitations which affect the choice of crops, timing and type of cultivation, harvesting or the level of yield. Where more demanding crops are grown yields are generally lower or more variable than on land in Grades 1 and 2.

Subgrade 3a - good quality agricultural land

Land capable of consistently producing moderate to high yields of a narrow range of arable crops, especially cereals, or moderate yields of a wide range of crops including cereals, grass, oilseed rape, potatoes, sugar beet and the less demanding horticultural crops.

Subgrade 3b - moderate quality agricultural land

Land capable of producing moderate yields of a narrow range of crops, principally cereals and grass or lower yields of a wider range of crops or high yields of grass which can be grazed or harvested over most of the year.

Grade 4 - poor quality agricultural land

Land with severe limitations which significantly restrict the range of crops and/or levels of yields. It is mainly suited to grass with occasional arable crops (eg. cereals and forage crops) the yield of which are variable. In most climates, yields of grass may be moderate to high but there may be difficulties in utilisation. The grade also includes very droughty arable land.

Grade 5 - very poor quality agricultural land

Land with very severe limitations which restrict use to permanent pasture or rough grazing, except for occasional pioneer forage crops.

Descriptions of other land categories used on ALC maps

Urban

Built-up or 'hard' uses with relatively little potential for a return to agriculture including: housing, industry, commerce, education, transport, religious buildings, cemeteries. Also, hard-surfaced sports facilities, permanent caravan sites and vacant land; all types of derelict land, including mineral workings which are only likely to be reclaimed using derelict land grants.

Non-agricultural

'Soft' uses where most of the land could be returned relatively easily to agriculture, including: private parkland, public open spaces, sports fields, allotments and soft-surfaced areas on airports/airfields. Also active mineral workings and refuse tips where restoration conditions to 'soft' after-uses may apply.

Woodland

Includes commercial and non-commercial woodland. A distinction may be made as necessary between farm and non-farm woodland.

Agricultural buildings

Includes the normal range of agricultural buildings as well as other relatively permanent structures such as glasshouses. Temporary structures (e.g. polythene tunnels erected for lambing) may be ignored.

Open water

Includes lakes, ponds and rivers as map scale permits.

Land not surveyed

Where the land use includes more than one of the above land cover types, e.g. buildings in large grounds, and where map scale permits, the cover types may be shown separately. Otherwise, the most extensive cover type will usually be shown.

Appendix 2

FIELD ASSESSMENT OF SOIL WETNESS CLASS

Definition of Soil Wetness Classes

Wetness Class	Duration of Waterlogging!
Wettless Class	Duration of Waterlogging ¹
I	The soil profile is not wet within 70 cm depth for more than 30 days in most years ² .
II	The soil profile is wet within 70 cm depth for 31-90 days in most years <u>or</u> , if there is no slowly permeable layer within 80 cm depth, it is wet within 70 cm for more than 90 days, but not wet within 40 cm depth for more than 30 days in most years.
III .	The soil profile is wet within 70 cm depth for 91-180 days in most years <u>or</u> , if there is no slowly permeable layer within 80 cm depth, it is wet within 70 cm for more than 180 days, but only wet within 40 cm depth for between 31 and 90 days in most years.
IV .	The soil profile is wet within 70 cm depth for more than 180 days but not within 40 cm depth for more than 210 days in most years <u>or</u> , if there is no slowly permeable layer within 80 cm depth, it is wet within 40 cm depth for 91-210 days in most years.
V	The soil profile is wet within 40 cm depth for 211-335 days in most years.
VI	The soil profile is wet within 40 cm depth for more than 335 days in most years.

¹ The number of days specified is not necessarily a continuous period.

² 'In most years' is defined as more than 10 out of 20 years.

Appendix 3

SOIL BORING AND SOIL PIT DESCRIPTIONS

Contents:

- * Soil boring descriptions
- * Soil pit descriptions
- * Soil Abbreviations : Explanatory Note

program: ALCO12

LIST OF BORINGS HEADERS 07/11/94 MURSTON BB SWALE LOCAL P

page 1

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41A	TO93156440		s		030		3	3B	110	-12		-23	3A					W	3B	
43	TQ92406430	FRT	s		000		1	1	139	17	126	7	2					DR	2	
44	TQ92506430	FRT	S		000		1	1	132	10	120	1	2					DR	2	
45	TQ92606430	FRT	S		000		1	1	135	13	120	1	2					DR	2	
46	TQ92706430		S		000		1	1	160		141	22	1						1	
	TQ92706430				000		1	1	112	-10		-22	3A					DR	3A	
47	TQ92806430		S		000		1	1	150		136	17	2					DR	2	
48	TQ92906430		S		000		1	1	165		150	31	1						1	
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54	TQ92906420	IOI	s		000		1	ţ	146	24	131	12	2					DR	2	
55	TO93006420	FLW	s		000		1	1	130	a	122	3	2					DR	2	
56	TQ93106420		s	•	000		1	i	141		134	15	2					DR	2	
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64	TQ93006390		И	04	000		1	1	177		144	25	1						1	
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	40-75	mzcl	10YR54 00						0		HR	5			М				Y
	75-120	scl	10YR54 00						0	0	HR	50			P				

	•					S	PED						STRUCT/	SUBS				
SAMPLE	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	COL	ABUN	CONT	COL.	GLEY	۶2	>6	LITH	TOT	CONSIST	STR	POR :	IMP 8	SPL	CALC
24	0-35 35-60 60-120	zl mzcl mzcl	10YR32 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00	,					0 0 0	0 0 0	HIR	0 5 0		M M				Y Y Y
25	0-30 30-40 40-50 50-120	zl zl zl scl	10YR33 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00						4 0 0	0	HIR HIR HIR HIR	4 6 20 50		M M M				Y Y Y Y
26	0-30 30-45 45-120	zl zl zl	10YR42 00 10YR43 00 10YR43 00						5 0 0	0	HR HR HR	5 10 17		M P				Y Y Y
27	0-30 30-80 80-120	mzcl mzcl scl	10YR32 00 10YR32 00 10YR32 00						12 0 0	0	HR HR HR	12 20 50		M P				Y Y Y
28	0-30 30-40 40-80 80-120	mszl mszl mszl scl	10YR43 00 10YR44 00 10YR44 00 10YR44 00						11 0 0 0	0	HR HR HR HR	11 15 20 50		M M M				
29	0~35 35~60 60~120	zl zl mzcl	10YU43 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00					Y	10 0 0	0	HR HR HR	10 15 15		M P				Y Y Y
30	0~25 25~45 45~55 55~90 90~120	mzcl c c mzcl mzcl	10YR43 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00	10YR6:	2 68 C 2 68 C	:		Y Y Y Y	2 0 0 0 0	0	HR HR HR HR	2 2 10 10 50		P P P	Y Y Y		Y Y Y Y	
31	0-35 35-120	hzcl c	10YR42 00 10YR53 00	10YR6	2 68 M	1		Y	2 0		HR HR	2		P	Y		Y	
33	0-30 30-65 65-120	zl zl mzcl	10YR43 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00						0 0 0	_	CH HR	0 2 5		M M				Y Y Y
34	0-30 30-80 80-120	zl zl scl	10YR32 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00						0 0 0		HR HR	0 20 50		M M				Y Y Y
35	0-35 35-50 50-120	zl zl scl	10YR32 00 10YR43 00 10YR56 00						5 0 0	0	HR HR HR	5 20 50		M P				Y Y Y
36	0-30 30-80 80-90 90-120	zl zl mzcl scl	10YR32 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00						5 0 0	0	HR HR HR HR	5 10 10 50		M M P				Y Y Y Y

														~ - -				
-				~- - -	-MOTT	ES	PED			-S	ONES.		STRUCT/	SU	BS			
SAMPLE	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	∞ L	ABUN	1 00041	OL.	GLEY	>2	>6	LITH	TOT	CONSIST	ST	R POR	IMP	SPL	CALC
37	0-30 30-60 60-80 80-120	mszl zl zl scl	10YR32 00 10YR43 00 10YR43 00 10YR43 00						0	0		12 10 20 50		M M Þ				
37P	0-35 35-75 75-120	mzcl mzcl scl	10YR42 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00								HR	17	MDCSAB	FR M P				Y Y Y
38	0-30 30-85 85-120	zl zl scl	10YR43 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00						0	0	HR HR HR	8 2 50		M P				
39	0-30 30-75 75-120	mzcl mzcl scl	10YR32 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00						0	0	HIR HIR HIR	8 5 50		M P				Y Y Y
40	0-25 25-80 80-120	zl zl scl	10YR43 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00						0	0	HR HR HR	1 20 50		M P				
41	0~30 30~45 45~120	hzcl hzcl zc	10YR42 00 10YR41 51 10YR51 61	10YR				Y Y		0	HR HR	16 0 2		M P			Y	Y
41A	0-30 30-50 50-120	hzcl zc mzcl	10YR42 00 10YR51 00 10YR51 61	10YR		c c		Y Y	6 0 0	0	HR HR	9 0 20		P P	Y Y		Y Y	
43	0-25 25-35 35-60 60-120	zl zl mszl scl	10YR32 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00						0	0	HR HR HR	0 5 5 50		M M P				Y Y Y Y
44	0-15 15-30 30-60 60-120	zl zl zl scl	10YR32 00 10YR43 00 10YR54 00 10YR54 00	•					0	0	HR HR HR HR	10 15 20 50		M M P				Y Y Y Y
45	0-30 30-50 50-120	zl zl scl	10YR32 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00						0	0	HR HR HR	5 10 50		M P				Y Y
46	0-35 35-90 90-120	zl zl scl	10YR43 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00	1					0	0	HR HR HR	10 12 70		M Q				Y Y Y
46P	0-35 35-50 50-120	mszl mzcl scl	10YR32 00 10YR44 00 10YR44 00	1					0	0	HR HR HR	9 14 ⁹ 51	garac	FR M	Y			Y Y Y

				 MOTTLES	: 	PED			-8	TONES:		STRUCT/	SUBS			
SAMPLE	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR	ABUN	CONT	COL.	GLEY					CONSIST		POR I	MP SPL	CALC
47	0-35	zl	10YR43 00					4	0	HR	4					Y
	35-45	zl	10YR53 43					0		HR	4		М			Y
	45-80	mzcl	10YR56 00					0	_	HR	12		M			Y
	80-120	scl	10YR56 00					0	0	HR	50		P			Y
48	0-40	zl	10YR43 00					4	-	HR	4					Y
	40-70	zl	10YR54 43					0		HR	7		М			Y
	70-80 80-120	zl scl	10YR54 00 10YR54 00					0		HR HR	12 50		M P			Y Y
40								-	_	-	-		•			
49	0-30 30-50	mcl	10YR43 00					8		HR	8					Y
	50-60	mzcl mzcl	10YR43 00 10YR54 00					0		HR	5		М			Y Y
	60-120	scl	101R54 00					0		HIR HIR	10 50		M. P			Y Y
	00-120	SCI	101834 00					v	Ų	nik	υ		P			1
50	0-35	mzcl	10YR43 00					5	3	HR	8					
	35-45	mzcl	10YR54 53					0		HR	10		М			
	45-80	mzcl	10YR54 53					0		HR	20		M			Υ .
	80-120	scl	10YR54 53					0	0	HR	50		P			Y
51	0-33	zl	10YR43 00					2		HR	3					Y
	33–80	zl	10YR54 53					0		HR	2		M			Y
	80-120	scl	10YR54 00					0	0	HR	5		P			Y
52	0-35	zl	10YR43 00					4	0	HIR	4					Y
	35-55	zl	10YR56 00					0	0	HR	4		M			Y
	55–120	zl	10YR56 00					0	0	HR	12		М			Y
53	0-45	mzcl	10YR43 00					2	0	HR	2					Y
	45-50	zl	10YR64 00					0	0	HR	2		M			Y
	50-75	zl	10YR64 00					0	0	HR	12		M			Y
	75-85	C	10YR62 68					0	0		0		M			Y
	85-120	zl	10YR66 00					0	0	HR	12		М			Y
54	0-35	mzcl	10YR43 00					2		HR	3					Y
	35-80	zl	10YR56 00					0	0	HR	15		M			Y
	80–120	scl	10YR56 00					0	0	HR	50		P			Y
55	0-30	mzcl	10YR43 00					3	0	HR	3		•			Y
	30-70	mzcl	10YR54 53					0		HR	2		М	Y		Y
	70–120	scl	10YR54 53					0	0	HR	50		P			Y
56	0-30	zl	10YR43 00					3	0	HR	3					Y
	30-70	mzcl	10YR54 00					0		HR	2		М	Y		Y
	70-120	scl	10YR54 00					0	0	HR	50		· P			Y
57	0-30	mzcl	10YR43 00					3	0	HR	3					Y
	30-120	mzcl	10YR54 00					0	0		0		М			Y

SAMPLE	DEPTH	TEXTURE	COLOUR		MOTTLE:	PED COL.					STRUCT/ CONSIST			IMP SPI	CALA	2
58	0-35 35-60 60-80 80-120	zl mzcl mzcl scl	10YR32 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					5	2 HR 0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	7 12 20 50		M M P			Y Y Y Y	•
59	0-35 35-45 45-70 70-75 75-120	zl mzcl zl scl zl	10YR43 00 10YR52 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					4 0 0 0 0	0 HR 0 CH 0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	4 15 6 10 50	-	м м м Р			Y Y Y Y	
60	0-35 35-75 75-120	mzcl zl zl	10YR43 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					2 0 0	0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	2 2 20		M M			Y Y Y	
61	0-40 40-50 50-60 60-120	zl zl zl scl	10YR43 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					2 0 0 0	0 HR 0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	2 9 13 50		M M P			Y Y Y Y	
62A	0-40 40-60 60-120	hzcl hzcl zc	10YR43 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00				Y Y	4 0 0	0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	4 5 3		M P	Y Y	Y Y	Y Y Y	
62B	0-35 35-45 45-80 80-120	zl zl zl scl	10YR44 00 10YR43 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					5 0 0 0	0 HR 0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	5 8 20 50		M M P				
63	0-40 40-55 55-120	mzcl hcl hzcl	10YR43 00 25YR54 00 10YR62 00				Y	5 0 0	OHR OHR OHR	5 8 5		M P		Y	Y Y Y	
64	0-35 35-55 55-95 95-120	zl zl hzcl hzcl	10YR43 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					4 0 0 0	0 HR 0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	4 5 2 10		M M M				
· 65	0-30 30-55 55-120	zl zl mzcl	10YR43 00 10YR56 00 10YR56 00					2 0 0	1 HR 0 HR 0 HR	3 2 2		M M				
66	0-40 40-120	mzcl zc	10YR43 00 10YR53 54	10YR6	2 58 C		Y	2 0	0 HR 0 HR	2 5		P	Y	Y	Y	
66P	0-35 35-55 55-120	mzcl zc zc	10YR43 00 10YR53 00 10YR53 00				Y Y	3 0 0	0 HR 0 HR 0 HR	3 2 1	MDCAB F		Y Y	Y Y		

SITE BB - QUALITY CONTROL APPROXIMATE AUGER BORINGS LOCATIONS

Near 17.GRTQ 927 646 1° N Barley

0-25 cms 10YR4/3 and 6/4 ZL 6% flints (4% >2 cms) v. calc

25-50 cms 10YR5/4 and 6/4 mZCL 5% flint 5% chalk no mottles seen (NMS) calc

50-70 cms 10YR6/4 and 6/3 ZL 5-10% flint NMS v. calc

70-120 cms 10YR6/4 and 6/3 SCL 20% flint 5% weathered material NMS v.calc

(70-120 cms includes 5 cm thick lenses of 5YR6/2 FSL within it)

Near 18.GRTQ 928 646 1° NE Barley

0-30 cms 10YR4/3 ZL 5% flints (3% > 2 cms) calc

30-50 cms 10YR5/4 ZL 5% flint NMS few manganese concs calc

50-70 cms 10YR4/3 mZCL 15% flints NMS calc

70-120 cms 10YR4/3 and 5/4 SCL 50% pea gravel v.calc wet by 90 cms

20. GRTQ 930 646 Flat Grass

0-25 cms 10YR4/3 mZCL 5-10% flints non calc

25-40 cms 10YR6/3 & 6/2 C common distinct ochreous mottles (cdom) 10YR5/8 non calc

40-75 cms 10YR6/3 & 5/4 mZCL 10% flints cdom and cd grey m non calc sli moist

75-90 cms 10YR5/6 C stoneless cdgm. common manganese concs

90 + impenetrable stones

21. GRTQ 931 646 Flat Grass near scrub

0-20 cms 10YR4/2 hCL/C rusty root mottles non calc

20-45 cms 10YR5/1 C stoneless cdom 7.5YR5/8 non calc

45-80 cms + 10YR5/1 & 7.5YR5/2 C stoneless vcdom 7.5YR5/8 calc in patches moist

Near 26.GRTQ 929 645 Flat Barley

0-30 cms 10YR4/2 ZL 7% total flints 4% >2 cms v.calc

30-50 cms 10YR5/4 and 6/3 mZCL 15% flints calc dry and compact

50-75 cms 10YR5/4 and 6/3 mZCL 30% flints sli moist

75-120 cms 10YR6/3 & 6/4 SCL 30% pea gravel cdom 10YR6/6 v. calc

Near 37.GRTQ 928 644 1/2° NW Potatoes

0-30 cms 10YR4/3 mCL 10% total flints 3% >2 cms non calc

30-80 cms 10YR5/4 mZCL 5% flints NMS

80-120 cms 2.5Y6/4 & 10YR5/4 hCL 30% pea gravel NMS non calc

60A GRTQ 930 641 3° N Wheat

0-30 cms 10YR4/3 hCL 5% flint calc

30 cms + 2.5Y6/2 and 6/3 C cdom 10YR5/8 v.calc

Near 61.GRTQ 931 641 Flat Set aside

0-30 cms 10YR4/3 ZL 2% total flints calc

30-50 cms 10YR5/4; 2.5Y5/3 and 5/4 mZCL 1% flints v.calc (mixed soil)

50-70 cms 10YR5/4; 2.5Y5/3 and 5/4 mSL 1% flints v.calc (mixed soil)

70 cms + 10YR5/4 C (fs) 5% flints v.calc

Near 62.GRTQ 930 640 Flat Wheat

0-30 cms 10YR4/3 ZL 2% total flints non calc

30-65 cms 10YR5/4 and 5/3 ZL 1% flint non calc

65-100 cms+ 10YR5/4 hZCL 1% flint few faint gm 10YR5/3 non calc

Near63.GRTQ 931 640 4° N Wheat

0-30 cms 10YR5/3 hZCL 2% total flints calc

30-60 cms+ 2.5Y6/2 and 6/3 C stoneless cdom 10YR5/8 v.calc

SITE BB: MURSTON PIT 1 (AB37)

G.R. TQ 92806440 AAR : 606 mm

ATO : 1494° days

FCD : 119

Land Use : Potatoes

Slope & Aspect : Flat

Horizon	Texture	Colour	Stones >2	Tot Stone	Mottles	Structure
0-35	MZCL	10YR4/2	12%	17%	-	-
35-75	MZCL	10YR5/4	-	10%	None	MDCSAB
75-90+	SCL	10YR5/4	-	50%	None	Too stony
						to assess

Wetness Grade: 1 Wetness class: I

Gleying : None

SPL: None

Drought Grade: 3a APW = 102 mm MDW = - 20 mm

APP = 110 mm MDP = -9 mm

Final ALC grade: 3a

Limitations : Droughtiness and topsoil stone content >2 cm in size

SITE BB: MURSTON PIT 2 (AB66)

G.R. TQ 93006380 AAR : 606 mm

ATO : 1494° days

FCD : 119

Land Use : Bare ground

Slope & Aspect : Flat

Horizon	Texture	Colour	Stones >2	Tot Stone	Mottles	Structure
0-35	MZCL	10YR4/3	4	4	-	-
35-55	ZC	10YR5/3	-	2	CDOM	MDCAB
55-120	ZC	10YR5/3	-	1	CDO+GM	WDCSAB

Wetness Grade: 3a Wetness class: III

Gleying: 35

SPL : 35

Drought Grade: 2 APW = 136 mm MDW = +14 mm

 $APP = 122 \text{ mm} \qquad MDP = -7 \text{ mm}$

Final ALC grade: 3a

Limitations : Wetness and workability

SITE BB: MURSTON PIT 3 (AB12)

G.R. TQ 93006470 AAR : 606 mm

ATO : 1494° days

FCD : 119

Land Use : Permanent grass

Slope & Aspect : Flat

Horizon Texture Colour Stones >2 Tot Stone Mottles Structure 0-15 **HZCL** 10YR3/2 1 2 15-70 ZC 10YR5/1 1 **MDCAB** MDOM

Wetness Grade: 3b Wetness class: III

Gleying: 15

SPL: 35 (Plough depth)

Drought Grade: 3a APW = 118 mm MDW = - 4 mm

APP = 94 mm MDP = -25 mm

Final ALC grade: 3b

Limitations : Wetness and workability

SITE BB: MURSTON PIT 4 (AB10)

G.R. TQ 92806470 AAR : 606 mm

ATO : 1494° days

FCD : 119 Land Use : Barley

Slope & Aspect : Flat

Horizon	Texture	Colour	Stones >2	Tot Stone	Mottles	Structure
0-35	ZL	10YR4/3	3%	4%	-	-
35-80	ZL	10YR6/4+	-	20%		MDCSAB
		10YR6/2				
80-120	SCL	10YR6/4+	-	50%		Too stony
	-	10YR6/2				to assess

Wetness Grade: 1 Wetness class: I

Gleying : None

SPL: None

Drought Grade: 1 APW = 155 mm MDW = 33 mm

APP = 140 mm MDP = 21 mm

Final ALC grade: 1

Limitations : None

SITE BB: MURSTON PIT 5 (AB46)

G.R. TQ 92706430 AAR : 606 mm

ATO : 1494° days

FCD : 119

Land Use : Potatoes

Slope & Aspect : Flat

Horizon	Texture	Colour	Stones >2	Tot Stone	Mottles	Structure
0-35	MSCL	10YR3/2	4	9	-	-
35-50	MZCL	10YR4/4	•	14	••	WDCSAB
50-120	SCL	10YR4/4	-	51		Too stony
						to assess

Wetness Grade: 1 Wetness class: I

Gleying : None

SPL : None

Drought Grade: 3a APW = 112 mm MDW = -10 mm

APP = 97 mm MDP = -22 mm

Final ALC grade: 3a

Limitations : Droughtiness

Appendix 3 (Cont)

SOIL PROFILE DESCRIPTIONS: EXPLANATORY NOTE

Soil profile and pit information obtained during ALC surveys is held on a database. This has commonly used notations and abbreviations as set out below.

BORING HEADERS

- 1. GRID REF: National grid square followed by 8 figure grid reference.
- USE: Land-use at the time of survey.
 The following abbreviations are used

ARA - arable
WHT - wheat
RGR - rough grazing
BAR - barley
CER - cereals
OAT - oats

PAS/PGR - permanent pasture
RGR - rough grazing
LEY - ley grassland
CFW - coniferous woodland
DCW - deciduous woodland

MZE - maize SCR - scrub

OSR - oilseed rape HTH - heathland

BEN - field beans BOG - bog or marsh

BRA - brassicae

POT - potatoes

PLO - ploughed

SBT - sugar beet

FDC - fodder crops

FRT - soft and top fruit

FLW - fallow

PLO - ploughed

SAS - set-aside

OTH - other

LIN - linseed

HOR/HRT - horticultural crops

- 3. GRDNT: Gradient as measured by optical reading clinometer.
- 4. GLEY/SPL: Depth in centimetres (cm) to gleyed and/or slowly permeable horizons.
- 5. AP (WHEAT/POTS): Crop-adjusted available water capacity. The amount of soil water (in millimetres) held in the soil profile that is available to a growing crop (wheat and potatoes are used as reference crops).

- 6. MB (WHEAT/POTS): The moisture balance for wheat and potatoes obtained by subtracting the soil moisture deficit from the crop-adjusted available water capacity.
- 7. DRT: Grade according to soil droughtiness assessed against soil moisture balances.

8. M REL : Micro-relief)

FLOOD : Flood risk) If any of these factors are

EROSN : Soil erosion) considered significant in terms of EXP : Exposure) the assessment of agricultural land FROST : Frost prone) quality a 'y' will be entered in the

DIST : Disturbed land) relevant column.

CHEM : Chemical limitation)

9. LIMIT : Principal limitation to agricultural land quality.

The following abbreviations are used:

OC - overall climate CH - chemical limitations

AE - aspect WE - wetness

EX - exposure WK - workability

FR - frost DR - drought

GR - gradient ER - erosion

MR - micro-relief WD - combined soil wetness/soil droughtiness

TX - soil texture ST - topsoil stoniness

DP - soil depth

PROFILES AND PITS

1. TEXTURE: Soil texture classes are denoted by the following abbreviations:

S - sand

LS - loamy sand
SL - sandy loam
SZL - sandy silt loam

ZL - silt loam

MZCL - medium silty clay loam
 MCL - medium clay loam
 SCL - sandy clay loam
 HZCL - heavy silty clay loam

HCL - heavy clay loam SC - sandy clay

ZC - silty clay
C - clay

For the sand, loamy sand, sandy loam and sandy silt loam classes, the predominant size of sand fraction may be indicated by the use of prefixes.

F - fine (more than 2 /3 of the sand less than 0.2 mm)

C - coarse (more than 1/3 of sand greater than 0.6 mm)

M - medium (less than ²/₃ fine sand and less than ¹/₃ coarse sand)

The sub-divisions of clay loam and silty clay loam classes according to clay content are indicated as follows:

M - medium (less than 27% clay)

H - heavy (27-35% clay)

Other possible texture classes include:

OL - organic loam

P - peat

SP - sandy peat

LP - loamy peat

PL - peaty loam

PS - peaty sand

MZ - marine light silts

- 2. MOTTLE COL: Mottle colour
- 3. MOTTLE ABUN: Mottle abundance

F - few - less than 2% of matrix or surface described

C - common - 2-20% of the matrix

M - many - 20-40% of the matrix

VM - very many - 40% + of the matrix

- 4. MOTTLE CONT: Mottle continuity
 - F faint indistinct mottles, evident only on close examination
 - D distinct mottles are readily seen
 - P prominent mottling is conspicuous and one of the outstanding features of the horizon
- 5. PED. COL: Ped face colour
- 6. STONE LITH: Stone lithology. One of the following is used.

HR - all hard rocks or stones

MSST - soft, medium or coarse grained sandstone

SI - soft weathered igneous or metamorphic

SLST - soft oolitic or dolomitic limestone

FSST - soft fine grained sandstone

ZR - soft, argillaceous, or silty rocks

CH - chalk

GH - gravel with non-porous (hard) stones

GS - gravel with porous (soft) stones

Stone contents (>2 cm, >6 cm and total) are given in percentages (by volume).

7. STRUCT: the degree of development, size and shape of soil peds are described using the following notation.

- degree of development

WK - weakly developed

MD - moderately developed

ST - strongly well developed

- ped size

F - fine

M - medium

C - coarse

VC - very coarse

- ped shape

S - single grain

M - massive

GR - granular

SB/SAB - sub-angular blocky

AB - angular blocky

PR - prismatic

PL - platy

8. CONSIST: Soil consistence is described using the following notation:

L - loose

VF - very friable

FR - friable

'FM - firm

VM - very firm

EM - extremely firm

EH - extremely hard

9. SUBS STR: Subsoil structural condition recorded for the purpose of calculating profile droughtiness.

G - good

M - moderate

P - poor

- 10. POR: Soil porosity. If a soil horizon has less than 0.5% biopores >0.5 mm, a 'y' will appear in this column.
- 11. IMP: If the profile in impenetrable a 'y' will appear in this column at the appropriate horizon.
- 12. SPL: slowly permeable layer. If the soil horizon is slowly permeable a 'y' will appear in this column.
- 13. CALC: If the soil horizon is calcareous, a 'y' will appear in this column.

14. Other Notations

APW - available water capacity (in mm) adjusted for wheat

APP - available water capacity (in mm) adjusted for potatoes

MBW - moisture balance, wheat

MBP - moisture balance, potatoes