

**AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION
PROPOSED MOTOR SPORTS COMPLEX
EAST GATE FARM, EAGLESCLIFFE
(SEMI-DETAILED SURVEY)
CLEVELAND**

NOVEMBER 1995

**ADAS
Leeds Statutory Group**

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SUMMARY

66.8 ha of land at East Gate Farm were the subject of a semi detailed Agricultural Land Classification survey in November 1995.

Soils are uniform across the site and typically contain medium to heavy clay loam topsoils over clayey slowly permeable, often reddish subsoils. All the land is Soil Wetness Class IV (poorly drained).

Soil wetness and workability problems limit the ALC grade of all the agricultural land to Subgrade 3b (66.8ha), 1ha of farm buildings also occur on the site.

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1. **AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION**

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT ON PROPOSED MOTOR SPORTS
COMPLEX AT EAST GATE FARM, EAGLESCLIFFE, CLEVELAND

1. INTRODUCTION AND SITE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 Location and Survey Methods

67.8ha of land at East Gate Farm, Eaglescliffe (centroid grid reference NZ392 150) was the subject of a semi-detailed Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey carried out in November 1995.

Soils were examined by hand auger borings at locations predetermined by the OS National Grid. Supplementary borings were used to check upon and refine grade boundaries. The overall density of borings was one per two hectares. One soil profile pit was dug to examine representative soils 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

All the agricultural land was in arable use at the time of survey, either recently cultivated, sown to winter cereals or under cereal stubble. Eastgate farm and associated buildings occupied 10 ha. The land was all level.

1.3 Climate

Grid Reference	: NZ 392 150
Altitude (m)	: 37
Accumulated Temperature above 0°C (January - June)	: 1338 day °C
Average Annual Rainfall (mm)	: 596
Climatic Grade	: 1
Field Capacity Days	: 142
Moisture Deficit (mm) Wheat	: 100
Moisture Deficit (mm) Potatoes	: 90

1.4 Geology, Soils and Drainage

All soils on the site are derived from thick deposits of reddish boulder clay drifts. Topsoils are either medium or heavy clay loam over clayey, slowly permeable often reddish subsoils. Slowly permeable layers typically occur within 40cm depth and soils on the site are assessed as Soil Wetness Class IV (poorly drained).

Soils on the site correspond to the Crewe Association as described by the Soil Survey and Land Research Centre.

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

The ALC grades occurring on this site are as follows:

<u>Grade/Subgrade</u>	<u>Hectares</u>	<u>Percentage of Total Area</u>
1		
2		
3a		
3b	66.8	97
4		
5		
(Sub total)	(66.8)	(97)
Urban		
Non Agricultural		
Woodland		
Agricultural Buildings	1.0	3
Open Water		
Land not surveyed		
(Sub total)	(1.0)	(3)
TOTAL	<u>67.8</u>	<u>100</u>

2.1 Subgrade 3b

All agricultural land on the site is Subgrade 3b. Soils have medium to heavy textured topsoils over clayey slowly permeable subsoils (Wetness Class IV).

Soil wetness and workability problems limit the ALC grade of this land.

2.2 Farm Buildings

Eastgate Farm and associated buildings occupy land towards the centre of the site.

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MAP