

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

WAPLINGTON, ALLERTHORPE, YORK

PROPOSED GOLF COURSE

ADAS  
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1. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

# AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION REPORT

## LAND AT WAPLINGTON, ALLERTHORPE, NORTH HUMBERSIDE

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL SITE CHARACTERISTICS

The site is located around National Grid Reference SE 765 470, south of the A1079(T) near the village of Allertorpe, about 16 km east of York.

It covers approximately 60 hectares.

Survey work was carried out in October 1990 when soils were examined by hand auger borings at 100 metre intervals at points pre-determined by the National Grid. Soil profile pits were also dug where necessary to assess Soil Structural Characteristics in more detail.

All assessments of land quality were made using the methods described in "Agricultural Land Classification: Revised Guidelines and Criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land". (MAFF 1988).

#### 1.1 Land Use

Most of the land is in arable use apart from 4 acres of woodland. The main crop is carrot. Lawn turf for stripping is also extensively grown.

#### 1.2 Climate

Average Annual Rainfall (AAR) in the area is approximately 644 mm. Accumulated temperature (ATO) above 0°C between January and June is 1388 day °C and the land is at field capacity for 151 days a year. The temperature and rainfall figures indicate that there are no overall climatic restrictions on ALC grades. Summer soil moisture deficits however, are 105 mm for winter wheat and 96 mm for potatoes resulting in droughtiness being limiting on the light sandy soils which are widespread on the site.

### 1.3 Relief

Altitude varies between 10 and 20 metres above ordnance datum. Slopes do not exceed 7° and therefore have no limitation on ALC grade.

### 1.4 Geology and Soils and Drainage

Soils over the site are formed on aeolian post glacial fine sand which forms a cover of a metre or so in thickness over the underlying loamy fine clay.

Soils generally consist of fine loamy sand over similar or lighter subsoils. Soils are all freely drained with no slowly permeable layers and all fall within Wetness Class I.

## 2. AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION

Grade	Area (ha)	Percentage of total site areas
3a	45.9	76.6
3b	2.7	4.5
Non Agricultural	<u>11.3</u>	<u>18.9</u>
Total	<u>59.9</u>	<u>100</u>

### 2.1 Subgrade 3a

This is the dominant subgrade and consists mainly of loamy fine sand topsoils over similar or lighter subsoils. These soils are freely drained and fall into Wetness Class I.

Land in this grade is subject to wind erosion and slight summer droughtiness and is limited to subgrade 3a for these reasons.

### 2.2 Subgrade 3b

Land in this grade occupies only a small area of the site. Soils are formed of loamy median sand over similar subsoils. These soils are freely drained and fall into Wetness Class I.

Land in this grade is also subject to wind erosion but is further downgraded due to a more severe summer droughtiness limitation resulting from the somewhat coarser nature of the sand in this part of the site.

### 2.3 Non Agricultural

The extensive areas of woodland are placed within this category.