



The Challenges and Benefits of Organic Production

A Farmer's Perspective

John Pawsey

The Challenges - Agronomic, Research and The Market

The Benefits - Business, Consumers and Society

SHIMPLING PARK

Farms Ltd



- 2500 acres in Suffolk - 770 acres under FMC's
- 4th generation farmer
- 1st Conversion in 1999
- Essentially stockless
- 2 full time staff + part time help
- Some building rents





KEY AGRONOMIC CHALLENGES

Weeds - Winter Wild Oats, Black-grass and Charlock



Diseases - Yellow Rust, Fusarium and Chocolate Spot



Fertility - Red Clover, Imported Manures. Stockless?



AGRONOMIC SOLUTIONS - Stop farming like a non-organic farmer



AGRONOMIC CHALLENGES - Return to Mixed Farming



AGRONOMIC CHALLENGES - research



MARKET CHALLENGES



MARKETING CHALLENGES - SO Organic? SO What?

Taste *the* Difference? Can you?

The Benefits - for Business, Consumers and Society



BUSINESS BENEFITS - everything is "in-house"

Farm Management Contract Comparison	2009 - Returns £/Acre	2010 - Returns £/Acre	2011 - Returns £/Acre	3 Year Average £/Acre
Organic Contract Farm	£100	£225	£140	£155
Average results from 7 Non-Organic Contracted Farms	£100	£130	£120	£117

BUSINESS BENEFITS - more profit for organically contracted farms




FARMING WITH NATURE



To: Alice

The first thing that I want to say is thank you. We all had amusement in the woods and everywhere we went. Soon I had learned a lot about flowers and things like wheat and corn. At the start I thought farming was about animals but it's not.

Thank you 

From: Rosie

FARMING WITH NATURE



FARMING WITH NATURE



THANK YOU