

### Case Study: Andrew Nottage, LEAF Marque Farmer

- Andrew Nottage is not only a farmer but a custodian of the Cambridgeshire countryside. Since the 1980's, Andrew has farmed Russell Smith Farms located around the Imperial War Museum in Duxford
- Andrew is a member of LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming). LEAF supports farmers to produce good food, with care and to high environmental standards, identified in-store by the LEAF Marque logo. They also build public understanding and trust of food and farming in a number of ways, including Open Farm Sunday and visits to a national network of Demonstration Farms
- As a LEAF farmer, Andrew is committed to producing good food whilst protecting and enhancing the wildlife on the farm by practising a number of LEAF's Integrated Farm Management (IFM) techniques
- LEAF's IFM combines the best of traditional farming methods with modern technology, allowing farmers to manage their farms in an informed, professional and caring way. IFM also encourages farmers to maintain the highest standards of food production with the minimum environmental impact
- On Andrew's farm, following LEAF's IFM means that he works with nature. He only trims the hedges every two to three years and margins are left around fields so the wildlife can flourish. These areas are planted with wildflower mixtures, again to attract insects and butterflies. After harvesting some of the crops, the fields are left over the winter to provide nesting habitats and feed for wild birds
- Andrew's farm has been running since 1938. Until the 1980's cereal was the main crop grown, then Andrew began to grow more potatoes after discovering the land is particularly good for them. The farm also specialises in the production of premium quality vegetables, including onions for different customers, including supermarkets, local shops and box schemes

- Russell Smith Farms is also LEAF Marque certified. This means that much of the food grown on the farm is sold to supermarkets and carries the LEAF Marque logo on packaging. The LEAF Marque is a food label you can trust. The assurance scheme, developed by LEAF, is based on environmentally responsible farming principles which support farmers to produce good food, with care and to high environmental standards
- By buying LEAF Marque produce you can enjoy food you can trust from farmers who care – not only about food but the countryside, and the wildlife it sustains. You will find LEAF Marque produce on products sold nationwide in supermarkets, farm shops and farmers’ markets nationwide
- For further information or to find out how to join LEAF visit [www.leafuk.org](http://www.leafuk.org).

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For further information and images, to arrange an interview or to obtain industry comment:

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**Editor’s Notes:**

- LEAF’s Integrated Farm Management (IFM) approach combines the best of traditional farming methods with modern technology, allowing farmers to manage their farms in an informed, professional and caring way. IFM encourages farmers to maintain the highest standards of food production with the minimum environmental impact
- The LEAF Audit is a progressive and practical whole farm business management tool, to help farmers prioritise decisions and make meaningful changes to farm practices as well as demonstrate their environmental responsibility
- The LEAF Green Box is a simple, step-by-step approach to monitoring the environment on a farm. Divided into four sections: biodiversity; soil; water and air, the Green Box helps farmers record and monitor activity on their farm
- Open Farm Sunday – Taking place on 13 June 2010, Open Farm Sunday is a national flagship event when hundreds of farms open their gates to the general public. It is a great opportunity for visitors to see at first hand how farmers produce the food they eat and care for the countryside. For more information visit [www.farmsunday.org](http://www.farmsunday.org)
- Let Nature Feed Your Senses – LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming) and the Sensory Trust are working together on a flagship project to connect disengaged groups and individuals with nature and the countryside, through food and farming. The project involves sensory rich visits to farms and nature reserves across England and is part of Natural England's Access to Nature programme, which is funded by The Big Lottery Fund’s Changing Spaces programme
- For more information on all LEAF’s work and activities, visit [www.leafuk.org](http://www.leafuk.org)