

Integrated Farming

A success story for sustainable development in European agriculture

Integrated Farming from vision to practice

Case study United Kingdom

Landscape, wildlife & biodiversity

John Renner, North Bellshill Farm

Northumberland, England

A LEAF Demonstration Farm



Integrated Farming

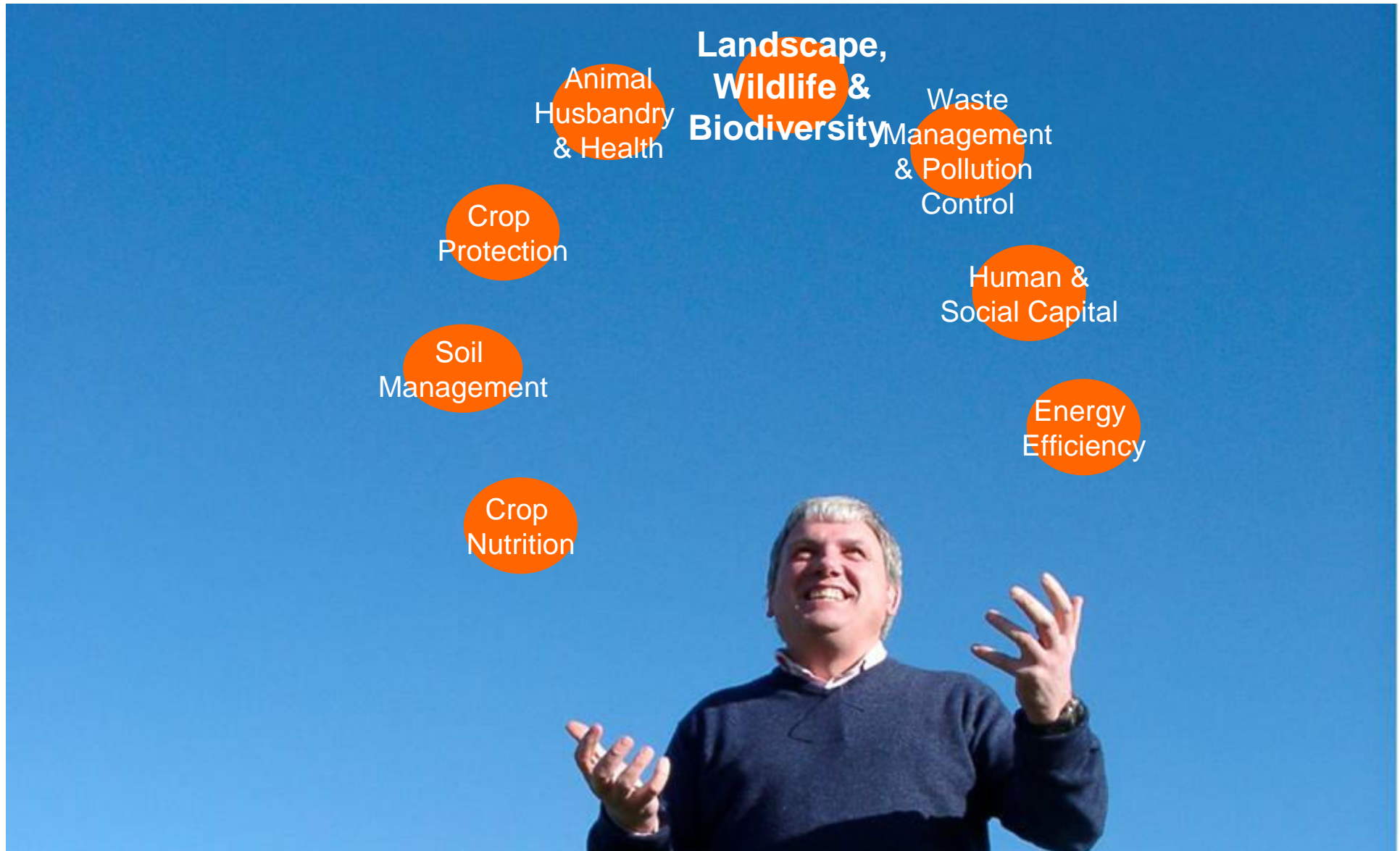
A success story for sustainable development in European agriculture

‘To generate a sustainable future for the family, whilst maintaining and enhancing the farm environment and landscape’





INTEGRATED FARMING



INTEGRATED FARMING FRAMEWORK

Chapter V: Landscape, Wildlife and Biodiversity

Care for the environment is at the core of Integrated Farming, and the demonstration of this care is a living farm landscape that enhances people's experience and enjoyment of the countryside – and where landscapes, food production and wildlife live side by side. Conservation and landscape issues must be totally integrated. Landscape and conservation are increasingly important in agriculture as demonstrated by the proliferation of schemes, action plans and initiatives. Landscape and wildlife benefits are achieved by improving the capability of the land and area.

IF and GAP key difference: Recognizing the benefits of land with lower productive value for biodiversity benefits and allow for better resource use over the whole farm.

Part V.1: General Considerations

Item	Guideline	Additional Explanation and Suggested Demonstration/Documentation	GAP	Integrated Farming Perspective		
				Must	should	consider
V.1.1 Whole Farm Conservation Plan	You must have a long-term Whole Farm Conservation Plan. Decisions must be made in relation to agronomic practices, taking account of this Whole Farm Conservation Plan and its long-term objectives to protect and enhance wildlife and landscape on your farm.	<p>Explanation: This map-based concept must include the following key environmental features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • areas and sites on the farm with national statutory protection, • areas and sites on the farm with international recognition (Ramsar-sites etc.), • areas and sites as elements of ecological networks (ecological corridors, stepping stones, buffer zones), • lakes, ponds and watercourses, • semi-natural habitats, • linear features and • historical features and public rights of way. <p>Farming and environment are inseparably linked. In order to avoid the risk of environmental damage and deterioration farmers must be able to demonstrate an awareness of the distribution of the key wildlife habitats and key species of conservation and other valuable environmental features on their farms. They must know the farming operations that could damage or have a detrimental effect on these areas / structures.</p>	NR	✓		

R = Measures included (NR = not included) in an EU legal text for general enforcement or regional enforcement through related National action plans

Item	Guideline	Additional Explanation and Suggested Demonstration/Documentation	GAP	Integrated Farming Perspective		
				Must	should	consider
V.1.1 cont.		Demonstration/Documentation: Map-based concept. The plan should be prepared in consultation with a specialist advisor, should be regularly reviewed (annually by the farmer, and every five years with the adviser – compare item V.4.2.) and give evidence of procedures to protect and enhance wildlife and landscapes.				
V.1.2 Historical features on the Farm	Preservation of historical features not only essential in the preservation of landscape but also may contribute to the preservation of biodiversity as historical features sometimes give home to rare or threatened species like bats and insects that also must be taken into consideration. Therefore farm activities must not harm any historical features. Known sites and historical features must be marked in the Whole Farm Conservation Plan.	Explanation: Agricultural / farm activities such as sub-soiling, excavation, land reclamation, drainage, levelling, tipping / in-filling, uncontrolled scrub growth, woodland clearance, tree-planting etc. can damage or destroy historical features. Such damage must be avoided. Demonstration/Documentation: Visual inspection for recent activities / effects during field operations or farm walks.	R	✓		
V.1.3 Minimum of 5 % farm area not to be used for cropping	A minimum of 5 % of the farm area should not be used for cropping.	Explanation: This can include hedges, ditches, ponds as well as set-aside areas managed for wildlife and areas on the farm that are difficult to grow crops, such as awkward corners in fields, stony areas etc. Demonstration/Documentation: Cropping plans and Whole Farm Conservation Plan.	NR		✓	

R = Measures included (NR = not included) in an EU legal text for general enforcement or regional enforcement through related National action plans

Integrated Farming

A success story for sustainable development in European agriculture

LEAF Audit

- Whole farm self assessment management tool
- Helps assess your whole farm business performance year on year
- Environmental health check
- Helps us be prepared and manage for new opportunities
- Tool for continuous improvement
- Helps us be ahead of the game
- Demonstrates our commitment to care





JOHN RENNER FARMING PARTNERSHIP

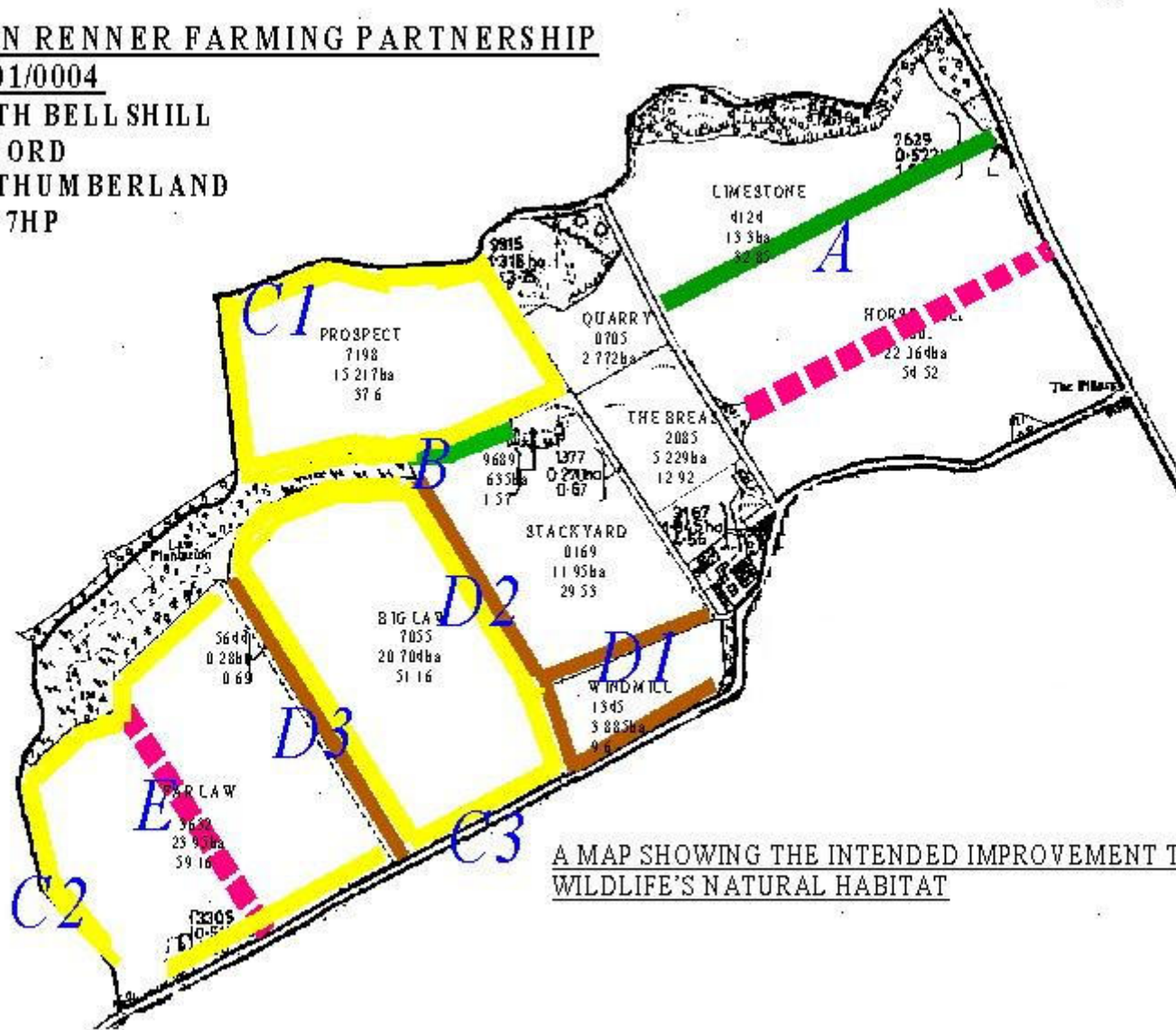
31/001/0004

NORTH BELL SHILL

BELFORD

NORTHUMBERLAND

NE70 7HP



A MAP SHOWING THE INTENDED IMPROVEMENT TO THE WILDLIFE'S NATURAL HABITAT







Integrated Farming

A success story for sustainable development in European agriculture

Summary

- Framework for delivery
- Real improvement
- Future for sustainable farming



Integrated Farming

A success story for sustainable development in European agriculture

THANK YOU

John Renner

North Bellshill Farm

Northumberland

England

A LEAF demonstration farm

