



The East Midlands is a region of contrasts: from the hills of the Peak District to the flat and fertile fens of Lincolnshire, farming is the backbone of the region's countryside and its economy.

More than 80% of the East Midlands is farmed, but food processing is a major employer, too, as well as tourism, particularly in and around the Peak District National Park and the Lincolnshire coast, where it plays a key role in the rural economy. In Derbyshire, over 39 million visitors flock to the county each year.



Total farming output from the East Midlands was valued in 2010 at £2.24bn, reflecting the productivity and diversity of the crops we grow. As a predominantly arable region, wheat and oilseed rape are our main crops, but field vegetable and potato growing dominate parts of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire.

Dairying, beef, sheep, pig and poultry farms are important to the region, too: more than a third of our holdings are involved in livestock production.

Melton Mowbray is the rural food capital of England and is famed for pork pies and Stilton cheese. And the hills of Derbyshire are home to thousands of cattle and sheep, shaping and maintaining the beautiful landscape and protecting the environment for future generations.



And Lincolnshire's horticultural area is more than 20% of England's total vegetable and potato production; the fertile silts of the south of the county provide produce for one of the major production, processing and packing centres of Europe.



In Nottinghamshire in particular, renewable energy is a growing sector; willow and Miscanthus for power generation, wind turbines and solar farms are all reducing the country's reliance on fossil fuels.

Our colleges and universities provide a wide range of courses and training from apprenticeships to internationally important research and development.

In many diverse ways, Farming Delivers for the people, the economy and the countryside of the East Midlands.