



**CAMPAIGN
FOR THE FARMED
ENVIRONMENT**



The Campaign for the Farmed Environment is encouraging farmers and land managers to voluntarily adopt land management practices that will retain and exceed the environmental benefits that used to be provided by set-aside. There is a range of voluntary management measures or ELS options that you can adopt on your farm to benefit the environment, whilst at the same time being agronomically practical.

Name J.A. Barnard

Region East Anglia

Farm Beeches Farm, Downham, Norfolk

Size 300 ha



Background

Beeches Farm is a predominantly arable farm, centrally placed in Norfolk. The cropping on the farm is typical of the area, with sugar beet, winter wheat, winter barley, oil seed rape, field beans and grass leys. There are also 12 hectares of permanent pasture and there is a livery business housing approximately 40 horses.

What voluntary management do you already undertake on your farm?

The farm is in Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) and options include hedgerow management, grass margins, wildlife seed mixes, field corners, fallow strips, unharvested cereal headlands and pollen and nectar mixes.

How will you be/are you taking part in the Campaign?

A significant area of the farm is in environmental stewardship, and a number of the “in-field” options recommended by the Campaign have been chosen. I will be following the Campaign workshops and advice to see if I have met the criteria or whether there is more that needs to be done.

Will you be using an adviser?

Yes, Richard MacMullen of Norfolk FWAG, based here at Beeches Farm.

What are the benefits of taking part in the Campaign?

The ability to choose the options which fit with the farm and with the farming business, carry them out through ELS/HLS and receive payment for them, thus supporting wildlife and the environment without having further regulation.

How does undertaking voluntary management fit in with your farming business?

Areas which are not profitable to farm are supported through ELS/HLS.

What is driving you to take part in the Campaign?

Conservation, shooting on the farm and environmental pressures.