A Proud Heritage Looking to the Future: LEAF Marque and Sustainability

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AH Worth
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LEAF Marque and Sustainability
AH Worth
A Fourth Generation Family Business

- 1st Generation, AH Worth 1895
- 2nd Generation, G.A Worth joins in 1928 (39-45 in War)
- 3rd Generation, Tony Worth joins in 1967
- 4th Generation, Duncan Worth joins in 1995
- 5th Generation, is taking a keen interest in Agriculture
AH Worth Family Business Timeline

1895
The Worth family commenced farming

1968
Joined forces with local growers to form HMC

1979
Built potato packing business with M&S

1996
Packing business became wholly owned subsidiary

1996
Became a LEAF Demonstration Farm

2002
Started renting land from Jepco

2002
Commenced HCCT Agreement

2003
Tracks and Auto guide Steering Introduced

2007
GPS Section control on sprayers introduced

2008
Became LEAF Marque certified

2012
Yara N Sensor introduced

2015
Win Food and Farming, Farm Business of the Year
Farming
‘At the heart of what we do’

- 2,300ha of grade 1 alluvial silt
- 260ha of potatoes, producing c. 15,000t
- Other rotational crops
  - Vining peas, Sugar beet, Maize, Rye, Spring barley and Mustard
- Land is rented out for specialist crops
  - Salads, brassicas, celeriac
Farming
‘At the heart of what we do’

- A team of 10 highly skilled staff with their own specific roles
- Up to 15 students for harvest
- All product produced to the highest protocols
- We work with our neighbours, both contract farming and contracting operations
Potatoes

- Grown for the Pre-Pack market via QV Foods Manor Fresh
- PCN is our biggest issue
- Biofumigant are helping to reduce chemicals
- Rotations have moved from a 6 to 8 year cycle
- Machinery and growing re structure in 2010.
- Reducing Cultivations
- New Resistant and tolerant varieties being trialled
What is Sustainability?

- The ability to be maintained at a certain rate or level
- Avoidance of the depletion of natural resources in order to maintain an ecological balance
What does that mean for Worth Farms?

- Being committed to farming our land in a sustainable and responsible way to maximise financial return whilst protecting and enhancing the natural landscape
- Ensuring the farm is passed onto the 5th generation in a better condition than the 4th received it
Integrated Farm Management (IFM)

- Setting the framework for farmers to adopt sustainable business solutions
- Combining the best of modern technology with traditional methods that enriches the environment and engages the local community
- Attention to detail is key, making better, smarter use of all resources on the farm
- Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a core part
Soil

- Our most important asset
- RTK guidance used to reduce over trafficking
- Tracks used to reduce ground pressure
- Cover Crops
- Reducing cultivations and ploughing
Water

- 25 million gallons of storage built
- Roof and yard water captured
- Pack house water cleaned and UV treated
- Abstraction of saline water
- Potatoes irrigated for skin finish
- Working with others on application and storage
Environment

- LEAF Demonstration Farm since 1996
- LEAF Marque standard
- ELS and HLS scheme still running on one holding
- Barn Owls and Marsh Harriers tagged each year
- Un-farmable areas set aside for wildlife
- Rotational hedge and ditch management
Anaerobic Digestion

- 1.5Mwh Plant
- Built by Tamar Energy
- JV with AHW
  - Holbeach Biogas
- 30,000t of feedstock
  - 12,000t grown
  - 8,000t potato peel
  - 10,000 local vegetable waste
- Digestate applied as an organic fertiliser to growing crops
Community Engagement

- Open Farm Sunday
- Tractors into Schools
- Website www.worthfarms.co.uk
- Twitter @Worth_Farms @simonjeday
- LEAF Boards
- Local Paper
- Golf Course
But, Mother Nature has the final say!!!
AH Worth

Naturally Grown for you . . .

Thank you for listening

www.worthfarms.co.uk @Worth_Farms @simonjeday