



Open Farm Sunday – 1 June 2008

An Opportunity to Feed Your Senses

On Sunday 1 June 2008, hundreds of farmers across the country will be opening their gates to the public. Open Farm Sunday, organised by LEAF (Linking Environment And Farming), offers a fantastic opportunity for everyone, young and old, to enjoy the living, vibrant countryside.

A day spent in the countryside is a day feeding the senses, says Caroline Drummond, Chief Executive of LEAF. “With over 500 farms all around Britain expected to open to the public on 1st June, there will be plenty of opportunities to take time to listen to the birds, soak up the scenery nurtured by the farmer, experience the smells of the farmyard and really get in touch with the land that sustains us. It is a great chance to discover at first hand what it means to be a farmer - and even taste the produce that comes from the land”.

Open Farm Sunday is a great day out for families, ramblers, birdwatchers and school children alike, to learn more about where our food comes from, and the work farmers do. By protecting the environment and nurturing the wildlife it supports; and protecting water, soil and air quality, farmers are ensuring the continuity of supply of wholesome food. LEAF farmers are committed to a sustainable system of agriculture which meets the economic needs of farmers, addresses the concerns of consumers and minimises any impact on the environment.

The 2008 event follows the success of Open Farm Sunday 2007, where over 450 farms across the country opened their farm gates, welcoming 150,000 members of the public on to their farms.

So, which senses will you feed at your local farm this Open Farm Sunday - 1st June 2008?

To find out more about LEAF and Open Farm Sunday call 02476 413911 or visit www.farmsunday.org

Ends

For further information and images, or to arrange an interview with a local farmer contact:

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Editors' notes

- LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming) www.leafuk.org is a national charity that helps farmers to care for the environment and the wildlife that it sustains.
- An increasing number of farmers are signing up to the LEAF scheme which integrates modern farming know-how with conservation.
- Food carrying the LEAF marque logo indicates that it has been grown by farmers who are committed to looking after the countryside and the environment.
- Open Farm Sunday on 1st June provides a great opportunity for the public to get a behind-the-scenes look at life on a farm and the nature it sustains
- The Event is organised by LEAF and hundreds of farmers are taking part by inviting the public to visit their farm where there will be nature trails, talks, tastings and demonstrations.
- Visitors will be able to learn how farmers are encouraging natural plant species to thrive alongside crops and can get a close up look at farm animals and wildlife.