

# Farming, Water and the Environment

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# Wider Context

- Importance of food production
  - Quality, Local food
  - Food Security
  - Impact of imports
- Climate change – threats and opportunities
  - Biofuels
  - Extreme events



# Wider Context

- International commodity markets
- Price takers
- Fixed supply of land
- ~50% have diversified
- Stock numbers falling
- Yields rising through technology and know-how
- Energy crop potential





# Land Management & Water

- Nitrates Directive
- Water Framework Directive
- Groundwater Authorisations (GW Dir)
- Ag Fuel Oil and Sewage Sludge
- Cross Compliance GAEC - SPR

# Regulation

## ■ Defra Study on Administrative Burdens

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<b>Area</b>	<b>Regulations</b>	<b>Information obligations/ data</b>
Animal Health and Welfare	78	673
Environment	82	1045
Natural Resources and Rural Affairs	25	147
Sustainable Food and Farming	107	984

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Initial draft findings, Defra 2006

# Land Management - Voluntary

- Agri-Environment Schemes
- Voluntary Initiative
- Catchment Sensitive Farming Delivery Initiative



# Land Management – Voluntary Projects

- WAgriCo - Water Resources in Cooperation with Agriculture
  - With the contribution of the LIFE financial instrument of the European Community

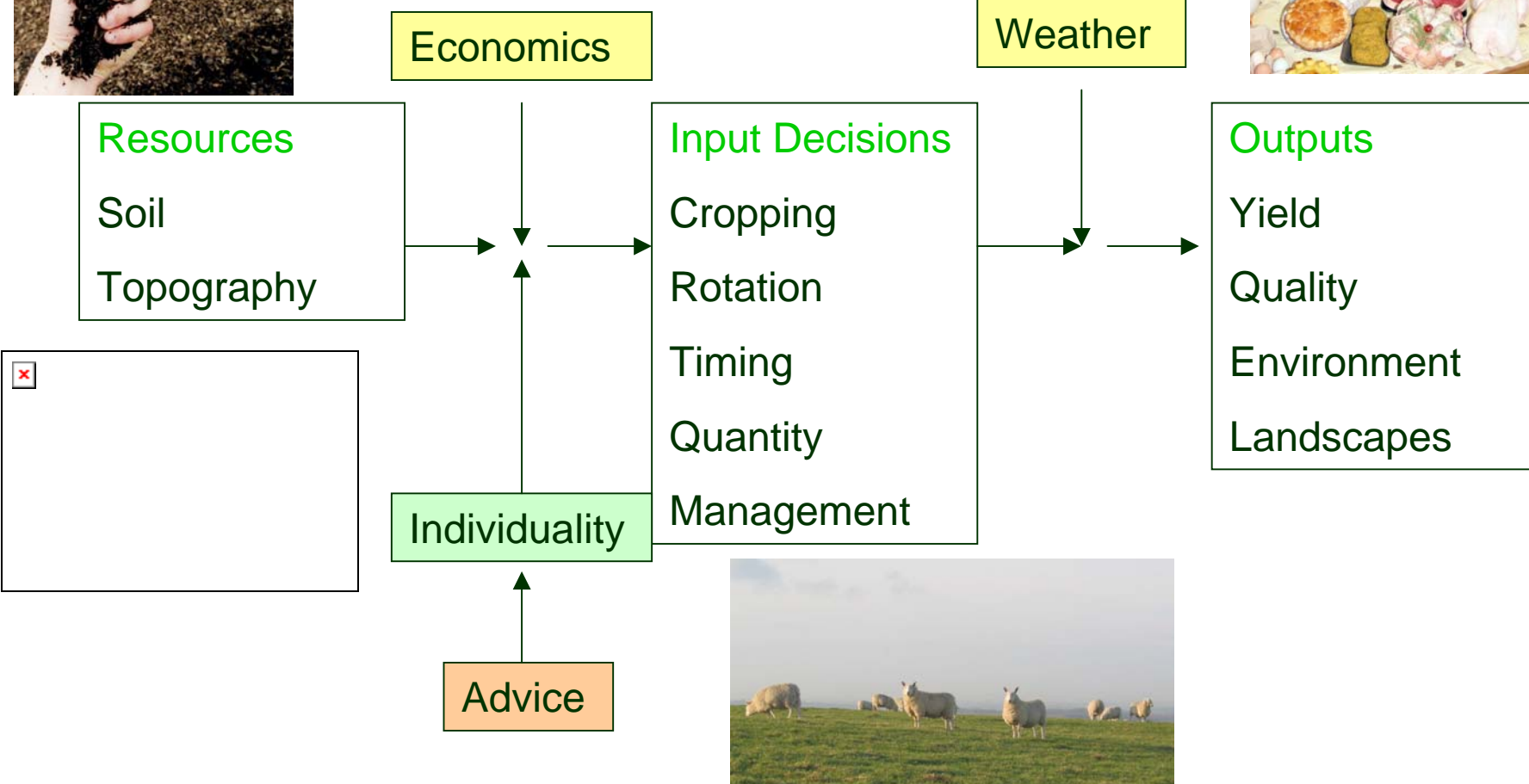


# Land Management

- Flood Management
- Wetland Creation/ Biodiversity
- Amenity/ Recreation
- Landscape features
- Archaeological features



# Challenges



# Challenges

- Environmental Targets
  - Achievable
  - Measurable
- Recognise importance of
  - Food Security
  - Employment
  - Benefits to Society
  - Landscape
  - Environment





# Summary

- Face up to challenges
- Welcome opportunities
  - Expertise
  - Tools
  - Environment benefiting from profitable agriculture

Thank You

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