

LECKFORD ESTATE RAPESEED OIL

Environmental and ethical issues worksheet

The Leckford Estate is a LEAF Demonstration Farm, well known for their sustainable farm management practices. A culture of continuous improvement is at the very centre of their approach to countryside management and food production, as they strive to minimise their impact upon the environment through the careful use of new and traditional approaches. Regularly audited, all producers who hold the LEAF Marque meet the rigorous standards set out by the Integrated Farm Management' standards which ensure that food produced on that farm has been done so ethically and conscientiously.

Private costs and benefits

Private costs of an activity are the costs paid for by a business or the consumer of a product

Private benefits of an activity are the gains to a business or the consumer of the product

Private costs of rapeseed oil production by the Leckford Estate	Private benefits of rapeseed oil production by the Leckford Estate

External costs and benefits

External costs are costs paid for by the rest of society, other than the business, as a result of business activity

External benefits are the gains to the rest of society, other than the business, as a result of business activity

External costs of rapeseed oil production by the Leckford Estate	External benefits of rapeseed oil production by the Leckford Estate

Social cost = external costs + private costs

Social benefit = external benefit + private benefit

The new automated bottling system means that the bottling and labelling no longer has to be done by hand. Whilst the implementation of the new machinery has been three years in the planning, it has meant that the output of the 500ml bottles can be tripled.

Which stakeholders will benefit from the increased output of the rapeseed oil production unit and which will not:

Consider the social costs and benefits of the investment to determine whether the new automated bottling system has been environmentally worthwhile.

Social costs = external costs + private costs	Social benefit = external benefit + private benefit

Why is the Leckford Estate so committed to being ethically and environmentally conscious?

To achieve the LEAF Marque for its products and become a LEAF Demonstration Farm requires a great deal of commitment in terms of time, effort and resources. Not only is the annual auditing process thorough, but implementing the necessary approaches to integrated farming also requires a great deal of commitment. Watch [Andrew Ferguson](#) explain how the Farm applies principles of Integrated Farm Management across its different operations and complete this mind map to show why considerate environmental management is so important for the partners.

Why is the Leckford Estate so committed to being environmentally **and** ethically responsible?