

# Woodland Poultry

## Agro-forestry in action

Our small woodlands and orchards provide the ideal environment for poultry. Running the birds under the trees creates mutual benefits and synergies. The poultry feed the trees, eat pests and trim the grass, the trees provide an excellent environment for the poultry.



### Traditional Turkeys

We have both Norfolk Black and Kelly Bronze turkeys. The birds are healthy, feathered and favour outdoor conditions. They take longer to grow than commercial hybrids of today, but because the birds can actually walk, range and forage their meat is tastier. You can see the birds by walking the footpath across Beards Oak and Lowany fields.



### French Sasso Chickens

We looked for a great tasting free ranging table bird and decided on 'Sasso' bred chickens. They are held in high regard in France as the gourmet's choice for flavour and texture. They combine hardiness and ease of rearing outside and are now taking off amongst organic producers and chefs in this country.



### Emden Geese

This is the tallest goose with a massive, long body and long swan neck. The colour of the plumage is completely white and they reach over a metre in height. Our geese can be seen next to school lane and share the walnut orchard with the ducks. They are perfect for a traditional festive meal.



### Aylesbury Ducks

These were the common domestic ducks - seen for 150 years around the farmyards of middle England from whence they spread around the country. A large white duck, they have great meaty qualities. They are less productive than modern hybrids but more hardy and suited to traditional production.



### Laying Hens in Vicars Orchard

The new Vicar's Orchard is home to Light Sussex, Rhode Island Red, Maran, Black Rock and Leghorn laying hens. They enjoy an environment that is close to their natural woodland habitat and can forage, scratch and hunt insects to supplement their diet. The orchard is situated at the edge of the village and you can come and feed the chickens anytime.

# Church Farm Livestock

## For healthy, high welfare traditional farming

We are running a mixed, low impact, integrated farming system with the highest standards of animal welfare. Commercial breeds that have been bred only to produce the most meat in the shortest time simply wouldn't work, quite apart from all the other reasons to avoid them.



### Red Poll Cattle

The Red Poll was a popular 'dual purpose' local breed up until thirty years ago. It was established in 1888 with the founding of the Red Poll Cattle Society. With its long traditions of high quality dairy and beef the Red Poll is well suited to mixed, less intensive production of high quality produce, although productivity is not as high as modern hybrids.



### Berkshire Pigs

The Berkshire pig is considered 'vulnerable' by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust. It is a medium-small animal, black with white points (feet, snout and tip of tail), and prick ears. Their strong constitution, ease of management and placid temperament suit an outdoor system producing first class pork. This was the breed of pigs at Church Farm up until the 1970's.



### British Lop Pigs

The British Lop is docile and easily managed. They make excellent mothers and are a hardy animal bred for outdoors. Over the past thirty years they have become rare with the advance of double muscled hybrid freaks and intensive farming becoming the norm. We chose this breed for its suitability for outdoor production of excellent bacon and ham.



### Welsh Black Mountain Sheep

Welsh Black Mountain are an easy keeping breed with a natural resistance to disease. As a hill breed they are used to upland grass but do adapt well to lowland farms. They are prolific and undemanding, hardy and self-reliant. They produce premium quality, lean meat albeit with smaller joints than commercial breeds. Our ram won this years Royal Show!



### Lleyn Sheep

Originating from the Lleyn peninsula in Wales, over the past 10 years the Lleyn breed has become particularly popular amongst organic farmers. They are quiet in nature, prolific and have great maternal instincts. We plan to lamb all our sheep in early March next year and have 60 ewes of each breed, plus the two rams.