Feldon Forest Farm 80 acres organic

Started 1994 bare land no infrastructure at all.

Organic from soon afterwards

Mostly arable to begin with some permanent pasture and woodland

Now predominantly species rich grassland with woodland, water features etc. fruit and veg
Grazed with traditional breeds of livestock

Shetland cattle – grass and hay diet no concentrates hardy with good temperament, fertile and productive. Good milk and very good beef.

Castlemilk Moorit sheep bred to look pretty but also taste good and wool has very little kemp. Mostly on grass all year with little or no supplementary feed. They prefer to forage even under snow.

Species rich meadows with a good diversity of grasses and wild flowers giving herb rich forage and hay.

After more than 20 years bee orchids have re-appeared.

Some meadows are just grazed but most are cut for hay in late summer and the aftermaths grazed.

Fruit and vegetables, mostly from traditional varieties, some protected cropping.

Irrigation reservoir catches water from barn roofs etc. like a big water barrel.

Orchard on traditional spacing over 50 varieties of apple, 6 of pear, 11 of plums and gages, quince and cherries also. Varieties help biodiversity, gives spread of cropping times and helps to avoid pests and diseases. Biodiversity is a natural defence system.

Native broadleaved woodland including agroforestry

Traditional management techniques include hedge laying on a rotation.

Low carbon initiatives include;

An electric car

Solar pv and Solar thermal

Earth sheltered farmhouse