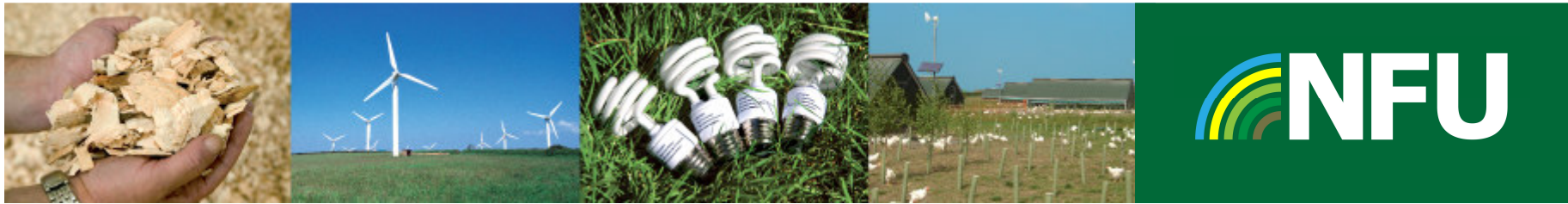


How will climate change affect agriculture?

Dr Ceris Jones
Climate Change Adviser, NFU

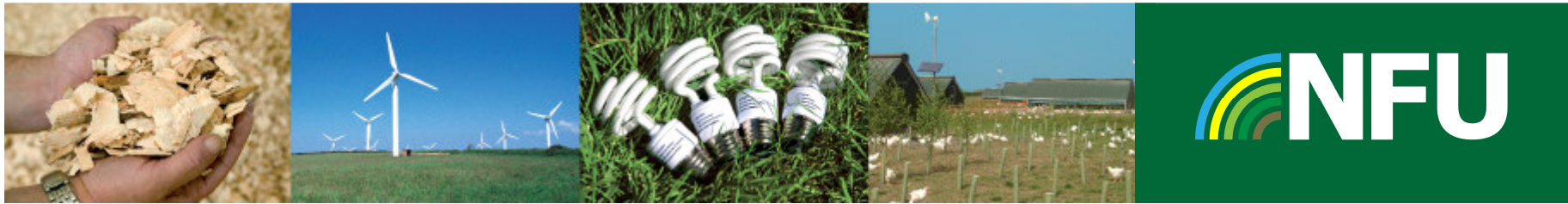




Outline of presentation

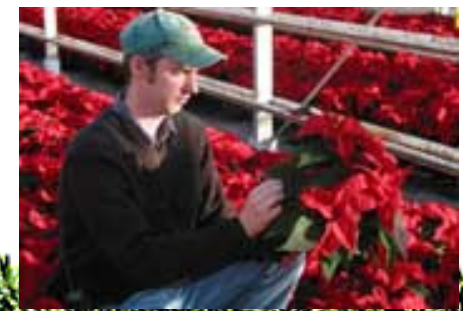
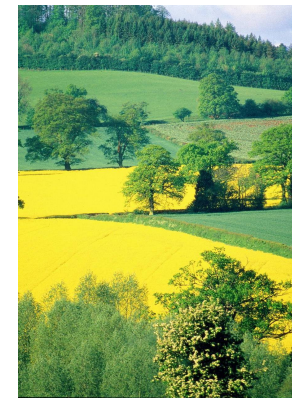
- Agriculture in the NE
- Aspects of climate change affecting agriculture
- What does this mean for farmers?
- Other considerations

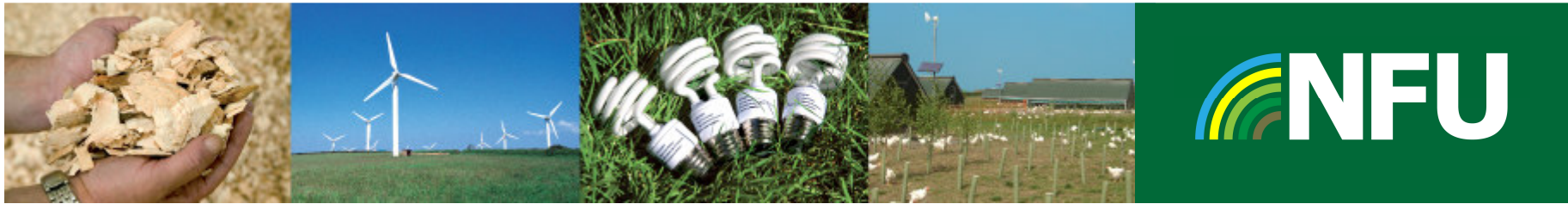




Agriculture in the NE

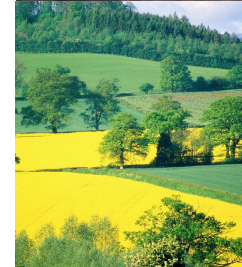
- The region is one of the most varied in terms of agriculture
- Livestock (cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry)
- Arable crops (wheat, oilseed rape, sugarbeet)
- Soft fruit and vegetable producers and horticulture
- More specialist crops – willow, hemp, miscanthus, borage and calendula

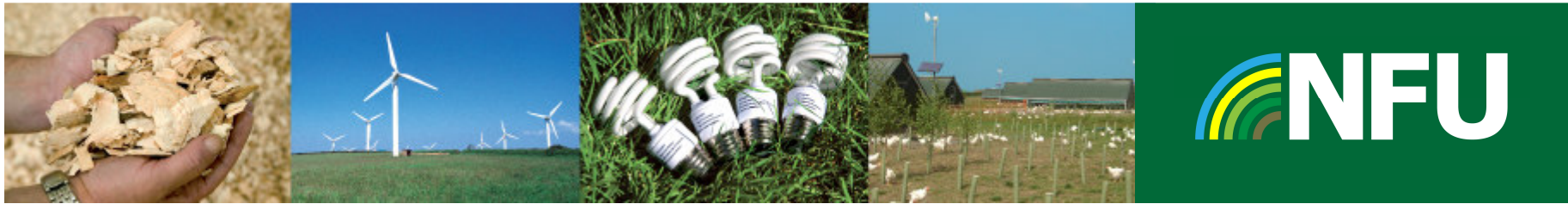




CC factors affecting agriculture

- Carbon dioxide - for most UK crops, CO₂ is beneficial; also need to reduce emissions
- Temperature -
 - +ve: longer growing season
 - -ve: heat stress
- Water - too much, too little, wrong place, wrong time
- Gradual change v extreme events
- Sea level rise

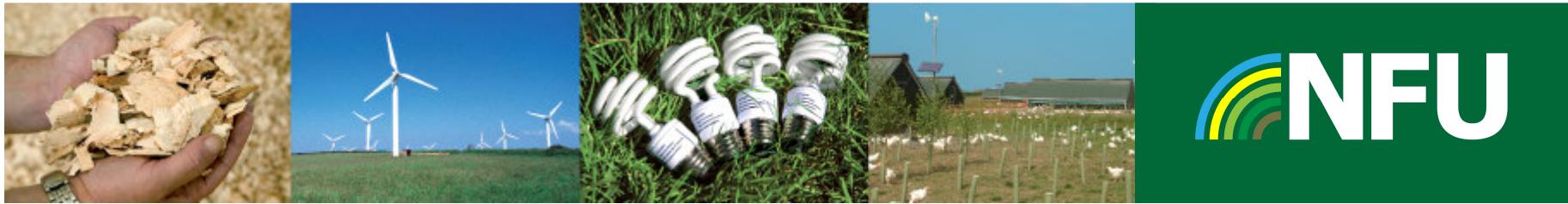




What does this mean for farmers?

- Farmers at the frontline of climate change impacts and are already adapting
- Adaptation solutions will be site specific



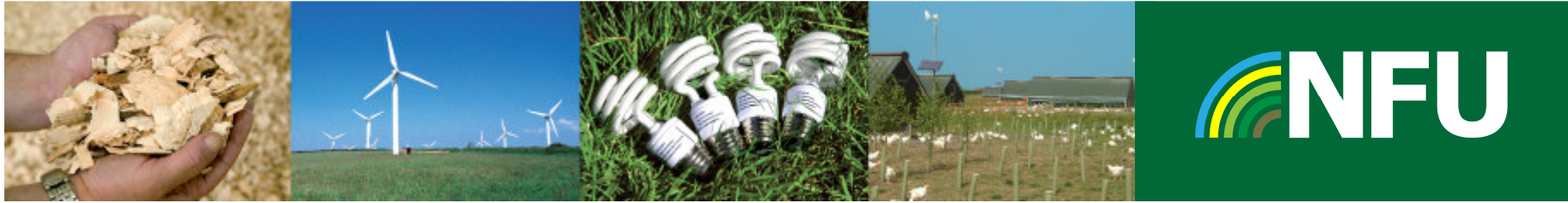


What does this mean for farmers?

Opportunities:

- Different varieties/breeds and perhaps new crops
- Water resource management
- Adapting buildings, planting shelterbelts
- Diversification



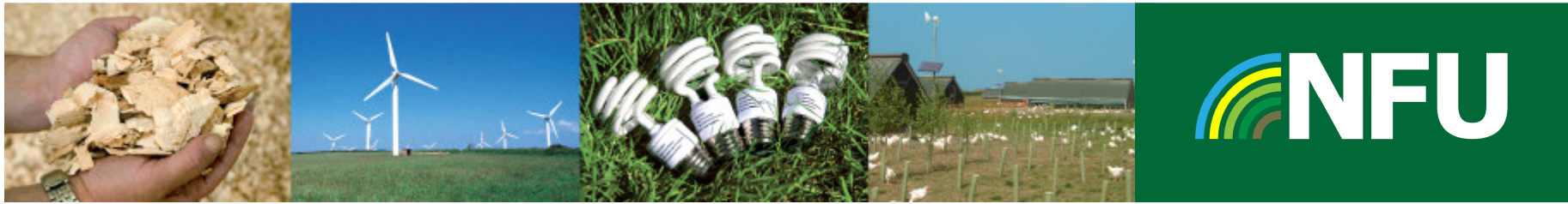


What does this mean for farmers?

Risks:

- Climatic variability + extreme events
- Changing pests and diseases



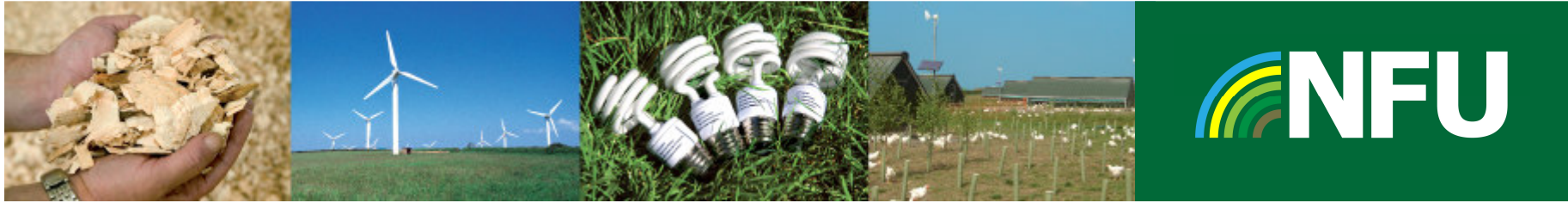


Farming Futures farmers



www.farmingfutures.org.uk

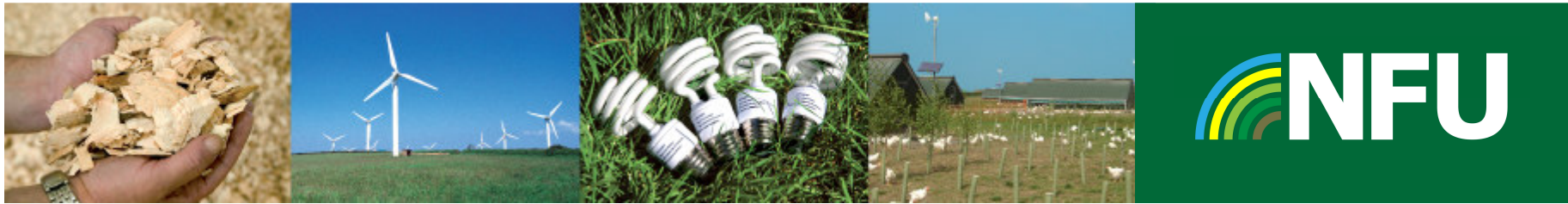
The NFU champions British farming and provides professional representation and services to its farmer and grower members



Other considerations

- Agriculture can help society and biodiversity adapt
- Other drivers and pressures
 - market/supply chain
 - regulation
 - produce more food for growing global population with less impact
 - mitigation

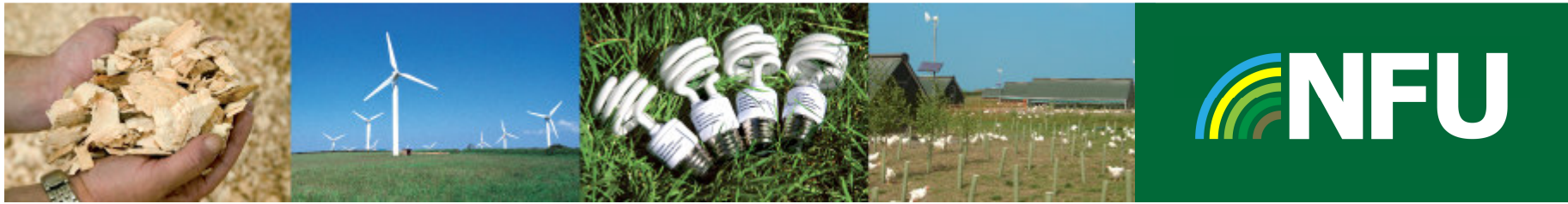




Agriculture and mitigation

- Reducing GHG emissions
- challenging EU and UK targets for renewable energy
- Agriculture is part of the solution – opportunities to generate renewable energy

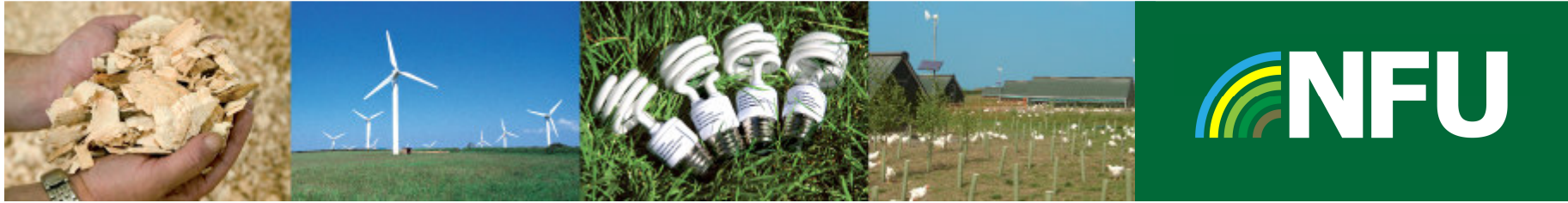




Thank you



The NFU champions British farming and provides professional representation and services to its farmer and grower members



What do UK farmers think?

- 81% believe climate change is happening
- 60% say climate change is affecting their land now
- 70% say climate change will affect their farm in the next 10 years
- 29% taking action to adapt to impacts on their farm
- 70% taking action to combat climate change

