

## Manor Farm



Hi, my name is Rob Addicott and I am a farmer on the eastern edge of the Mendip hills in Somerset, at a place called Stratton on the Fosse. I am 39 years old and have 3 children, Eleasha who is 12, Josh 9 and Nyah 7. My parents John and Mary also live on the farm as well as a number of people who rent houses from us.

Manor Farm, where we are based is about 350 acres in size (an acre is the size of a football pitch), and we also run another farm in partnership with our neighbours the Padfields called Walton Farm, which is about 220 acres. We grow crops in a six year rotation to allow the soil to be kept in good condition, and currently we grow a mixture of two thirds wheat, and the remainder oilseed rape (canola), field beans, and oats.





Most of the machinery we use is very expensive and so we decided a few years ago to share the cost of this by combining with the Padfields, so we now have a combine

harvester, tractor, seed drill, fertiliser spreader, sprayer, and a few other machines that are split 50/50 between us.

Our objectives are to grow good, profitable crops and to care for land that we have the privilege to farm. We have spent a lot of time planting new trees and hedges, and creating habitats for a diverse range of wildlife, from birds and bats, to hares and voles and bees! We have also invested in technology to allow us to be much more accurate with the chemicals and fertilisers we use, meaning that there is less possibility of damage to the local environment.





We are also committed to communicating what we do with members of the public, both groups of children and adults. We are proud of the food we produce and the way we care for the land we farm, and are

therefore happy to show anyone around. We are joint LEAF (linking environment and farming) demonstration farms with the Padfields.

Outside of farming I am involved with the local church, taking on many speaking engagements, and playing my bass guitar in worship bands. I also enjoy participating in and watching sport and am a fervent supporter of both Bath Rugby and Manchester United Football Club.