

# FARMS OF BRITAIN



J. G. SANDERS & GEOFFREY ELEY

**T**HE story of British farming during the war, of how this—the country's greatest single industry—was transformed from a state of restricted output to one of high efficiency and achievement, has been told all over the world. That achievement—in round terms, the provision of two out of every three meals needed by our 45 million population—was made possible by the combined efforts of all our farmers, the small family farmer as well as the man with hundreds of acres; the man with a few milking cows as well as the dairy farmer with large pedigree herds. Nowhere are the systems—and therefore the problems—of farming more varied than in these islands. The war, with its huge demand for home-produced foods, turned the spotlight on farm management, and in October 1945 the B.B.C. began a series of discussions on this subject, called "This Is My Farm."

Eleven very different, but typical, farming areas of Britain were chosen for inquiry and from each a well-known farmer was selected to discuss the reasons for his particular system of farm management, his cropping and stock policies and so on.

*[continued on back flap]*

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**FARMS OF BRITAIN**



**PROFESSOR H. G. SANDERS WITH THE YOUNG DAIRY SHORTHORN BULL, KEPT AT READING UNIVERSITY FARM**

# FARMS OF BRITAIN

BY

**H. G. SANDERS**

M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Agriculture in the  
University of Reading

AND

**GEOFFREY ELEY**

Assistant Agricultural Liaison Officer to the  
British Broadcasting Corporation

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## THE MEN WHO BROADCAST

The central figure in each of the farm discussions, of which I had the honour of being Chairman, was always the farmer himself. In some of the discussions, however, we had the most valuable help and support from County Executive Officers and others, and I should like in presenting this list to thank them one and all for their co-operation in the broadcasts and for allowing Geoffrey Eley and myself to place on record in book form so much of their wisdom.

*(Signed)* H. G. SANDERS.

Mr. W. J. Simmons, Oakhouse Farm, Hampstead Norris, Newbury, Berkshire.

Mr. F. Rockcliffe, Hill House, West Walton, Norfolk.

Mr. O. K. Peacock, College Farm, Broughton, Huntingdonshire, and Mr. Denys Bullard, Technical Officer, Huntingdonshire War Agricultural Committee.

Mr. W. T. Dunlop, Townhead of Gree, Fenwick, Ayrshire, and Mr. T. B. Manson, Chief Land Officer to the Scottish Department of Agriculture.

Mr. E. R. Greenwood, Poplars Farm, King's Road, Bradford, Yorkshire, and Dr. H. Ian Moore, Leeds University.

Mr. H. H. Pickering, Waterloo Farm, Market Harborough, Leicestershire, and Mr. D. H. Findlay, formerly Executive Officer of Leicestershire.

Mr. Tom Scott, Milsington, Hawick, Roxburghshire.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. McClure, Hillview, Ballyminstra, Ahoghill, County Antrim.

Mr. Eric Buchan, Rashieriev, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire, and Mr. A. R. Wannop, Director of Advisory Services, North of Scotland College of Agriculture.

Mr. Thomas Rees, Pengwern Uchaf, Cenarth, Newcastle Emlyn, Cardiganshire, and Mr. John Griffiths, Agricultural Economics Department, Aberystwyth.

Mr. F. J. Tucker, Oakwell Farm, Muddiford, Near Barnstaple, Devon, and Mr. Colin Ross, formerly Executive Officer, Devon War Agricultural Committee.



# CONTENTS

	PAGE
Introductory .. .. .	11
Chapter One— MIXED FARMING ON THE DOWNS .. .. .	21
Chapter Two— RICH SILT LAND ACRES .. .. .	35
Chapter Three— A CLAY LAND FARM .. .. .	47
Chapter Four— HOME OF THE AYRSHIRES .. .. .	57
Chapter Five— MILK FROM A CITY HILLSIDE .. .. .	69
Chapter Six— A MIDLAND GRAZIER .. .. .	79
Chapter Seven— BREEDING CHEVIOT SHEEP .. .. .	91
Chapter Eight— MILK AND POULTRY IN NORTHERN IRELAND ..	103
Chapter Nine— BEEF IN ABERDEEN .. . . .	115
Chapter Ten— THREE BROTHERS IN WALES .. .. .	129
Chapter Eleven— A DEVONIAN FARM .. .. .	141
Chapter Twelve— SUMMARY .. .. .	150

## ILLUSTRATIONS

<i>Professor H. G. Sanders with the young Dairy Shorthorn bull kept at Reading University Farm</i>	frontispiece
<i>Hampshire Down sheep on Mr. Simmons' farm in Berkshire</i> .. .. .	facing page 32
<i>Carting green peas to the canning factory on Mr. F. Rockcliffe's farm in North Norfolk</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 33
<i>Mr. O. K. Peacock of Broughton, Huntingdonshire, in his stockyard</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 48
<i>Corn-carrying on Mr. Peacock's farm</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 49
<i>Group of Ayrshire cows owned by W. T. Dunlop</i>	,, ,, 64
<i>Mr. Greenwood's Dairy Farm, Bradford</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 65
<i>In the Milk Room at Poplars Farm, Bradford</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 80
<i>Washing down the cows before milking at Poplars Farm</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 81
<i>Mr. Pickering with one of his bullocks</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 96
<i>In the Border country, amid the hills of Roxburghshire</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 97
<i>The McClure Farm in Ulster</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 112
<i>Rashierieve is a typical family mixed farm in the East of Scotland</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 113
<i>A qualified Dairy Shorthorn bull used at the Rees brothers' farm in Wales</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 128
<i>A group of Devon close-wool sheep on Oakwell Farm</i> .. .. .	,, ,, 129

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The primary aim of the talks was to help farmers become more enterprising by the better understanding of management problems; a listening audience around one and a half million indicated that many townsmen, as well as countrymen, listened to the talks, but this was an unexpected—although welcome—result. It is that series of talks, plus the great quantity of material which could not be broadcast in the time available, which forms the subject-matter of this book.

Farming makes use of more than 80 per cent. of the land of this country. It is a very big part of the British way of life. This book is for all who would preserve that heritage.



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