



# Methane to Markets

**The Kindersley Centre, Berkshire**

November 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> 2006



**defra**

Department for Environment  
Food and Rural Affairs



## **Methane to Markets**

Anaerobic Opportunities at farm level  
**Recycling Waste to Enhance Nutrition of Soils within  
a whole farm system**

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## The Challenge

- Fully sustainable, carbon neutral
- Whole 'farm' approach – through the chain  
*primary production, slaughter, processing, distribution, retailing*

## Chickens Rule At Sheepdrove

All production [& systems] to IFOAM Organic principles

- Principle of health (although there is still time to order your Christmas turkey!)
- Ecological principle
- Principle of fairness
- Principle of care

# Where are the opportunities?

If chickens are the most important enterprise, how do we address the challenges in that enterprise?

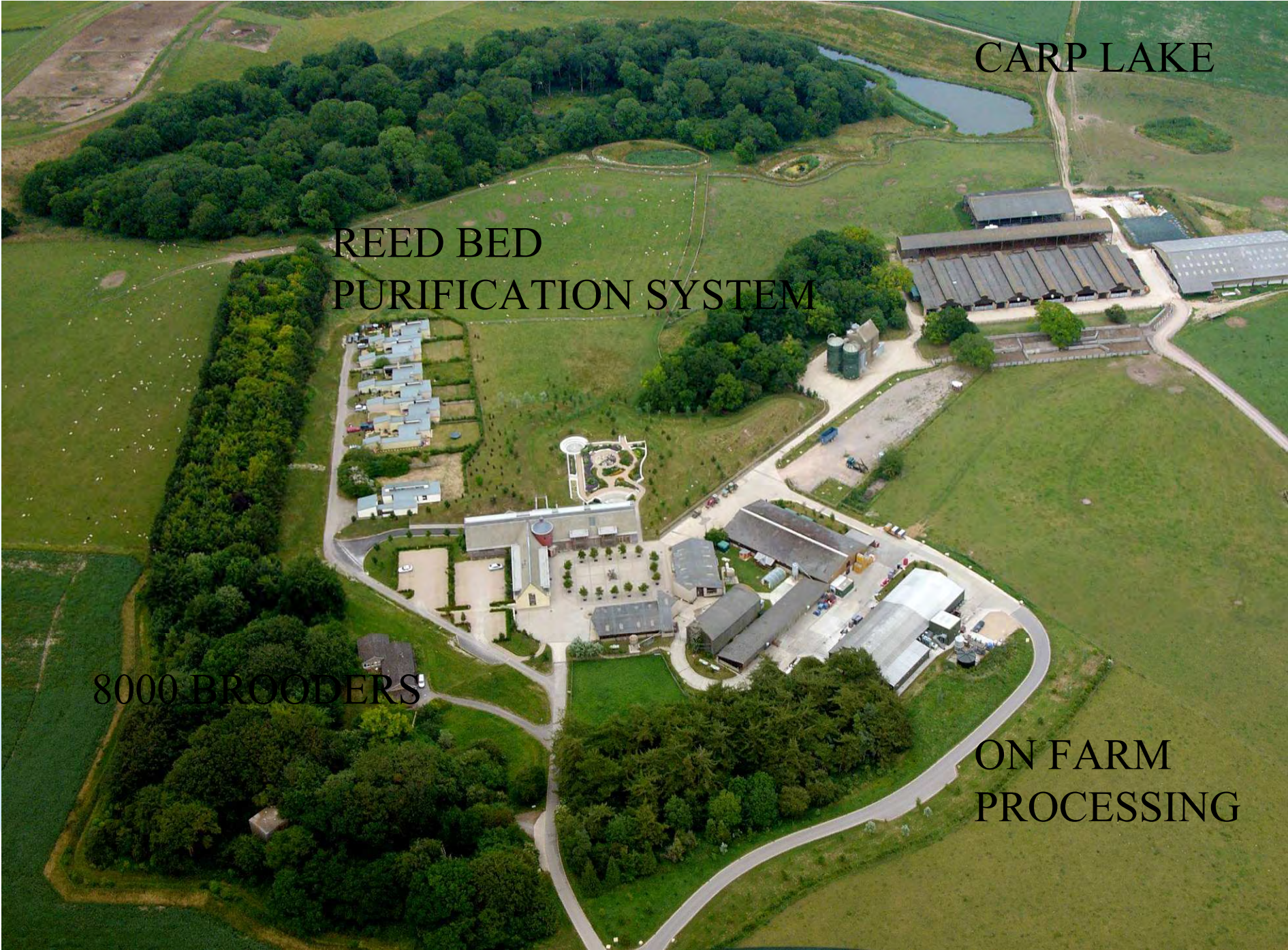


**Day 1**



**Day 77**





CARP LAKE

REED BED  
PURIFICATION SYSTEM

8000 BROODERS

ON FARM  
PROCESSING



# Recycling of all waste litter from sheds

Existing site  
of shed

Litter is removed from field and composted  
and then used as fertility for crops

ING



An aerial photograph of a farm showing a barley crop. The farm is divided into several rectangular plots by dirt roads. Each plot contains a small, blue-roofed structure, likely a silo or a small barn. The crops in the plots are arranged in a grid pattern. The color of the crops varies, with some plots appearing much darker green than others. The surrounding landscape is a mix of green fields and a dense forest on the right side. The text "Recycling of all nutrients with a barley crop (July 06)" is overlaid in the top left corner. The text "Darker green shows nutrient buildup" is overlaid on the right side. The text "Nutrients are recycled to benefit of whole system" is overlaid at the bottom in red. The word "ING" is partially visible in the bottom left corner.

Recycling of all nutrients  
with a barley crop (July 06)

Darker green  
shows nutrient buildup

ING  
Nutrients are recycled to benefit of whole system



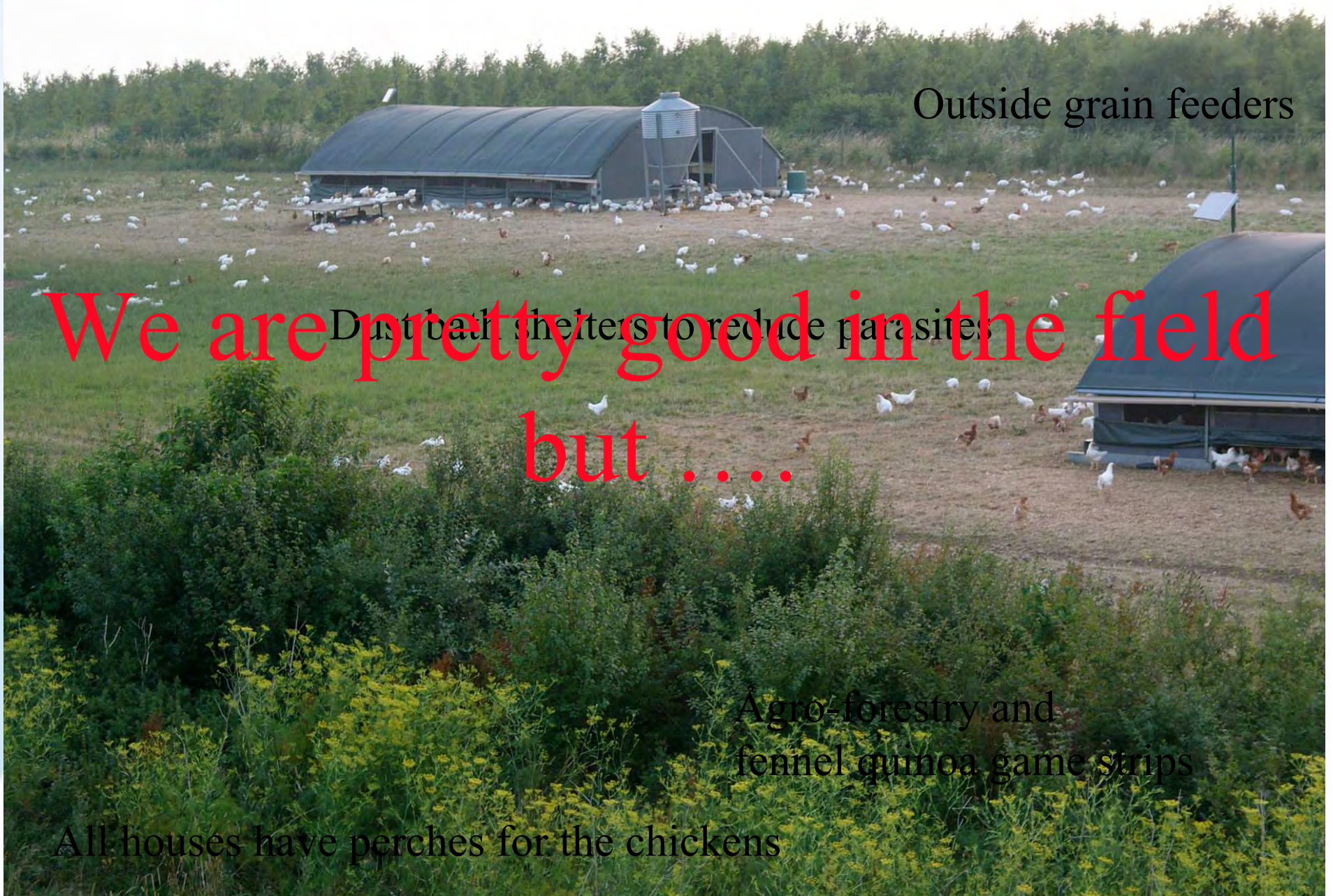
# Summer showing mature chickens ranging (July 06)

Outside grain feeders

We are pretty good in the field  
Dust bath shelters to reduce parasites  
but .....

Agro-forestry and  
fennel quinoa game strips

All houses have perches for the chickens







[www.sheepdrove.com](http://www.sheepdrove.com)

# How can we improve once we get to Chicken Processing



  
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# The Essential Sums

We believe the power generated will just about cover the power needed for Ohmic Heating.



## The real opportunity for anaerobic digestion ...

### Transport

X 2 Skips (10t capacity) per week @ £250 per skip

£

500

### Disposal cost ~ Landfill or incineration

£65 per tonne x 20t

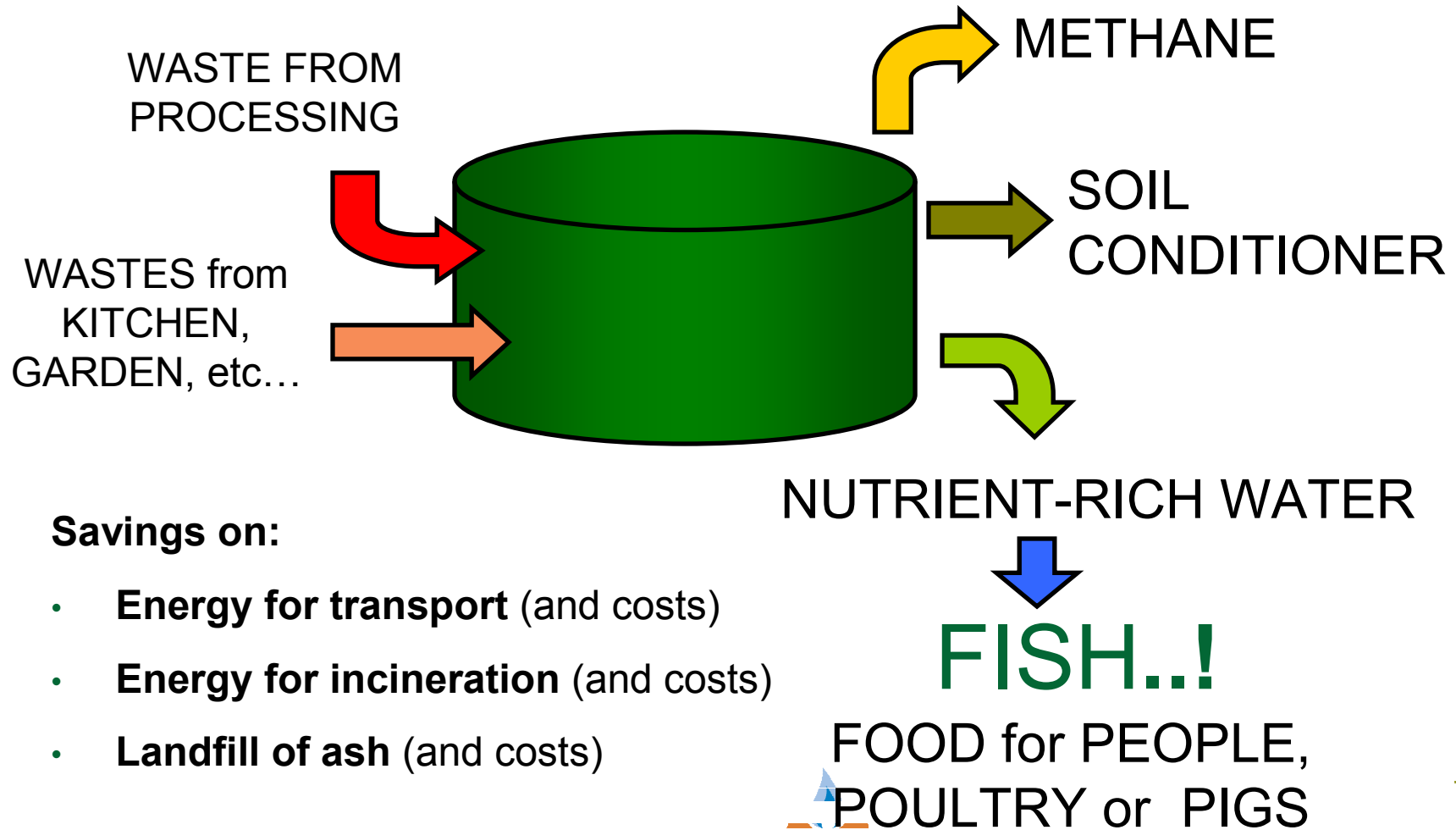
1,300

50 weeks per year operation

90,000

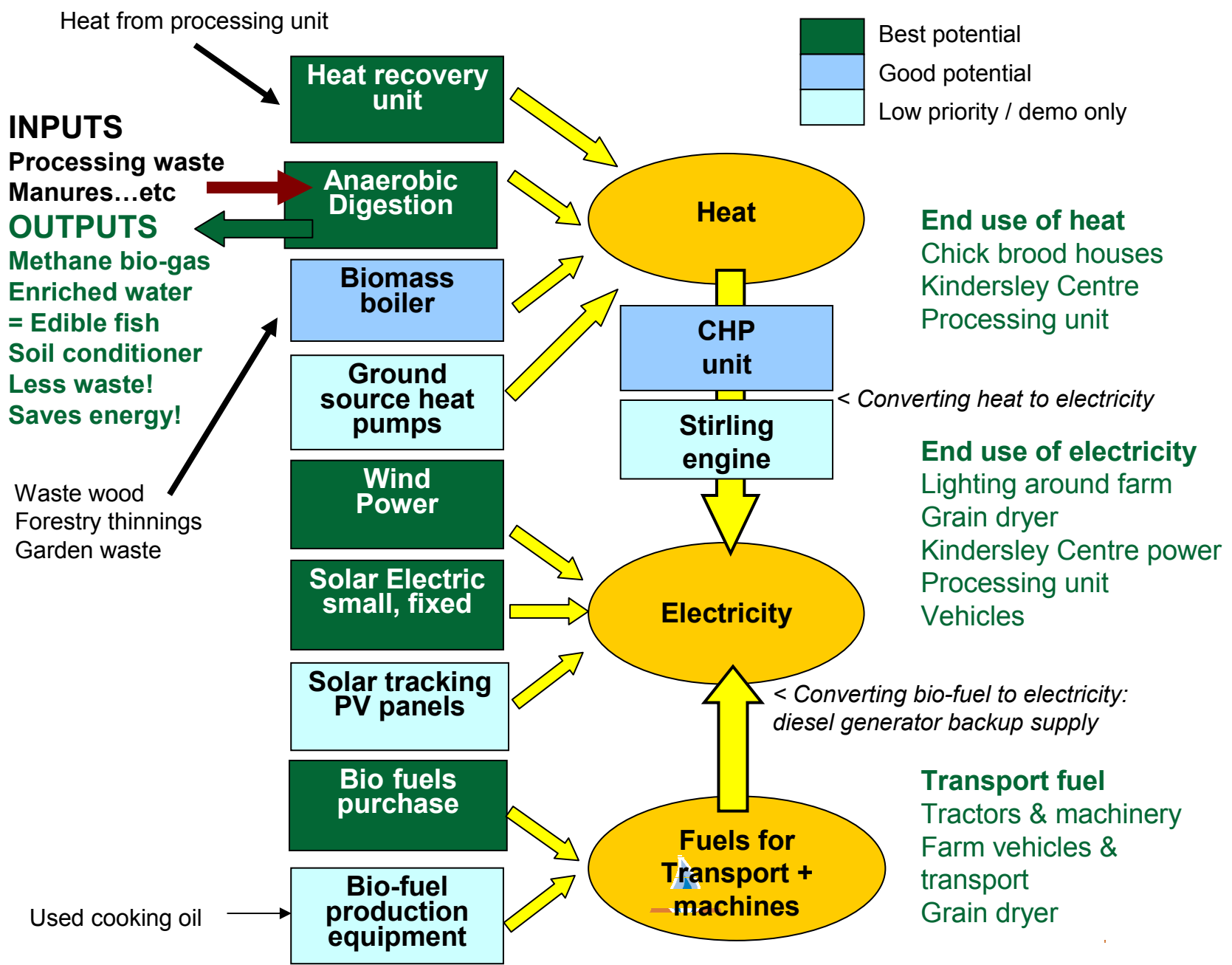


# Not just Bio-gas



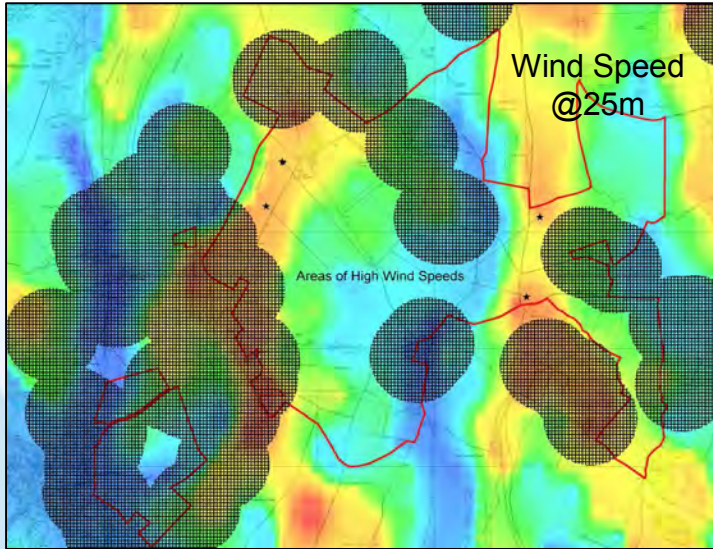
## Savings on:

- Energy for transport (and costs)
- Energy for incineration (and costs)
- Landfill of ash (and costs)





# Wind resource map



# Summary



- The real opportunity lies not in power generation but waste disposal costs, in our system
- For Sheepdrove, anaerobic digestion will fit as part of the wider program including
  - reducing inputs
  - using resources more efficiently and effectively
  - generating power close to point of use

**Don't forget your Christmas Turkey!**