

KENT FARMING FACTS



Farming and food in Kent is worth 2.6 billion pounds , 14% of Gross Value Added output for Kent.

In Kent there are 2,200 farms employing some 13,000 people and there are around 85,000 people employed in both the farming and food sectors.

Kent farms represent less than 3% of arable production in England but over 40% of fruit production.

Over 46% of English orchards are in Kent. During the last 20 years the area of English orchards has declined by more than 30%

Kent produces more than 50% of the highest quality strawberries grown in the United Kingdom.

Nearly 80% of Kent strawberry crops are now grown under protection.

Strawberry yields in Kent have increased 3 fold from 2000 to 2011.

At least 80% of Kent growers are members of the British Farm Standard scheme

Kent has the highest proportion of ancient woodland in England and around 11% of the land area is wooded of which 53% is ancient semi-natural woodland.

The population of Kent is forecast to grow from 1.69m in 2011 to 1.78m by 2021.

The UK is around 60% self sufficient in vegetable production but only 10% self sufficient in fresh fruit.

The national fruit collection is located at Brogdale in Kent and contains 2.400 apple varieties

80% of Kent apples are sold in supermarkets

Kent strawberry growers supply wimbledon when 27 tonnes of strawberries are eaten each year

