

THE USE OF INDICATORS TO ASSESS THE SUSTAINABILITY OF FARMS CONVERTING TO ORGANIC PRODUCTION

I .N. MILLA¹, P. HARRIS¹ and C. FIRTH²

Method

Based on a French method 'IDEA'.
Uses 37 different indicators within
10 components and 3 dimensions:

AGRO-ECOLOGICAL
SOCIO-TERRITORIAL
ECONOMIC

Project examined 3 farms:

I: Mixed (36ha)

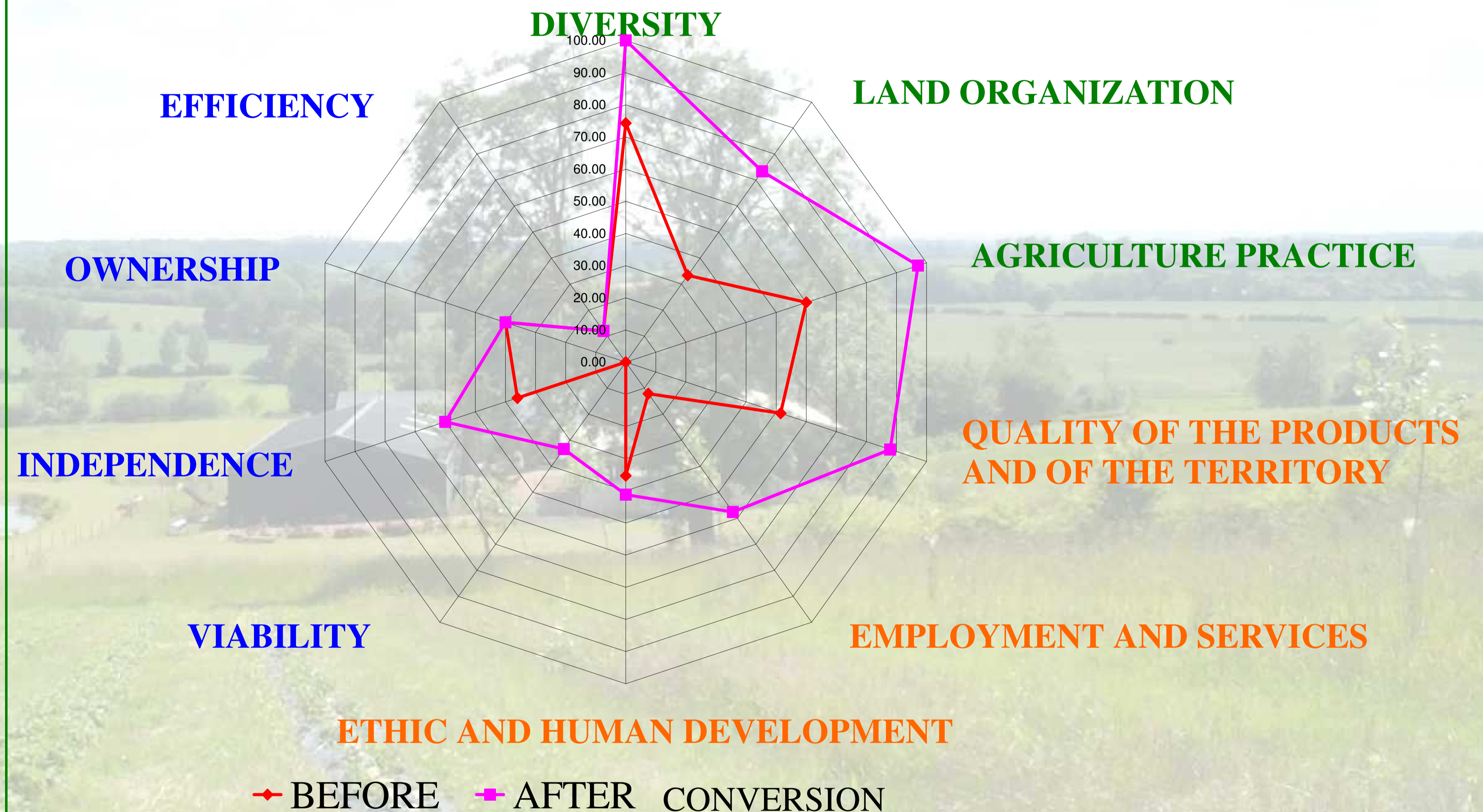
II: General cropping (1956ha)

III: Horticulture (24ha)

LABOUR



COMPONENTS' DEVELOPMENT (Farm I)



Conclusions

Conversion to organic production increased the social sustainability of all the farms studied. The agro-ecological dimension tended to either increase or stay at a high level. In contrast the economic dimension decreased on two farms and increased only slightly on one farm .



¹Coventry University,
Priory Street,
Coventry, CV1 5FB.



²IOR-HDRA,
Ryton Organic Gardens,
Coventry, CV8 3LG.