**Farming as a system,**

A farm is an example of a system. A farm that I have studied is Murphys mixed farm in county Laois.

An input is what goes into to farm to make it work or that is needed in a farm, some are changed by processes while other can be used to help the processes work, example of inputs are land, money seeds, labour, animals and machinery. Labour refers to the people needed to run the farm, modern farms can be run by a small number of people thanks to modern technology.

Processes are the activities that change some of the inputs to outputs, or the jobs that are done on a farm such as ploughing, spreading slurry, cutting and milking.

Outputs are the things that leave the system as a result of the processes such as grass, silage, potatoes, and bullocks for beef, milk and money. Some of these outputs can also be inputs such as silage which can be used to feed cattle.