Media kit

The World of Organic Agriculture 2017

February 9, 2017

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Media release of February 09, 2017: Another record year for organic agriculture worldwide
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BIOFACH and VIVANESS press conference 2017
09. Februar 2017, 10:00 Uhr
denn’s Bio-Markt Nürnberg, Äußere Cramer-Klett-Str. 21, 90489 Nürnberg

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Another record year for organic agriculture worldwide

50.9 million hectares of organic agricultural land – organic market grows to more than 80 billion US Dollars

The latest global data on organic farming worldwide will be presented by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) and IFOAM – Organics International at the BIOFACH world organic trade fair 2017 in Nuremberg. The statistical yearbook “The World of Organic Agriculture” will be launched on Wednesday, February 15, 2017, from 4.00 to 4.45 pm in Hall Shanghai, NCC East.

(Frick/Nürnberg February 9, 2017) The positive trend seen in the past years continues: Consumer demand is increasing, reflected in the significant market growth of 11 percent in the United States, the world’s largest organic market. More farmers cultivate organically, more land is certified organic, and 179 countries report organic farming activities (up from 172), as shown in the 2017 edition of the study “The World of Organic Agriculture” (data per end of 2015) published by FiBL and IFOAM – Organics International. The survey is supported by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the International Trade Centre (ITC), and NürnbergMesse, the organizers of the BIOFACH fair.

The global organic market continues to grow worldwide

The market research company Organic Monitor estimates the global market for organic food to have reached 81.6 billion US dollars in 2015 (approximately 75 billion euros). The United States is the leading market with 35.9 billion euros, followed by Germany (8.6 billion euros), France (5.5 billion euros), and China (4.7 billion euros). In 2015, most of the major markets showed double-digit growth rates. The highest per capita spending was in Switzerland (262 Euros), and Denmark has the highest organic market share (8.4 percent of the total food market).

More than two million producers

In 2015, 2.4 million organic producers were reported. India continues to be the country with the highest number of producers (585'200), followed by Ethiopia (203'602), and Mexico (200’039).

More than 50 million hectares of organic farmland

A total of 50.9 million hectares were organically managed at the end of 2015, representing a growth of 6.5 million hectares over 2014, the largest growth ever recorded. Australia is the country with the largest organic agricultural area (22.7 million hectares), followed by Argentina (3.1 million hectares), and the United States of America (2 million hectares).
Forty-five percent of the global organic agricultural land is in Oceania (22.8 million hectares), followed by Europe (25 percent; 12.7 million hectares), and Latin America (13 percent; 6.7 million hectares).

**Ten percent or more of the farmland is organic in eleven countries**

The countries with the largest share of organic agricultural land of their total farmland are the Liechtenstein (30.2 percent), Austria (21.3 percent), and Sweden (16.9 percent). In eleven countries 10 percent or more of all agricultural land is organic.

**More information**

**Download**


**Contacts**

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**Programme of the session “The World of Organic Agriculture – Statistics and Emerging Trends”**

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 4.00 to 4.45 pm, Hall Shanghai (NCC East), NürnbergMesse, Nürnberg

- Markus Arbenz, IFOAM – Organics International, Moderator
- Eduart Rumani, SECO, Swiss Cooperation Office, Albania: The role of sustainability standards in economic development cooperation in Switzerland
- Dr. Helga Willer, FiBL: Latest data on organic agriculture worldwide
- Julia Lernoud, FiBL: Latest data on Voluntary Sustainability Standards worldwide
- Beate Huber, FiBL: Standards and regulations
- Amarjit Sahota, Organic Monitor, UK: The global market for organic food
Yearbook "The World of Organic Agriculture"

About "The World of Organic Agriculture"

The study (336 pages) contains reports, authored by experts, on the organic sector and emerging trends in all regions and selected countries. The statistics are supported with graphs and tables. In addition, background information on issues such as standards and legislation is provided. New additions to this edition are an article on organic cotton from the Textile Exchange and a chapter reviewing the organic and Fairtrade markets. Further information and download is available at www.organic-world.net/yearbook/yearbook-2017.html.

Data collection

The data on organic agriculture is collected annually by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) in collaboration with many partners from around the world. The results are published jointly with IFOAM – Organics International. The activities are supported by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the International Trade Centre (ITC), and NürnbergMesse, the organizers of the BIOFACH fair. The views expressed in this press release can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinions of SECO, ITC, or NürnbergMesse.

Quote


Order book and download

The printed version (25 Euros + postage; affiliates of IFOAM – Organics International: 20 Euros) can be ordered at www.fibl.org/en/shop-en.html (order number 3503) and https://shop.ifoam.bio/

Online databases

The data is available online at http://www.organic-world.net/statistics/statistics-data-tables.html

Pick up your copy at BIOFACH in Hall 1, Stands 1-555 (FiBL) and 1-451 (IFOAM – Organics International)

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# Key indicators

## Organic Agriculture: Key Indicators and Top Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>World</th>
<th>Top countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Countries with organic activities(^1)</td>
<td>2015: 179 countries</td>
<td>New countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cape Verde, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Monaco, Sierra Leone, and Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic agricultural land</td>
<td>2015: 50.9 million hectares (1999: 11 million hectares)</td>
<td>Australia (22.7 million hectares) Argentina (3.1 million hectares) United States (2 million hectares)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic share of total agricultural land</td>
<td>2015: 1.1 %</td>
<td>Liechtenstein (90.2 %) Austria (21.3 %) Sweden (16.9 %)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild collection and further non-agricultural areas</td>
<td>2015: 39.7 million hectares (1999: 4.1 million hectares)</td>
<td>Finland (12.2 million hectares) Zambia (6.6 million hectares) India (3.7 million hectares)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producers</td>
<td>2015: 2.4 million producers (1999: 200'000 producers)</td>
<td>India (585'200) Ethiopia (203'602) Mexico (200'039)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic market</td>
<td>2015: 81.6 billion US dollars (approx. 75 billion euros) (2000: 17.9 billion US dollars)</td>
<td>US (59.7 billion US dollars; 35.8 billion euros) Germany (9.5 billion US dollars; 8.6 billion euros) France (6.1 billion US dollars; 5.5 billion euros)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per capita consumption</td>
<td>2015: 11.1 US dollars (10.3 euros)</td>
<td>Switzerland (291 US dollars; 262 euros) Denmark (212 US dollars; 191 euros) Sweden (196 US dollars; 277 euros)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of countries with organic regulations</td>
<td>2016: 87 countries</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of affiliates of IFOAM — Organics International</td>
<td>2016: 893 affiliates from 121 countries</td>
<td>Germany - 91 affiliates India - 73 affiliates China - 55 affiliates United States - 49 affiliates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FiBL survey 2017, based on national data sources and data from certifiers

Global market: Organic Monitor 2017

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Graphs

Development of the global organic market 2000-2015
Source: Organic Monitor

Development of the number of countries with data on organic agriculture
Source: FiBL-IFOAM-SOEL-Surveys 1999-2017

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The ten countries with the largest markets for organic food 2015
Source: FiBL-AMI survey 2017

- United States of America: 35,782 million euros
- Germany: 8,620 million euros
- France: 5,534 million euros
- China: 4,712 million euros
- Canada: 2,757 million euros
- United Kingdom: 2,604 million euros
- Italy: 2,317 million euros
- Switzerland: 2,175 million euros
- Sweden: 1,726 million euros
- Spain: 1,498 million euros

Retail sales in million euros

The ten countries with the highest per capita consumption 2015
Source: FiBL-AMI survey 2017

- Switzerland: 262 euros
- Denmark: 191 euros
- Sweden: 177 euros
- Luxembourg: 170 euros
- Liechtenstein: 142 euros
- Austria: 127 euros
- United States: 111 euros
- Germany: 106 euros
- France: 83 euros
- Canada: 77 euros

Per capita consumption in euros

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Global market: Distribution of retail sales value by country 2015
Source: FiBL-AMI survey 2017, based on retail sales with organic food

- USA 47%
- EU-28 36%
- Other 15%
- Switzerland 3%
- Italy 3%
- UK 4%
- Canada 4%
- China 6%
- France 7%
- Germany 11%

World: distribution of retail sales by single market 2015
Source: FiBL-AMI survey 2017

- USA 47%
- EU-28 36%
- Switzerland 3%
- Canada 4%
- China 6%
- Other 4%
The ten countries with the largest numbers of organic producers 2015

Source: FiBL survey 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of Producers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>585,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>203,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>200,039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>190,670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>165,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>148,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>96,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>69,967</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>58,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>52,609</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Organic producers by region 2015

Source: FiBL Survey 2017

- **Asia**: 35%
- **Africa**: 30%
- **Latin America**: 19%
- **Europe**: 14%
- **North America**: 1%
- **Oceania**: 1%
Distribution of organic agricultural land by region 2015

Source: FiBL Survey 2017

- Europe: 25%
- Oceania: 45%
- Latin America: 13%
- Asia: 8%
- North America: 6%
- Africa: 3%

Growth of the organic agricultural land 1999-2015

Source: FiBL-IFOAM-SOEIL-Surveys 1999-2017

- Million hectares
  - 1999: 11.0
  - 2000: 15.0
  - 2001: 17.3
  - 2002: 19.9
  - 2003: 25.7
  - 2004: 28.3
  - 2005: 31.5
  - 2006: 34.5
  - 2007: 36.3
  - 2008: 37.5
  - 2009: 37.6
  - 2010: 43.2
  - 2011: 44.4
  - 2012: 46.8
  - 2013: 50.9

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Growth of the organic agricultural land by continent 1999-2015
Source: FiBL-IFOAM-SOIL-Surveys 1999-2017

Growth of the organic agricultural land by continent 2007-2015
Source: FiBL-IFOAM survey 2009-2017

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The ten countries with the largest areas of organic agricultural land 2015

Source: FiBL survey 2017

- Australia: 22.7 million hectares
- Argentina: 3.1 million hectares
- United States of America: 2.0 million hectares
- Spain: 2.0 million hectares
- China: 1.6 million hectares
- Italy: 1.5 million hectares
- France: 1.4 million hectares
- Uruguay: 1.3 million hectares
- India: 1.2 million hectares
- Germany: 1.1 million hectares

Countries with an organic share of 10 percent and more of the total agricultural land 2015

Source: FiBL survey 2017

- Liechtenstein: 30.2% share
- Austria: 21.3% share
- Sweden: 16.9% share
- Estonia: 16.5% share
- Sao Tome and Principe: 13.8% share
- Switzerland: 13.1% share
- Latvia: 12.8% share
- Falkland Islands (Malvinas): 12.5% share
- Italy: 11.7% share
- Czech Republic: 11.3% share
- Finland: 10.0% share

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- Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
- Confederation suisse
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- Swiss Confederation
- Swiss Confederation
- Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER)
- State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)
- International Trade Centre
- BIOFACH
- ORGANICS INTERNATIONAL
- IFOAM
Development of the organic land by land use type 2004-2015

Source: FiBL-IFOAM-SOEL-Surveys 1999-2017

- Arable crops
- Permanent crops
- Permanent grassland

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Infographics

The World of Organic Agriculture 2015

- Organic Market 2015
  - The global market is growing and consumer demand is increasing.
  - Approx. 75%
  - Global organic market in billion euros: 35.8
  - Top 3 countries (market in billion euros):
    - USA: 8.6
    - Germany: 5.5
    - France

- Organic Producers 2015
  - Number of organic producers is increasing.
  - 2.4 million organic farmers
  - +7.2% from 2014
  - Top 3 countries (number of producers):
    - India
    - Brazil
    - Mexico

- Organic Land 2015
  - Top 3 countries (land in millions of hectares):
    - Brazil: 22.7
    - Argentina: 3.1
    - USA: 2.0
  - Other regions:
    - Europe: 12 m
    - North America: 12 m
    - Africa: 12 m
    - South America: 12 m
    - Oceania: 12 m

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WORLD: ORGANIC PRODUCERS 2015

- World 2.4 Mio producers
- 35% in Asia
- +1'000% since 1999

The country with the most organic producers is India, followed by Ethiopia and Mexico.

More than 84% of the producers are in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

There has been an increase in the number of producers by more than 160'000, or over 7% since 2014.

WORLD: ORGANIC LAND USE 2015

- 10 Mio ha arable land
- +19% more permanent crops
- 65% grassland
- 39.4 Mio ha of wild collection

Arable land represents 0.7% of the world’s arable cropland, 10 Mio ha, and 19.8% of the world’s organic agricultural land. It increased by 12.9% over 2014.

Permanent crops represent 2.5% of the world’s permanent cropland, 4 Mio ha, and a 8% of the organic agricultural land. It increased by 19% over 2014.

Permanent grassland represents 1.0% of the world’s permanent grassland, 33.1 Mio ha, and a 60% of the organic agricultural land. It increased by 17% over 2014.

The organic wild collection areas are concentrated in Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
Further sessions on organic markets at BIOFACH 2017

Wednesday, February 15, 2017:
The World of Organic Agriculture at BIOFACH 2017
4 pm to 4.45 pm, Hall Shanghai (NCC East), BIOFACH Congress

The European market for organic food at BIOFACH 2017
5 pm to 5.45 pm, Room Copenhagen, (NCC East), BIOFACH Congress

Sourcing from Central and Eastern Europe - risks and benefits
4 pm to 5.30 pm, Room Budapest (NCC East), BIOFACH Congress

Thursday, February 16, 2017
Global Organic Market Overview - facts, trends and opportunities
10 am to 11.30 am, Room Istanbul (NCC East), BIOFACH Congress


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