

Organic Facts

Health impacts

- On average, there is 223 times less pesticide residues in the analyzed organic food than conventional food.
- Since 1980, more than 150 studies from 61 countries and regions of the world have found pesticides in adipose tissue in the brain, the blood, breast milk, liver, in the placenta, semen and the umbilical cord blood of human beings.
- On average, three pesticides are found in each baby.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that there are annually worldwide 1 million severe pesticide poisoning, with some 220 000 deaths
- Male fertility in developed countries has steadily declined over the past half-century, as evidenced by numerous studies. Concentrations in sperm have been halved since 1950.
- Children fed predominantly organic produce and juice had only one-sixth the level of pesticide by products in their urine compared with children who ate conventionally farmed foods.

Environment pollution

- Organic farming reduced the amount of water lost in drainage tiles by 41% and reduced nitrate-nitrogen levels in the water by 60%
- A U.S. survey has revealed the presence of at least one pesticide in the air of homes studied. Another highlights the presence of 8 to 18 different pesticides per dwelling.
- Nine long-term trials show that after an average of 10 years organic farming increases soil organic matter content by about 14% compared to conventional farming.
- A Canadian lifecycle study of canola, corn, soy, and wheat grown with a legume green manure found that emissions which contribute to global warming were reduced 23% by using organic practices and emissions of ozone-depleting chemicals declined 83% by using organic practices.

Biodiversity

- Organic farming usually increases species richness, having on average 30% higher species richness and 50% more of individual than conventional farming systems.
- Diversity of bee species is three times higher the number of individuals is seven times higher than on conventional surfaces.

Nutrient density

- Researchers in the UK estimate eating organic fruits and vegetables could extend life expectancy 17 days for women and 25 days for men due to the increased nutrient levels.
- The results of the 10-year study showed that the level of quercetin, the major flavonoid found in tomatoes, was 79% higher in organic tomatoes than in non-organic. Levels of kaempferol were 97% higher in the organic tomatoes.

Economic

- The results of the study also revealed that organic corn, soybeans, and winter wheat produced 90 percent as well as the same crops produced in a conventional manner
- Organic crop production consumes, on average, 39% of the energy utilized by nonorganic production.
- The global organic food market was estimated at \$ 60.9 billion in 2010.
- We could double global food production in just 10 years using organic practices and other agro-ecological farming methods.
- Despite more than 70 years of chemical- and petroleum-reliant farming practices, about 1 billion people are malnourished or starving in today's world.
- Nearly 1.6 million farms certified organic farm were recorded in 2010. In some countries, statistics are not available, example in China. So, this number is underestimated.
- From 1999 to 2010, global acreage in the manner Organic has been multiplied by 3.5
- From 2000 to 2010, the number of organic farms has increased by 6.3

Sources

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