



**ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPER**

**Economics**

**GROWTH AND PRESENT STATUS OF ORGANIC FARMING IN INDIA AND GLOBAL LEVEL**

**KEY WORDS:** Organic Farming, Conventional Farming, Agriculture, Cultivation, Production, Innovation.

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**ABSTRACT**

Organic agriculture is growing rapidly as an alternative strategy to modern farming methods. India is home to 30% of total organic producers in the world having 2.30 million hectares. There has been a gradual increase in organic agricultural land in all the regions. According to the latest FIBL survey on organic agriculture worldwide, organic farming increases by 1.1 million hectares. Many countries are now focusing on organic farming because of healthy crops, fruits, vegetables that are produced purely by organic means, free from any harmful chemical fertilizers and pesticides and also eco-friendly. Organic farming is another way to overcome the problem of sustainability, global warming and food security. The present study attempts to analyse the Growth and Status of Organic Farming in India and Global level.

**1. Introduction**

Organic farming is an eco friendly technique which originates due to the adverse effect of chemical farming. The system of organic farming is based on an intimate understanding of nature's laws and rules. In today's terminology, it is a method of farming system which primarily aims at cultivating the land and raising crops in such a way, as to keep the soil and other biological materials along with bio-fertilizers. Organic agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of the soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation, and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.' (IFOAM-2018).

According to FIBL survey 2021 India holds a unique position among 187 countries practicing organic agriculture. India is home to 30% of total organic producers in the world having 2.30 million ha. A major relative increase of organic agricultural land was noted in recent past throughout the country.

**2. Objectives**

- To analyse the growth and present status of organic farming in India and global

**3. Methodology**

The present study is primarily based on secondary data collected on various aspects of organic agriculture (area, farmers) at both the country and world level. Also, information on various aspects of organic farming have been collected from various sources like published reports and official websites of Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), National Programme for National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP), National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF), journals, periodicals and newspapers etc.

**4. World scenario of Organic Agriculture**

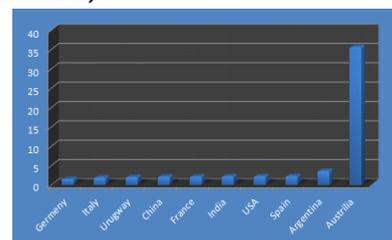
Organic Agriculture is practiced in 187 countries, and 73.3 million hectares of agricultural land were managed by 3.1 million farmers. Most of the organic agricultural land lies in Australia (35.69 m hectares) followed by Argentina (3.63m hectares) and the Spain (2.35 m hectares). There has been a gradual increase in organic agricultural land in all the regions. According to the latest FIBL survey on organic agriculture worldwide, organic farmland increased by 1.1 million hectares.

**Table-1. World scenario of Organic Agriculture land (million hectares)**

Name of the countries	Organic Agriculture Land (million hectares )
Germany	1.61
Italy	1.99
Uruguay	2.14
China	2.22
France	2.24
India	2.3
USA	2.33
Spain	2.35
Argentina	3.67
Australia	35.69

Source: FiBL Survey 2021

**Graph-1. World scenario of Organic Agriculture land (million hectares)**



Source: FiBL Survey 2021

**5. Present scenario of Organic Farming in India**

India continues to be the country with the Highest number of producers (13, 66,000) followed by Uganda (2, 10,000) and Ethiopia (2, 04,004). Organic farming is in the beginning stage in India. About 2.30 million hectares of farmland was under organic cultivation as of March 2019. A few states have taken the lead in improving organic farming. Madhya Pradesh alone concentrates around 27% of India's total organic cultivation area. The Economic Survey of 2022, highlighted government emphasis towards organic farming and it will considerably reduce the synthetic chemicals used in pesticides. The government has been supporting organic farming through multiple schemes like Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region, and Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme under Soil Health Management Scheme and so on. The top three states such as Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra account for about half the area under organic cultivation.

**Table-2. Growth and present status of Organic Farming in India**

Year	Area under Organic	Number of Farmers	Organic production
2015-16	19281.91	19355	6321661
2016-17	96291.6	173846	8760811
2017-18	6455.29	84618	17132676
2018-19	124989.9	166571	989255.1
2019-20	222369.6	365253	2047536
2020-21	7568.3	12074	3399520

Source: PGS-India Web Portal

The above table-2 explains that the area under organic production has variations from year to year and also number of farmers increased from 2015-16 to 2016-17 and again farmers who were practicing organic farming has ups and downs but the organic production has always had gradual increase from 2015-16 to 2020-21.

**6. Need for organic farming in India**

The rate at which the knowledge of organic farming is spreading in India is very slow. Farmers here are unaware of this technique; they prefer conventional farming gives product early, easily by using harmful chemical fertilizers and pesticides. For this some events should be organized through which the knowledge of organic farming and its advantages can reach the farmers.

**There are certain of steps organic farming, which includes;**

- Only organic seeds and plant materials are used in the organic farming. Use of genetically modified seeds and transgenic seeds are not allowed.
- Crop rotation is an important step in the organic farming; it helps to maintain the fertility of the soil and its health.
- In order to increase the fertility of soil organic farmer's use only bio fertilizes like plant manure, cow dung, buffalo dung, microbes and so on.
- Use of synthetic pesticides, herbicides, insecticides and fungicides are prohibited in organic farming.
- For protecting the plants Mulches, fleeces, insect netting and silage rapping and products made up of polycarbonate, polypropylene are allowed and it must be removed after use.
- A product can be sold as 'Organic Product ' only after the land has been under conversion period of twelve months.
- There is a need to balance between the environment and the livelihood due to the risks caused by conventional agricultural practices.
- Environmental sustainability needs to be maintained which can be achieved through organic farming.

**Conclusion**

India is best known as Agriculture oriented country since ancient times. Organic farming systems rely on the management of soil organic matter to enhance the chemical biological and physical properties of the soil. One of the basic principles of soil fertility management in organic systems is that plant nutrition depends on biologically derived nutrients. Most of the countries are focusing on organic farming because of healthy crops, fruits and vegetables. It has been found from the study that there is an increase in organic agricultural land in all the regions.

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