NORTH AMERICA 2.2 MILLION HA







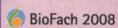
# THE WORLD OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

STATISTICS & EMERGING TRENDS 2008

ASIA 3.2 MILLION HA

EUROPE 7.4 MILLION HA

Eldgenössisches Volkswirtschaftsdepartement EVE Staatssekretariat für Wirtschaft SECO



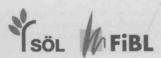


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EDITED BY
HELGA WILLER, MINOU YUSSEFI-MENZLER AND NEIL SORENSEN





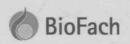
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### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Foreword Edition 2008	7
Acknowledgements	9
Sponsors	13
The World of Organic Agriculture 2008: Summary  Helga Willer, Neil Sorensen and Minou Yussefi-Menzler	15
CURRENT STATISTICS	
Organic Agriculture Worldwide: Current Statistics Helga Willer	23
Information Sources	
Information Sources: Overview Helga Willer	47
The Organics Trade Development Programme (OTDP) of the International Trade Centre (ITC)  Alexander Kasterine	51
THE GLOBAL MARKET FOR ORGANIC FOOD & DRINK	
The Global Market for Organic Food & Drink  Amarjit Sahota	53
STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS	
Standards and Regulations Beate Huber, Otto Schmid, Lukas Kilcher	59
East African Organic Products Standard and more Sophia Twarog	71
Number of Organic Certifiers Jumps to 468  Gunnar Rundgren	73
Accreditation  Gerald A. Herrmann	76
The ITF – the FAO/IFOAM/UNCTAD International Task Force on Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture  Sophia Twarog	78
Organic Aquaculture	
Organic Aquaculture Stefan Bergleiter	83
AFRICA	
Organic Farming in Africa Hervé Bouagnimbeck	90
Africa: Organic Farming Statistics	97

#### ASIA

Organic Asia 2007 Ong Kung Wai	102
Country Report: Organic Agriculture in Iran Hossein Mahmoudi and Abdolmajid Mahdavi Damghani	111
Asia: Organic Farming Statistics	113
EUROPE	
Europe: Statistics, Policy and Research Helga Willer	118
Cropping Patterns in the European Union 2006 (EU 27)  Diana Schaack	128
The European Market for Organic Food in 2006 Susanne Padel, Aleksandra Jasinska, Markus Rippin, Diana Schaack and Helga Willer	131
Trends in the Organic Retailing Sector in Europe 2007  Toralf Richter	140
Europe: Organic Farming Statistics	143
MEDITERRANEAN REGION	
Organic Farming in the Mediterranean Region: Towards Further Development  Lina Al-Bitar	149
Country Report: Organic Food and Farming in Egypt Paul Rye Kledal, Ahmed El-Araby and Sherif G. Salem	160
LATIN AMERICA	
Organic Farming in Latin America Pipo Lernoud	166
Latin America: Country reports Alberto Pipo Lernoud and Maia Loy	174
Latin America: Organic Farming Statistics	186
NORTH AMERICA	
United States Barbara Haumann	192
Canada Matthew Holmes	201
North America: Organic Farming Statistics	205
OCEANIA/AUSTRALIA	
Organic Farming in Australia  Els Wynen	208

Organic Farming in New Zealand Seager Mason	216
Organic Agriculture in the Pacific Karen Mapusua	221
Oceania/Australia: Organic Farming Statistics	226
Achievements Made and Challenges Ahead  Angela Caudle de Freitas and Gabriele Holtmann	227
Annex	233
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Alphabetical list of countries: Organic land, share of organic land, number of organic farms 2006

Organic agricultural land by country 2006, sorted by importance - Share of organic agricultural land by country, sorted by importance - Organic land use by country 2006

# Tables

Table 1: Countries covered by the global organic survey	25
Table 2: Organic agricultural land and farms by continent 2006	26
Table 3: Organic agricultural land by continent 2005 (consolidated data) and 2006 compared.	31
Table 4: Global organic agricultural land by main land use and crop categories	34
Table 5: Organic agricultural land by main main use and continent	35
Table 6: Consolidated data on organic agricultural land as of 31.12.2005	42
Table 7: Countries with regulations on organic agriculture	59
Table 8: Countries in the process of drafting regulations	61
Table 9: Content of the new EU Regulation on organic production	64
Table 10: Countries with largest number of certification bodies	73
Table 11: Number of certification bodies per region	74
Table 12: Number of certification bodies and approvals per region	75
Table 13: Organic agricultural land and farms in Africa 2006	97
Table 14: Use of organic agricultural land in Africa 2006	98
Table 15: Certified wild collection area in Africa 2006	98
Table 16: Domestic production and imports to Japan 2006	108
Table 17: Major organic products exported from India 2006/2007	110
Table 18: Organic agricultural land and farms in Asia 2006	113
Table 19: Use of organic agricultural land in Asia 2006	114
Table 20: Certified wild collection in Asia 2006	114
Table 21: Organic agricultural land and farms in Europe 2006	143
Table 22: Use of organic cropland in Europe 2006	144
Table 23: Certified wild collection in Europe 2006	144
Table 24: The European market for organic food 2006	139
Table 25: Organic farming in the Mediterranean: Land area and number of operators	153
Table 26: Organic coffee production in Latin American countries 2006	170
Table 27: Organic cocoa production in Latin American countries 2006	171
Table 28: Organic sugarcane production in Latin American countries 2006	171
Table 29: Organic agricultural land and farms in Latin America 2006	186
Table 30: Land use in Latin America	186
Table 31: Certified organic wild collection in Latin America 2006	187
Table 32: Organic agricultural land and farms in North America	205
Table 33: Land use in North America	205
Table 34: Organic agricultural land and farms in Oceania/Australia 2006	226
Table 35: Organic agricultural land use in Oceania/Australia 2006	226
Table 36: Alphabetical list of countries: Organic land, share of organic land,	
number of organic farms 2006	233
Table 37: Organic agricultural land by country 2006, sorted by importance	235
Table 38: Share of organic agricultural land by country, sorted by importance	237
Table 39: Organic land use by country 2006	238

# **Figures**

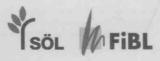
Figure 1: The ten countries with most organic land 2006	27
Figure 2: Distribution of global organic agricultural land by continent 2006	28
Figure 3: The ten countries with the highest shares of organic agricultural land 2008	29
Figure 4: Development of organic land 1998 – 2006	30
Figure 5: Development of organic farming 2005 – 2006 by continent	31
Figure 6: Distribution of organic farms by continent	32
Figure 7: Land use in organic agriculture by continent 2006	36
Figure 8: Development of organic wild collection areas 2005 – 2006	37
Figure 9: Organic wild collection areas by continent 2006	38
Figure 10: The ten countries with the largest wild collection areas 2006	39
Figure 11: Main crop types in organic wild collection 2006	39
Figure 12: The ten developing countries with most organic land 2006	40
Figure 13: Land use in developing countries 2006	41
Figure 14: Growth of the global market for organic food and drink 2002-2006	54
Figure 15: Distribution of global revenues by region 2006	57
Figure 16: Distribution of certification bodies by region 2007	74
Figure 17: Development of organic land area in Europe 1985-2006	118
Figure 18: The ten countries with the largest area of organic land in Europe 2006	119
Figure 19: Funding for organic food and farming research in 11 European countries 2006	122
Figure 20: The European market for organic food	132
Figure 21: Distribution of organic land in the Mediterranean 2006 (wild collection included)	152
Figure 22: Increase of organic land area in the Mediterranean 2004-2006 (wild collection included)	154
Figure 23: The ten countries with the largest organic areas in the Mediterranean	
(including wild collection) 2006.	155
Figure 24: Organic production and organic exports Bolivia	169
Figure 25: Development of certified organic land in Bolivia: Agricultural land and wild collection area	176
Figure 26: Development of organic agriculture in Colombia	179
Figure 27: Development of organic agricultural land and of export value in Mexico	181
Figure 28: Growth of the US market for organic food 1997-2006	192
Figure 29: Growth of the organic agricultural land and farms in the US 1995-2005	194
Maps	
Map 1: Organic agriculture worldwide 2006	15
Map 2: Organic farming in Africa 2006	
Map 3: Organic farming in Arica 2006	89
Map 4: Organic farming in Europe 2006	117
Map 5: Organic farming in Latin America 2006	165
Map 6: Organic Farming in North America 2006	
	191
Map 7: Organic Farming in Oceania/Australia 2006	207

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NORTH AMERICA	
United States Barbara Haumann	192
Canada Matthew Holmes	201
North America: Organic Farming Statistics	205
OCEANIA/AUSTRALIA	
Organic Farming in Australia  Els Wynen	208

Organic Farming in New Zealand Seager Mason	216
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Table 14: Use of organic agricultural land in Africa 2006	98
Table 15: Certified wild collection area in Africa 2006	98
Table 16: Domestic production and imports to Japan 2006	108
Table 17: Major organic products exported from India 2006/2007	110
Table 18: Organic agricultural land and farms in Asia 2006	113
Table 19: Use of organic agricultural land in Asia 2006	114
Table 20: Certified wild collection in Asia 2006	114
Table 21: Organic agricultural land and farms in Europe 2006	143
Table 22: Use of organic cropland in Europe 2006	144
Table 23: Certified wild collection in Europe 2006	144
Table 24: The European market for organic food 2006	139
Table 25: Organic farming in the Mediterranean: Land area and number of operators	153
Table 26: Organic coffee production in Latin American countries 2006	170
Table 27: Organic cocoa production in Latin American countries 2006	171
Table 28: Organic sugarcane production in Latin American countries 2006	171
Table 29: Organic agricultural land and farms in Latin America 2006	186
Table 30: Land use in Latin America	186
Table 31: Certified organic wild collection in Latin America 2006	187
Table 32: Organic agricultural land and farms in North America	205
Table 33: Land use in North America	205
Table 34: Organic agricultural land and farms in Oceania/Australia 2006	226
Table 35: Organic agricultural land use in Oceania/Australia 2006	226
Table 36: Alphabetical list of countries: Organic land, share of organic land,	
number of organic farms 2006	233
Table 37: Organic agricultural land by country 2006, sorted by importance	235
Table 38: Share of organic agricultural land by country, sorted by importance	237
Table 39: Organic land use by country 2006	238

# **Figures**

Figure 1: The ten countries with most organic land 2006	27
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Figure 3: The ten countries with the highest shares of organic agricultural land 2008	29
Figure 4: Development of organic land 1998 – 2006	30
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Figure 18: The ten countries with the largest area of organic land in Europe 2006	119
Figure 19: Funding for organic food and farming research in 11 European countries 2006	122
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Figure 21: Distribution of organic land in the Mediterranean 2006 (wild collection included)	152
Figure 22: Increase of organic land area in the Mediterranean 2004-2006 (wild collection included)	154
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(including wild collection) 2006.	155
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Maps	
Map 1: Organic agriculture worldwide 2006	15
Map 2: Organic farming in Africa 2006	89
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Map 5: Organic farming in Latin America 2006	165
Map 6: Organic Farming in North America 2006	191
Map 7: Organic Farming in Oceania/Australia 2006	
wap 1. Organic Parming in Oceania/Australia 2006	207

# Foreword Edition 2008

We herewith present the 2008 edition of the study 'The World of Organic Agriculture' documenting current statistics, recent developments and trends in global organic farming, The Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) and the Foundation Ecology & Agriculture (SOEL) have been compiling the global statistical yearbook since 2000, with the support of NürnbergMesse. Since 2000, the latest global organic figures have been presented annually at the BioFach Fair in Nuremburg, of which IFOAM is the patron.

For this edition, the statistical information and all chapters have been updated. New additions include chapters on organic aquaculture, the FAO/IFOAM/UNCTAD International Task Force on Harmonization and Equivalence in Organic Agriculture (ITF) and a detailed report on organic farming in the Pacific Islands.

We are very thankful to the authors for contributing in depth information on their continent, their country or their field of expertise. We would furthermore like to express our gratitude to information and data providers as well as the editors, who have made the publication of this yearbook possible. We think that this product improves with each edition, and this is due to the huge commitment of numerous experts from all over the world.

Many thanks are due to Udo Funke of NürnbergMesse, the organizer of BioFach, who financially supported this as well as earlier editions of this study.

Furthermore, we have two new sponsors: the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) / Economic Development and Cooperation and the International Trade Centre (ITC). We are very grateful to both for granting financial support for the global survey on organic farming.

Finally, we are very pleased to announce that this edition of 'The World of Organic Agriculture' is published in a hardcover edition by Earthscan (London, UK), and we are very grateful to Tim Hardwick at Earthscan for having initiated this cooperation. Earthscan is a leading publisher in environmentally sustainable development.

Bonn, Frick, Bad Duerkheim, February 2008

Angela Caudle de Freitas IFOAM Executive Director

Bonn, Germany

Urs Niggli Director FiBL Frick, Switzerland Uli Zerger Director SOEL Bad Duerkheim, Germany

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