

Organic Agriculture And Homestead Products

Dr.S.Shanthi

Assistant Professor, Department Of Economics, Annamalai University,

Chidambaram.

Introduction:

Organic merchandise is made from materials produced by organic agriculture. There are different types of organic products. However organic product is more known for food items like organic grocery, organic vegetables, organic certified food etc. Most aptly organic products can be explained as any products that are made or civilized organically should be treated as an organic product. Most of the country has very strict food safety and security strategy to protect consumers from consuming harmful products. The USDA organic regulations describe organic agriculture as the relevance of a set of cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that support the cycling of on-farm resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity. These include maintaining or ornamental soil and water quality; conserving wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife; sewage slush, irradiation, and genetic engineering. Organic production methods are those where at least 95% of the ingredients of agricultural origin are organic. Organic content less than 70% in products may not refer to organic production methods. These products play a very good and important role in our day to day life. This is the farming which uses only organic products such as peels of tomato, potato and other kind of fruits and vegetables it also includes the human waste and animal waste. Organic farming is defined as the put into practice of unindustrialized or rising of crops and other livestock devoid of using any inorganic chemical fertilizers, pesticides or any other genetically modified organisms. With organic farming, the productivity of the farming fields is enhanced along with economic growth, thus promising a sustainable environment. Let us see the importance objective problems faced and different types of it in this paper.

Types of Organic Farming

Organic farming is primarily of two types, namely:

1. Pure organic farming
2. Integrated organic farming

It involves the use of organic manures and bio pesticides only. That are used are derived from completely natural sources such as blood meal or bone meal.

It involves integrated nutrients management and integrated pest management. It is the type of farming where you grow crops from natural resources.

Technique and measures used in organic farming

Organic agriculture is a fabrication system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles personalized to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with unsympathetic 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.

Organic farming methods combine scientific acquaintance of ecology and some modern technology with traditional farming practices based on naturally occurring biological processes. Organic farming methods are studied in the field of agro ecology.

- **Crop rotation:** It is the technique to grow various kinds of crops in the same area, according to the different seasons, in a chronological way.
- **GREEN MANURE:** It refers to the dying plants that are uprooted and turned into the soil to make them act as a nutrient for the soil to increase its quality
- **BIOLOGICAL PEST CONTROL:** With this method, we use living organisms to control pests with or without the use of chemicals.
- **COMPOST:** Highly rich in nutrients, it is a second-hand organic matter used as a fertilizer in the agricultural farms

Methods of organic reproduction

1. **Soil Management:** After the cultivation of crops, the soil loses its nutrients and its quality depletes. Organic agriculture initiates the use of natural ways to increase the health of soil. It focuses on the use of bacteria that is present in animal waste which helps in making the soil nutrients more productive to enhance the soil.

Weed Management: - is the unwanted plant that grows in agricultural fields. Organic agriculture pressurizes on lowering the weed pretty than removing it completely.

Controlling other organisms: There are both useful and harmful organisms in the agricultural farm which affect the field. The growth of such organisms needs to be controlled to protect the soil and the

crops. This can be done by the use of herbicides and pesticides that contain fewer chemicals or are natural. Also, proper decontamination of the entire farm should be maintained to control other organisms.

Are some of the used in the organic farming

The basic Principals of Organic Farming are:

The principle of health, The principle of ecology, The principle of fairness and The principle of care.

The Principle of Health

The principle accentuate on the important of healthy soil. If the soil is healthy so it will grow healthy crops which will lead to healthy animals as well. If the crops are healthy so they will also create optimistic impact on human health and by eating healthy crops we will also get healthy body. So the most vital thing is to focus on healthy soil. In recent time people are getting very conscious about food safety because many diseases like lung diseases, food allergies and heart disease are allied with inorganic farming. In inorganic farming there are lots of chemical fertilizers used that we usually intake and it creates bad Impact on human health. So it's essential to avoid the use of chemical containing fertilizers, pesticides, HYV Seeds, insecticides and other chemical additives that may have negative effects on human health.

The Principle of Ecology

According to this principle fabrication of crops and animals should be based on the land that is nutrients enriched. The main objective of this principle is to attain ecological balance through the farming so it focuses on recycling. We can use lots of leftovers as potential compost rather than burning snippets using them as compost can also save environment from pollution. We should focus on reuse of inputs by recycling so we can enjoy better eminence of environment.

The Principle of Fairness

Organic farming is a strong supporter of fairness. Fairness means equity, respect, care and justice. This principle emphasize on the relationship fairness at each and every level and to all groups such as farmers, processors, distributors, suppliers and consumers. Every group should assure this that they will never impairment the environment, soil, water, animals or any other thing this is the basic intention of fairness principle.

The Principle of Care

This is another important principle of organic farming. This principle emphasize on responsibility that it's our responsibility to protect the land and environment from perilous substances. Without this it's impossible to accomplish any of the other goals. So this is the last and the most important principle.

Advantages

Free of Poison:

Organic farming does not encompass the use of any artificial additives that can cause serious health issues if consumed. Most produce that is available today isn't fully safe to consume as a lot of them have traces of the artificial fertilizers and pesticides that were sprayed on them during growth. These chemicals have unsympathetic effects on the human body and can cause noxious diseases like cancer. Organic farming prevents this by foregoing all these poisonous additives and as an alternative substituting them with organic manure and more sustainable methods of crop fostering.

Healthier soil:

Spraying soil with artificial chemicals contaminates the soil and leaves the soil not able to thrive on its own. Crops grown in such soil also get contaminated. This makes a strong case as to why organic farming is needed to conserve our soil.

Helps combat soil erosion:

Organic farming not only helps maintain soil quality it also helps combat soil erosion. A study found that organically maintained farms had 8 more inches of top soil compared to farms that had chemically treated crops and soil.

Organic farming fosters biodiversity.

The expansion of intensive modern agriculture, with its monoculture crops and intense use of pesticides and herbicides, threatens endangered species. Rare plants are indiscriminately sprayed with herbicides, along with more common weeds. Insecticides eliminate the prey of many birds, and small mammals may be poisoned too. Organic farms, in contrast, use no herbicides, fewer pesticides, have more organic matter in the soil, and tolerate hedges or other uncultivated areas. All this makes them a haven for endangered species of plants, insects, birds, and animals. In a survey of the evidence published in the journal *Biological Conservation* in 2005, scientists reviewed 76 separate studies comparing the impact of organic and conventional farms on such things as plants, soil microbes, earthworms, spiders, butterflies, beetles, birds, and mammals. They found that the majority of these studies demonstrated that the abundance and richness of species tends to be higher on organic farms.

Organic farming reduces pollution from nitrogen run-off.

Conventional agriculture relies profoundly on synthetic fertilizers, especially nitrogen. World-wide, the use of nitrogen as a fertilizer has increased tenfold in the last fifty years. Half to two-thirds of this nitrogen makes its way into rivers and other ecosystems, affecting both freshwater and marine environments. Fertilizers, would dramatically reduce water pollution from nitrogen, and so shrink the dead zones.

Organic farming avoids the heavy pesticide and herbicide use typical of conventional farming.

Conventional farming relies heavily on pesticides, including insecticides and herbicides. Pesticide use per acre more than doubled between 1931 and 1997. During the 1990s, the United States Geological Survey collected more than 8,000 water and fish samples across the country and analyzed them for 76 different pesticides. Some key findings were:

Organic farmers are permitted to use only a very limited range of insecticides, selected because they are natural products or their safety is well-established. Hence, organic farms will not, to the same extent as conventional farms, release insecticides into the air or nearby rivers. They are not permitted to use any herbicides at all.

5. Organic farming uses less energy for a given yield than conventional farming.

Organic farms do not use synthetic fertilizers, the construct of which requires a lot of energy. According to a study funded by the British Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, organic crops used 35 percent less energy per unit of production and organic dairying 74% less.

Disadvantages:

Synthetic chemicals are still in use in organic farming.

In the U.S., organic foods are classically free of imitation pesticides. There are, however, some exceptions to the rule. Organic farmers who can provide that natural pesticides have not worked to control pests are tolerable to use synthetic products under specific status. These farmers must show that cultural administration practices and other organic practices have botched frequently.

That means some organic foods being sold are exposed to the same chemicals and processes that commodity and conventional crops have – but with the higher organic prices. For some, that means there is no difference between the different products that are available in local markets.

Organic crops spoils faster.

Conventional foods are treated with waxes or preservatives to maintain their freshness at the time of the shipping process. Organic foods cannot receive the same treatments. For many products, that means organic versions will spoil faster than conventional versions. If product arrivals are delayed or mishandled for some reason, then an entire shipment or crop may never make it to the market for consumption.

It usually costs more to be competitive with organic farming.

Outside of the certification costs that are required to instigate organic farming in the first place, there are a number of additional start-up costs that must also be considered. Certain soil amendments, such as rock dust, are more expensive for countless farmers when compared to the traditional chemicals that may be used in commodity farming.

As soil conditions get better through organic farming processes, the costs in this group usually decline over time. Many organic farmers can maintain healthy soils through composting and other usual methods. That is not a guarantee, however, so some organic farmers may never see cost-savings increase over time compared to neighboring product farmers.

Conclusion:

Interest in organic agriculture methods is growing, especially in areas where the present farming system has besmirched resources essential to agricultural production. Non-production factors, such as the farmer's health, are also mentioned as a reason for shifting to organic executive. Consumers also have an interest in organic agriculture. Consumer awareness of the environmental costs of agriculture is increasing. The responsiveness of environmental quality and health is often promoted by environmental groups, especially in developed countries. The resulting demand for organic products creates the opportunity to sell organic products at first-class prices, enabling organic farmers to continue, and often inflate. Now India is at the crossroads. It has the conscientiousness of maintaining a reasonable bumper stock for over a trillion populations; it has to find solutions to the problems that have arisen out of the green revolution technologies, and their impact, particularly on declining soil fertility and productivity. There is a brawny lobby against going organic in its true spirit, fearing that the production would go down drastically and may turn the country into a 'begging bowl' to import food. However, to set right the soil conditions and to sustain the productivity on which 70 per cent of our population depends for their livelihood, it is imperative to go in for an alternative agriculture.

Reference

agrihomegh.com

brandongaille.com

ndtv.com

tranquilmonkey.com

byjus.com

cambridge.org