

ORGANIC FARMING : NEED OF INDIAN AGRICULTURE

SWATI P. DHOK AND SARIKA D. PATIL

Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, AKOLA (M.S.) INDIA

Organic agriculture is one among the broad spectrum of production methods that are supportive of the environment. According to Codex Alimentarius (FAO/WHO), organic agriculture is a holistic production management system, which promote and enhances agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles and soil biological activity (Ramesh, 2010).

The main aims of organic farming are to archive food and nutritional security, to encourage long term maintenance of soil fertility, crop productivity and soil health, to encourage and enhance biological cycles within the farming systems involving microorganisms, soil flora, soil fauna, plants and animals. This also help in conserving, developing and utilizing the natural resources in the efficient way to recycle/resuse biomass materials either on farm or elsewhere in order to minimize pollution that may result from agricultural practices. Biodegradable material of microbial, plant or animal origin shall form the basis of the fertilization programme in organic farming.

Objectives of organic farming :

- To produce sufficient quantities of high quality food/fiber/animal products.
- To maintain/increase long term fertility and biological acitivity of soils using locally adapted cultural/biological/mechanical methods as opposed to reliance in inputs.
- To use as far as possible renewable resources in production/processing system.
- To recognize the importance and protect and learn from indigenouos knowledge and traditional farming systems.
- To maintain and conserve genetic diversity through attention to on-farm management of genetic resources.
- To minimize all forms of pollution.
- To progress towards an entire production/

processing and distribution chain which is both socially just and ecologically responsible.

Advantages of organic farming :

- Conservation of Natural resources (soil, water, petroleum products, energy etc.)
- Enhances soil productivity.
- Prevent damage to ecosystem (soil, water, atmospheric pollution)
- Reduce-prevent entry of toxicants into the Food chain.
- Promote exports of Organic foods, fiber.
- Generates on-farm rural employment in developing countries.
- Encourages-promotes adoption of self sustaining production systems.

Importance of oragnic Agriculture :

- The demand for organic food is steadily increasing both in the developed and developing countries with an annual average growth of 20-25 per cent.
- Decline in productivity of soil.
- Indiscriminate use of pesticides affects human and animal health,



- biodiversity, wildlife and cause environmental pollution.
- High cost of input in conventional agriculture.
- Declining factor productivity.
- Deficiency of micronutrients.
- Global warming due to rise in carbon dioxide and temperatures.
- Growth rate of agriculture production (1.5 %) is much below the population growth rate (2.0 %). Our country to be economically strong should improve on agriculture and allied enterprises.

Components of organic farming :

- Development of suitable crop varieties through organic plant breeding and production of organic seed.
- Conservation tillage.
- Use of green manures.
- Crop diversity.

- Alley cropping, ley farming, crop rotations and intercropping.
- Nutrient management - organic waste recycling.
- Use of biofertilizers, bio pesticides and botanicals.
- Agro-forestry, agro-horticulture and agri-pastoral systems.
- Systematic use of natural resources.
- Adoption of farming systems suitable for different agro-climatic conditions basis.
- Availability of organic inputs.
- Convenience of use and agronomic efficiency.

Principal aims of organic farming as embodies in the IFOAM :

- To produce food of high nutritional quality in sufficient quantities.
- To interact in a constructive and life-enhancing way with natural systems and cycles.
- To encourage and enhance biological cycles within the farming system, increasing micro-organisms, soil fauna and flora, plants and animals.
- To maintain and increase long-term fertility of soils.
- To prepare the healthy use and proper care of

water, water resources and all life therein.

- To help in the conservation of soil and water.
- To use, as far as possible, renewable resources in the locally-organized agricultural systems.
- To work, as far as possible, with materials and substances which can be reused or recycled, either on the farm or elsewhere.
- To give all livestock life conditions which allow them to perform the basic aspects of their innate behaviour.
- To minimize all forms of pollution that may result from agricultural practices.
- To maintain the genetic diversity of the agricultural system and its surroundings including the protection of plant and wildlife habitats.
- To allow very one involved in organic production and processing a quality of life that conforms to the Human Rights charter to cover their basic need and obtain an adequate return and satisfaction from this work, including a safe working environment.
- To consider the wider social and ecological impact of the farming system.
- To produce nonfood products out of renewable resources, which are fully biodegradable.



HIND INSTITUTE OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Invitation INTRODUCING THE LATEST NAMES IN RESEARCH SPECIFIED JOURNALS & MAGAZINES

Hind Institute of Commerce and Business Management of Research sector invites proposal/consents from academicians and scientists for their incorporation in different bodies as Advisory/Executive/Editorial Board for the forth coming issues of the Journals published by the society.

Internationally Refereed Research Journal of the H.I.C.B.M.:

RNI : UPBIL/2008/24399

ONLINE ISSN : 0976-7940

ISSN : 0974-2646

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF COMMERCE AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

**HEAD OFFICE : ASHRAM 418/4, SOUTH CIVIL LINES,
NUMAISH CAMP, MUZAFFARNAGAR-251 001 (U.P.) INDIA**

Tale Fax : 0131-2622221, Mobile : 09410284909, 09457272369

**Website : www.hindagrihorticulturesociety.co.in; E.mail : hahs_2005@yahoo.com,
hahs_2005@indiatimes.com, hind_society@yahool.com, hind_society@indiatimes.com**

RNI : UPENG/2010/03625

ONLINE ISSN : 2231-6426

ISSN : 0976-5638

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PROCESSING AND
POST HARVEST TECHNOLOGY**

Internationally Refereed Research Journal

Visit : www.hindagrihorticulturalsociety.co.in