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# Organic Farming Newsletter

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<p><b>मुख्य संपादक Chief Editor</b> डा. कृष्ण चंद्र Dr. Krishan Chandra राष्ट्रीय जैविक खेती केन्द्र, गाजियाबाद National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad</p> <p><b>संपादक Editor</b> डा. सरिता मोवाडे Dr. Sarita Mowade क्षेत्रीय जैविक खेती केन्द्र, नागपुर Regional Centre of Organic Farming, Nagpur</p> <p><b>प्रकाशन सहायक Publication Assistant</b> हरि भजन Hari Bhajan सुभाष चन्द्र Subhash Chandra</p> <p><b>सलाहकार Advisor</b> डा. कृष्ण चंद्र Dr. Krishan Chandra अतिरिक्त आयुक्त Additional Commissioner कृषि एवं सहकारिता विभाग Department of Agriculture &amp; Cooperation कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi</p> <p><b>संपादकीय कार्यालय Editorial Office</b> राष्ट्रीय जैविक खेती केन्द्र National Centre of Organic Farming हापुड़ रोड, कमला नेहरू नगर, गाजियाबाद-2 Hapur Road, Kamla Nehru Nagar, Ghaziabad-2 ☎ 0120-2764212; 2764906; Fax 0120-2764901 Email : <a href="mailto:nbdc@nic.in">nbdc@nic.in</a>; website : <a href="http://ncof.dacnet.nic.in">http://ncof.dacnet.nic.in</a></p>	<p>Editorial</p> <p>Status of organic production, organic Input production and promotion of organic farming in India - Dr. Krishan Chandra, Dr. Krishna Bihari and Dr. V.K.Verma</p> <p>India Organic News</p> <p>Global Organic</p> <p>National and International Events</p> <p>Book Reviews</p> <p>List of participants of Certificate Course from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2012</p>	<p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>11</p> <p>16</p> <p>20</p> <p>26</p> <p>28</p>
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जैविक खेती सूचना पत्र, राष्ट्रीय जैविक खेती परियोजना के अन्तर्गत जारी एक बहुभाषीय तिमाही प्रकाशन है। जैविक खेती के उत्थान, प्रचार प्रसार व इसके नियामक तंत्र से जुड़े लेख, नयी सूचनाएं, नये उत्पाद, विशेषज्ञों के विचार, सफल प्रयास, नयी विकसित प्रक्रियाएं, सेमिनार-कॉन्फ्रेंस इत्यादि की सूचना तथा राष्ट्रीय व अन्तरराष्ट्रीय समाचार विशेष रूप से आमंत्रित हैं। सूचना पत्र में प्रकाशित विचार व अनुभव लेखकों के अपने हैं जिसके लिए प्रकाशक उत्तरदायी नहीं है।

Organic Farming Newsletter (OFNL) is a multilingual quarterly publication under National Project of Organic Farming. Articles having direct relevance to organic farming technology and its regulatory mechanism, development of package of practices, success stories, news related to conferences, seminars etc, and national and international events are especially welcome. Opinions expressed in articles published in OFNL are those of the author(s) and should not be attributed to the publisher.

## संपादकीय Editorial

प्रिय पाठको

पिछले कुछ वर्षों में जैविक खेती शुष्क एवं लघु उत्पादक क्षेत्रों में न केवल वैकल्पित व्यवस्था के रूप में उभरी है बल्कि खेती के एक ऐसे रूप में जो कि सतत पर्यावरण संरक्षा के साथ शुद्ध खाद्यान्न की उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करती है। जैविक खेती अब विश्व स्तर पर प्रमुख खेती के तौर पर अपना ली गयी है और इसके सामाजिक, व्यावसायिक एवं पर्यावरणीय स्तर पर आशाजनक परिणाम सामने आये हैं। जैविक उत्पादों एवं आदानों के प्रति देश में जागरूकता बढ़ रही है जो कि प्रमाणीकृत जैविक क्षेत्र में वृद्धि की सूचक है।

जैविक खेती में हुए आधुनिक विकास की जानकारी का विभिन्न माध्यमों एवं सूचना पत्रों द्वारा सूचना के प्रसार एवं व्यवस्थित दस्तावेजीकरण का इसके विकास में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान है। राष्ट्रीय जैविक खेती केन्द्र द्वारा जैविक खेती सूचनापत्र का प्रकाशन जैविक खेती में होने वाली गतिविधियों, अनुसंधान, राष्ट्रीय एवं अन्तरराष्ट्रीय समाचार, विभिन्न फसलों के लिए पैकेज आफ प्रैक्टिस, पुस्तक समीक्षा के साथ एक सूचनाप्रद प्रकाशन साबित हुआ है। पाठकों की ओर से भी इस प्रकाशन को व्यापक सराहना मिली है। इसी कड़ी में प्रस्तुत अंक जैविक उत्पादन एवं जैविक आदानों के उत्पादन की स्थिति की जानकारी के साथ है। इसके अतिरिक्त जैविक आदान उत्पादन का औद्योगिक विकास, विभिन्न जैविक आदानों का आविर्भाव, जैविक आदानों के उपयोग में वृद्धि, जैविक आदानों की गुणवत्ता में सुधार, व्यावसायिक स्तर पर गुणता युक्त जैविक आदानों के विपणन के लिए फ्रेमवर्क तैयार किया गया है। इसलिए अन्य स्थायी स्तम्भों के साथ इस अंक में जैविक आदान उत्पादन की स्थिति को शामिल किया गया है। आशा है यह अंक आपको उपयोगी एवं सूचनाप्रद लगेगा। प्रकाशन को और अधिक जानकारी युक्त एवं उपयोगी बनाने हेतु आपके लेख, सुझाव तथा विचार आमंत्रित हैं।

In the recent years the organic farming has emerged not only as an alternative strategy in rainfed and low productive zones, but also as a diversified form of agriculture which has ensured safe food with environmental sustainability. Organic farming is now being embraced by mainstream world over and showing great promise commercially, socially and environmentally. The awareness for organic products as well as inputs is also growing in country and gradual increase in certified organic area is an index of this increased awareness.

Documentation and dissemination of information on latest development in this area through different channels and newsletters has significantly contributed to this growth. Quarterly publication of Organic Farming Newsletter by National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad has been proved to be a complete and exhaustive package on recent happenings in organic agriculture, research developments, National and international current news, package of practices on different crops colorful national and international events and also the reviews of different recently published books on organic farming. All the volume series of this newsletter has been widely appreciated by the readers. In continuation of our sincere efforts and dedications, this current issue is presented with the statewise picture of total organic production including wild production. Beside this, country has witnessed significant progress in development of organic inputs production industries, launching of various organic inputs, increased use of organic inputs, improved quality of organic inputs, introduction of regulatory framework for ensuring quality of commercially traded inputs. So, statewise status of organic inputs production has been presented in this issue with different permanent columns of national and global news, books review, national and international events. Hope you will find this issue more informative and fruitful. To make this publication more informative, I invite your contribution and constructive suggestions.

Dr. Krishan Chandra  
Editor

## Status of organic production, organic Input production and promotion of organic farming in India

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**Organic Farming :** Organic Farming is a system which avoids or largely excludes the use of synthetic inputs (such as fertilizers, pesticides, hormones, feed additives etc.) and to the maximum extent feasible rely upon crop rotations, crop residues, animal manures, off-farm organic waste, mineral grade rock additives and biological system of nutrient mobilization and plant protection.

**Role of Organic Farming in agriculture :** Organic methods of farming are beneficial for maintaining soil health. Soil health refers to the capacity of a soil to function within ecosystem boundaries to sustain biological productivity, maintain environmental quality and promote plant and animal health. In the context of agriculture, it may refer to its ability to sustain plant and animal productivity and diversity. A healthy soil would ensure proper retention and release of water and nutrients, promote and sustain root growth, maintain or enhance water and air quality, maintain soil biotic habitat, respond to management and resist degradation.

Organic manures include farmyard manure (containing a mixture of cattle dung and remnants of straw and plant stalks fed to the cattle), compost (decomposed waste plant material and night soil), green manure (such as dhaincha and berseem), oilcakes and biofertilizers. Role of organic manures is important to sustain sound soil health. Organic manures increase soil carbon, facilitating microbial activity in soil leading to build up of nutrients in soil through natural means.

**Emergence of Organic Agriculture in India:** Since time immemorial different kinds of organic manures have been used to improve and sustain soil fertility. The growth of organic agriculture in India has three dimensions and it is being adopted by farmers for different reasons. **First** category of organic farmers are those which are situated in no-input or low-input use zones and have been practicing organic farming as a way of life traditionally. **Second** category of farmers are those which have recently adopted the organic farming as a result of ill effects of excessive use of chemical inputs leading to reduced soil fertility, food toxicity or increasing cost and diminishing returns. The **third** category comprises of farmers and enterprises which have systematically adopted the commercial organic agriculture to capture emerging market opportunities and premium prices. While majority of farmers in first category are traditional (or by default) organic they are not certified, second category farmers comprised of both certified and un-certified but majority of third category farmers are certified.

### Categorization of Organic Farming

**Cultivable Area vs Wild Harvest Area Collection:** Under organic certification system, both the cultivable as well as wild harvest collection area can be certified. A wild harvest collection is "any plant or portion of a plant that is collected or harvested from a site which is not maintained under cultivation or other agriculture management". The act of collection of Wild Harvest should positively contribute to the maintenance of natural areas. A Wild Crop that is intended to be

sold, labeled or represented as 'Organic' must be harvested from a designated area that had no application of prohibited substances. A Wild Crop must be harvested in a manner that ensures that such harvesting or gathering will not be destructive to the environment and will sustain the growth and production of Wild Crop.

### Organic Produce and Certified Organic Produce:

As it is clear that organic farming is taking place on commercial line, by default or by tradition and also as wild harvest. In prevailing conditions it is very difficult to collect data on all types of organic production, especially that of by default or by tradition. Since marketing of organic produce requires certification so as to give confidence to consumers. Thus only data which is available is about certified organic produce. This data is being collected by APEDA under NPOP.

### Organic Certification Agencies: APEDA

gives accreditation to certification agencies, for certifying the organic produce. At present there are 24 accredited certification agencies. The certification agencies are required to comply with ISO-65 standards and other requirements as per criteria prescribed under NPOP.

List of accredited certification bodies under Organic Farming

Sl. No.	Name of the Certification Agency
1.	Bureau Veritas Certification India Pvt. Ltd., Marwah Centre, Krishanlal Marwah Marg, Andheri (East), Mumbai-400 072.
2.	ECOCERT India Pvt. Ltd., Bunglow No.21A, Shrirang City, Paithan Road, Aurangabad-431 005.
3.	IMO Control Pvt. Ltd., No.3627, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, 7 <sup>th</sup> Cross, 13 <sup>th</sup> G Main, HAL 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stage, Bangalore-560 008.
4.	Indian Organic Certification Agency (INDOCERT), Thottumugham, PO Aluva, Cochin-683 105.
5.	Lacon Quality Certification Pvt. Ltd., Chenathra, Theepany, Thiruvalla – 689 101 (Kerala).
6.	Natural Organic Certification Agency (NOCA), Flat No.2, First Floor, Karan Plaza-II, Warje, Pune – 411 058.
7.	OneCert Asia Agri Certification Pvt. Ltd., H-08, Mansarovar Industrial Area, Mansarovar, Jaipur – 302 020.
8.	SGS India Pvt. Ltd., 226, Udyog Vihar,

	Phase-1, Gurgaon – 122 016 (Haryana).
9.	Control Union Certifications, Plot No. C-113, Pawane MIDC, Navi Mumbai – 400 709.
10.	Uttarakhand State Organic Certification Agency (USOCA), House No.12, Vasant Vihar Phase-II, Dehradun – 248 001.
11.	APOF Organic Certification Agency (AOCA), 126, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Govindappa Road, Gandhi Bazar, Bangalore - 560 004.
12.	Rajasthan Organic Certification Agency (ROCA), 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Pant Krishi Bhawan, Janpath, Jaipur – 302 005.
13.	Vedic Organic Certification Agency, Plot No.55, Ushodaya Enclave, Mythinagar, Miyanagar, Hyderabad – 500 050.
14.	ISCOP (Indian Society for Certification of Organic Products), Rasi Building, 162/163, Ponnaiyarajapuram, Coimbatore – 641 001 (Tamil Nadu).
15.	Food Cert India Pvt. Ltd., 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, Plot No.69, Sree Nagarjuna Cooperative Society, Punjagutta, Hyderabad - 500 082.
16.	Aditi Organic Certifications Pvt. Ltd., No.531/A, Priya Chambers, Rajajinagar, 1 <sup>st</sup> Block, Bangalore – 560 010.
17.	Chhattisgarh Certification Society, India (CGCERT), A-25, VIP Estate, Khamhardih, Shankar Nagar, Raipur – 492 007.
18.	Tamil Nadu Organic Certification Department (TNOCD), 1424 A, Thadagam Road, GCT Post, Coimbatore – 641 013.
19.	Intertek India Pvt. Ltd., E-20, Block B-1, Mohan Cooperative Industrial Estate, Mathura Road, New Delhi – 110 044.
20.	TUV India Pvt. Ltd., 801, Raheja Plaza-1, LBS Marg, Ghatkopar (West), Mumbai – 400 086.
21.	Biocert India Pvt. Ltd., 74, Sarthak Residency, Sector –D, Shivdham, Khandwa Road, Indore – 452 007.
22.	MP State Organic Certification Agency, Vasundhara, B-II Office Complex, Gautham Nagar, Bhopal – 462 023.
23.	Export Inspection Agency(EIA) – 2nd Floor, Thakkar Bapa Smarak Sadan, Dr. Ambedkar Marg, New Delhi – 110 055.
24.	Odisha State Organic Certification Agency (OSOCA), Plot No. 326, Baramunda, Bhubneshwar – 751 003.

### Area, Production and Exports

**Area**-Currently, India ranks 33rd in terms of total land under organic cultivation and 88th position for agriculture land under organic crops to total farming area and during the year 2011-12 cultivable area under organic certification was 1.08 million hectare and wild harvest collection area was 4.48 million hectares, respectively. The total land under organic certification (cultivable and wild collection area) stands at 4.5

million hectare, 4.4 million hectare and 5.5 million hectare during the years 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively (Source : APEDA).

**Production-** In year 2010-11, India produced around 3.88 million MT of certified organic products which includes all varieties of food products namely Basmati rice, Pulses, Honey, Tea, Spices, Coffee, Oil Seeds, Fruits, Processed food, Cereals, Herbal medicines and their value added products. The production is not limited to the edible sector but also produces organic cotton fiber, garments, cosmetics, functional food products, body care products, etc.

**Exports-**India exported 86 items in year 2010-11 with the total volume of 69837 MT. The export realization was around Rs. 699 crores registering a 33% growth over the previous year. Organic products are mainly exported to EU, US, Australia, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, South Africa and Middle East. Oil Crops (except Sesame) leads among the products exported (17966 MT). During the year 2011-12, India exported 300 products (including processed items) under 19 product categories. The total volume was 115417 MT realizing Rs. 839 crores. It is anticipated that the export market for Indian organic products will increase by at least 60-70% per annum in the coming years. Volume of Production and Export data for last four years is at **Table - 1**.

Table – 1 : Volume produce, export and value of export organic cash and food crops grown in the country during each of the last four years

Year	Production (in million tons)	Export Quantity (MT)	Value of export (Rs. in crore)
2008-09	1.62	44476	536.90
2009-10	1.70	58408	525.50
2010-11	3.88	69837	699.00

Source: APEDA

Since June 2012 APEDA has implemented a new system of Internet based electronic service known as TRACENET, for facilitating process certification for export of organic products from India which comply

with the National standards. Trace Net collects, stores and reports - forward and backward traces and quality assurance data entered by the operators / producer groups and certification bodies within the organic supply chain in India.

**Major Crops under Organic Cultivation:**

In year 2010-11, India produced around 3.88 million MT of certified organic products which includes all varieties of food products namely Basmati rice, Pulses, Honey, Tea, Spices, Coffee, Oil Seeds, Fruits, Processed food, Cereals, Herbal medicines and their value added products. The production is not limited to the edible sector but also produces organic cotton fiber, garments, cosmetics, functional food products, body care products, etc. Commodity-wise production details of top ten products (2011-12) is at Table – 2.

Table – 2 : Commodity-wise Production Details of Top Ten Products (2011-12)

Sl. No.	Product Name	Organic Production (MT)	In Conversion Production (MT)	Total Production (MT)
1.	Cotton	107591	3792	111383
2.	Cereals & Millets (excluding rice)	33888	6898	40786
3.	Rice (Basmati & non Basmati)	17345	5329	22674
4.	Pulses	12504	453	12957
5.	Fruits and Vegetables	7801	427	8228
6.	Tea	5272	1.0	5273
7.	Oil Seeds excluding Soyabean	2835	15	2850
8.	Coffee	1139	238	1377
9.	Dry Fruits	490	32	522
10.	Medicinal & Herbal Plants	189	0	189

Source: APEDA

**Government Interventions to Promote Organic Farming**

**National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF):**

Under NPOF, financial assistance is provided as credit linked back ended subsidy through NABARD for setting up of fruit/vegetable waste/agro-waste compost unit @ 33% of the total cost of project upto

Rs. 60.00 lakh per unit and @ 25% of the total cost of project upto Rs. 40.00 lakh per unit of bio-fertilizer/ bio-pesticides production units. Assistance provided to the States during previous three years and current year is at Table 3. NPOF is being implemented through the National Centre of Organic Farming (NCOF) at Ghaziabad and six Regional Centers of Organic Farming (RCOFs) at Bangalore, Bhubaneswar, Hisar, Jabalpur, Imphal and Nagpur.

Table – 3 : State wise details of subsidy approved under Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) of NPOF through NABARD for Organic Input Production (Rs. in lakh)

Name of State	Amount of Subsidy Approved (Lakh Rs.)			
	2009 - 10	2010 - 11	2011 - 12	2012 - 13 *
Andhra Pradesh	0.00	19.90	40.00	20.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	3.91	0.37	30.19	0.00
Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Chhattish Garh	0.00	0.00	1.50	0.00
Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Haryana	0.00	50.81	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
J & K	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	7.58	119.07	0.00	0.00
Kerala	33.65	0.00	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	2.59	0.00	0.00	2.25
Maharashtra	27.31	24.50	51.74	11.53
Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Orissa	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Punjab	99.22	37.71	26.57	0.00
Rajasthan	111.22	22.50	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	14.00	10.59	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0.00	0.00	20.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	12.00	2.04	1.15	0.00
Uttarakhand	0.00	17.50	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	311.48	304.99	171.15	109.74 **

\*upto Dec. 2012.

\*\*\*Details of subsidy amount of Rs. 75.96 lakh is awaited from NABARD

**National Project on Management of Soil Health and Fertility (NPMSHF):** Under this scheme, assistance @ Rs.500 per ha for

promoting use of Integrated Nutrient Management-Organic Manures is provided. Achievement for the three years is at Table 4.

Table – 4 : Statement indicating year-wise fund sanctioned under promotion of organic manure and Field Demonstrations under the scheme National Project on Management of Soil Health & Fertility (NPMSH&F)

Sl. No	State	Year wise Expenditure (Rs. Lakh)		
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	56.20	0	114.40
2.	Bihar	60.00	0	0.00
3.	Himachal Pradesh	23.00	0	0.00
4.	Jharkhand	10.80	0	0.00
5.	Karnataka	76.50	0	0.00
6.	Kerala	65.10	0	0.00
7.	Manipur	50.00	0	0.00
8.	Tripura	55.00	0	0.00
9.	Haryana	0.00	6.00	0.00
10.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	0.80	0.00
11.	Gujarat	0	0	35.00
12.	Fert Cos.	2.60	5.00	0.00
	Total	399.20	11.80	149.40

Note: The Scheme became operational w.e.f. November, 2008.

**National Horticulture Mission (NHM):** Under NHM, financial assistance is provided @50% of cost subject to maximum of Rs.10,000/- per hectare limited to 4 hectare per beneficiary for organic cultivation of horticultural crops. Assistance is also being provided for setting up of vermicompost units @50% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 30,000/- per beneficiary. Besides, assistance is being provided for organic farming certification @Rs.5.00 lakh for a group of farmers covering an area of 50 hectare. Assistance provided to the States during previous three years is at **Table - 5**.

Similar assistance is also provided under the Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH). Assistance provided to the States during previous three years under HMNEH is at **Table - 6**.

Table – 5 : State-wise details of financial assistance under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for Promotion of Organic Farming (Rs. in Lakhs)

State	Year wise Financial Assistance		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Andhra Pradesh	204.00	282.77	378.25
Bihar	169.83	0.00	6.38
Chhattisgarh	901.00	1007.25	1462.72
Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
Goa	5.10	0.51	2.55
Gujarat	66.97	127.50	63.80
Haryana	274.64	79.48	36.86
Jharkhand	25.50	17.47	63.75
Karnataka	752.25	325.47	237.15
Kerala	0.00	278.80	140.25
Madhya Pradesh	488.75	64.18	0.00
Maharashtra	1.28	162.35	0.00
Orissa	89.25	0.00	76.50
Punjab	637.50	35.28	67.36
Rajasthan	105.23	63.76	48.88
Tamil Nadu	23.71	12.75	21.25
Uttar Pradesh	152.24	78.63	73.10
West Bengal	0.00	77.02	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3897.25</b>	<b>2613.22</b>	<b>2678.80</b>

Table - 6 : Financial Assistance provided for promotion of organic Farming under Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH) during last five years (Rs. in lakh)

States	Financial Assistance Provided		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Arunachal Pradesh	131.00	25.80	123.48
Assam	173.10	28.60	35.60
Manipur	78.00	51.30	110.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	126.20	152.00	16.50
Nagaland	190.00	81.50	123.00
Sikkim	315.25	332.48	492.50
Tripura	141.00	130.40	79.40
Jammu & Kashmir	61.50	67.25	117.10
Himachal Pradesh	107.00	216.28	398.21
Uttarakhand	84.31	201.00	53.60
<b>Total</b>	<b>1407.36</b>	<b>1286.61</b>	<b>1549.39</b>

**Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY):** RKVY is a State Plan scheme launched in 2007-08 giving flexibility and autonomy to the States in planning, selecting and

executing projects in agriculture and allied sectors as per their priorities and agro-climatic situation. Assistance approved for schemes relating to organic farming to the States during previous three years is at **Table - 7.**

Table – 7 : State-wise details of assistance for Promotion of Organic Farming given under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) during last three years (Rs. in Lakh)

Name of State	Amount of assistance approved		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Andhra Pradesh	12.00	71.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	5.00	0.00	0.00
Assam	0.00	450.00	900.00
Bihar	0.00	3264.00	10105.00
Chattisgarh	230.00	1200.00	0.00
Goa	0.00	0.00	18.00
Gujarat	197.00	280.00	10816.00
Haryana	155.00	0.00	151.00
Himachal Pradesh	330.00	1163.00	1005.00
Jammu & Kashmir	87.00	331.00	79.00
Jharkhand	0.00	90.00	158.00
Karnataka	0.00	50.00	2800.00
Kerala	2.00	0.00	123.00
Madhya Pradesh	380.00	1126.00	440.00
Maharashtra	0.00	0.00	0.00
Manipur	0.00	35.00	282.00
Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0.00	104.00	150.00
Orissa	442.00	1115.00	0.00
Punjab	0.00	1350.00	0.00
Rajasthan	2235.00	675.00	367.00
Sikkim	196.00	0.00	250.00
Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tripura	40.00	115.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	398.00	1537.00	1656.00
Uttarakhand	1151.00	0.00	1331.00
West Bengal	56.00	35.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5916.00</b>	<b>12991.00</b>	<b>30631.00</b>

**Network Project on Organic Farming of ICAR:** In order to promote organic farming in the country, the council has developed technology for preparation of enriched / vermicompost from various rural and urban waste. Besides, improved and efficient strains of biofertilizers specific to different crops and oil types are being developed

under Network Project on Biofertilizers. The ICAR also imparts training, organizes frontline demonstrations etc. to educate farmers on these aspects. ICAR during 10<sup>th</sup> plan, initiated a Network Project on Organic Farming with lead centre at Project Directorate for Farming Systems Research, Modipuram with the objective of developing package of practices of different crops and cropping systems under organic farming in different agro-ecological regions of the country. The project is running on 13 cooperating centres, spread over 12 states and is still continuing.

#### **Agricultural and Processed Food Development Export Authority (APEDA):**

To provide a focused and well directed development of organic agriculture and quality products, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India launched the National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) in the year 2000, which was formally notified in October, 2001 under the Foreign Trade & Development Act (FTDR Act). Regulatory body of NPOP under FTDR act is Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) under Ministry of Commerce. As a Secretariat to NPOP, the various activities of APEDA involved in the implementation of NPOP are:

- Updating the national standards for organic production.
- Evaluation of Certification bodies for accreditation.
- Accreditation of Certification Bodies.
- Surveillance of Certification Bodies to maintenance of uniform system of operations as per ISO 65.
- Bilateral negotiations with the importing countries for recognition of equivalence
- Data Management for Organic Products through web – based traceability system for enhancing the credibility of certification system has been developed and expected to be implemented by March 2010.
- All other activities related to implementation of NPOP (conveying to National Steering Committee (NSC),

National Accreditation Body (NAB) and Technical Committee (TC).

#### **Status of Organic Farming in States :**

Nine States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Sikkim and Mizoram have drafted organic farming policies. Out of these, 4 States viz; Uttarakhand, Nagaland, Sikkim and Mizoram have declared their intention to go 100% organic. Sikkim has already converted nearly 40% of its total cultivated area under organic and has set a target to convert entire state to organic by 2015. Other States have also defined schemes to promote organic farming.

#### **Regulation of Organic Products based on defined Standards**

**Regulatory Framework:** For quality assurance, the country has internationally acclaimed certification process for organic produce in place for export, import and domestic markets. The National Programme on Organic Production (NPOP) launched in 2000 under Foreign Trade Development and Regulation (FTDR) Act (administered by Department of Commerce) defines the regulatory mechanism for export. NPOP has earned equivalence with European Union and Switzerland. USDA has accepted the conformity assessment system of NPOP. This means that any produce certified by Indian agencies can be exported to these countries without the requirement of recertification.

**Domestic Market:** For domestic market, same certification norms have been notified in 2009 under the Agriculture Produce (Grading & Marking) Act. Certification under this act is voluntary and AGMARK does the accreditation.

**PGS Certification:** Participatory Organic Guarantee System is an alternative farmer group centric low cost alternative certification system that gives quality assurance initiatives that are locally relevant, emphasize the participation of stakeholders, including producers and consumers and operate outside the frame



of third party certification. A process whereby people in similar situations (in this case small holder producers) in some way assess the production practices of their peers. This process can be formal or informal. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation under the National Project on Organic Farming has launched "PGS-India" programme during the year 2011 and 20 Regional Councils has been appointed under the programme so far and the registration of farmers is under process by the respective Regional Councils. A dedicated portal for PGS-India under the National Project on Organic Farming (NPOF) is under development and once it is fully operational, it may provide marketing avenues for domestic market for the farmers groups registered under the programme.

#### **Awareness Generation on Organic Farming through Extension Activities :**

Though there is no specific programme/ scheme in Extension on creating awareness on Organic Farming, activities under different schemes of Extension Division create awareness about different agricultural development initiatives by the Government of India and new technologies which include organic farming also. A multi-tiered extension strategy has been adopted under these schemes. On mass media front; awareness campaigns are being run on electronic audio-visual media (TV and radio), newspapers and brochures/ leaflets. A farmer friendly hand-book for farmers has also been already published in some regional languages. Besides, decentralized modes of extension such as Farm Schools, Demonstration Plots, Exposure Visits etc., Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode and ICT tools are also being used to reach out to the farmers. Following Schemes in particular facilitate awareness about different agricultural programmes/ technologies amongst farmers:

**Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms :** The activities taken up under the scheme viz. frontline demonstrations, exposure visits, kisan melas, farmers' group mobilization, farm schools and farmers-scientists interaction

aim at creating awareness about new initiatives and technologies.

**Mass Media Support to Agricultural Extension :** Agriculture related programmes are broadcast through 180 Narrow Casting Centres, 18 Regional Centres & 1 National Centre of Doordarshan Kendras and 96 FM Station Radio for 30 Minutes, five/ six days a week. Besides this, a Focused Publicity Campaign is being implemented to create awareness about the assistance available under various schemes. The campaign at the national level is being implemented by way of short advertisements through Audio & Video Spots of 30 – 60 seconds duration.

**Agri-Clinic and Agri-Business Centres:** Since inception of the scheme, a total number of 30157 candidates have been trained and 11262 of them established Agri-ventures up to October, 2012. These agripreneurs providing services to farmers are also required to disseminate agriculture information on knowhow and agricultural technology to the farmers.

**Kisan Call Centres (KCCs):** This Scheme provides agriculture related information to the farming community through toll free telephone lines. A countrywide common eleven digit number 1800-180-1551 has been allotted for Kisan Call Centre. The number is accessible through all mobile phones and landlines of all telecom networks including private service providers. Replies to the farmer's queries are given in 22 local languages. Calls are attended from 6.00 am to 10.00 pm on all seven days of the week at each KCC location.

**Exhibitions and Fairs:** The Department is operating a scheme of Regional Agricultural Fairs being organized by State Agricultural Universities/ ICAR Institutes with the support of DAC in the five zones including North East to disseminate information to farming communities on development of agriculture.

**Awareness through NPOF Scheme:** Under National Project of Organic Farming, National Centre, Ghaziabad and its six

Regional Centres for Organic Farming organized various programmes for creation awareness among the farmers through various means viz. literature distribution, arranging of exhibitions, radio talks in regional languages, TV programmes, and newspaper coverage through press release. Besides this, NCOF is also publishing Organic Farming Newsletter quarterly and Biofertilizer Newsletter half yearly. Activities Performed by NCOF/ RCOFs for Human Resource Development through Training Programmes and Year-wise details of various publicity activities taken up under NPOF by NCOF and its six RCOFs during last three years and current year is at **Table 8**.

Table – 8 : Year-wise details of various publicity activities taken up under NPOF by NCOF and its six RCOFs (In Numbers)

Sl. No.	Activity	2009 -10	2010 -11	2011 -12
1	Literature distributed	1508 10	1304 71	6046 4
2	Exhibitions	18	18	7
3	Radio talks	86	64	52
4	TV Programme	66	52	37
5	News paper coverage	183	181	127
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1511 63</b>	<b>1307 86</b>	<b>6068 7</b>

\*\*\*\*\*

Biofertilizers and Organic Fertiliser have been included in the FCO, 1985. Bio-fertilizers are classified under Schedule-III Part-A of the FCO, 1985. Presently, Rhizobium, Azotobacter, Azospirillum, Phosphate Solubilizing Micro-organism (PSM), Potash Mobilizing bacteria, Zinc Solubilizing bacteria and Mycorrhizal Bio-fertilizer are included. Organic fertilizers are specified in Schedule-IV Part-A of FCO, 1985. Presently, city waste compost, vermi-compost, de-oiled castor cake and Phosphate rich Organic manure (PROM) are notified.

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## India Organic News

### **University of Agricultural Sciences encourages women to become agri-entrepreneurs**

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, has initiated a training programme to encourage rural women to take up sustainable income generating agricultural activities. Experts and four associate scientists from UAS have taken up 28 villages in four districts of Gadag, Dharwad, Uttar Kannada and Belgaum to impart training to rural women under the theme of 'Sustainable Income Generating Agricultural Activities'. The programme will motivate rural women to take up agricultural entrepreneurship and also provide technical inputs on potential areas in the agricultural sector suitable for commercial exploitation. The experts will train them on sustainable dairy farming through increased production of milk in dairies, producing vermicompost, growing vegetables at home with the help of organic farming and also how to pack and label their products. Training will also be imparted on how to prepare vegetable pickles, using vegetables grown in their fields. They are also getting trained in making herbal products using gooseberry and soapberries. Suma Hasalkar, Project Investigator, informed that, they had completed training in 17 villages of the targeted 28. Training will begin in the remaining villages in December and January. Twenty five interested women are chosen from each village for the Government-funded training. Experts from UAS are organizing seven-day training camps in these villages to educate the villagers on various aspects of agri-entrepreneurship and providing them information on various facilities available from the Government. Authorities of the UAS, said many rural women were already managing their own dairy and the university was only interested in teaching them scientific methods for better yield.

*(Source- Srinivas Reddy, Times of India, Hubli, TNN Dec 16, 2012)*

**Aurangabad's bitten by the organic bug-** Aurangabadkars seem to be taking a tip or

two from celebrities, at least as far as their lifestyle choices are concerned. They are following in the footsteps of celebrities like Ajay Devgan who is into organic farming, actresses Mahima Choudhary, Gwyneth Paltrow, Julia Roberts, filmmaker Kiran Rao and fashion designer Anita Dongre who are committed to organic products. The reasons for this switch are varied — some say they are fulfilling their environmental responsibility by using organic products and eating organic food, while others say, this choice is safer and healthier. One such person who has turned organic is Dr Amol Nirban. He says, "I am living an organic lifestyle now and it has changed my way of thinking." Dr Amol buys vegetables and spices from the organic market, and also dons organic cotton shirts. "We are also demanding for organic jute products to be made available," he says. By using these products from the local market, he feels that he is doing his bit for the environment. Another pro-organic product supporter is student Gauri Deshmukh. She uses only organic cosmetics "What you put on your skin is as important as what goes into your body. That's why I use only organic cosmetics. They are healthier and safer for the skin," she says. And while Gauri is inspiring fellow students to make this healthy choice, there are others who are doing the same with organic food. Sudarshana Nirban, an advocate, takes extra care to serve her children only organic food and beverages. "I don't want to feed my children pesticides and chemicals! Thus, we also have organic coffee and tea," she says. More people need to become aware of the benefits of going organic, feels Dr Selvam Daniel, Managing Director of a city-based inspection and certification agency for organic products. He particularly advocates the use of organic sugar or jaggery powder. Kuldeepak Deshpande, who is also an organic farmer and recently won the Krishi Bhushan Award from the State Government, adds, "Apart from personal benefits, this trend of organic farming helps us respect nature." Well, certainly seems like a win-win situation.

(Source- Auran Kirti Ranshoor, TNN Dec 14, 2012).

**Guava farming takes the organic path-** A pilot project of the Allahabad district Horticulture Department to cultivate Allahabad 'Surkha', also known as 'apple-colour', and Allahabad Safeda varieties of guava through organic farming has yielded desired results in several blocks of the district. In fact, guava cultivation is taken up on around 1,000 hectare of land in the district. Remarkably, guava cultivators are delighted to cultivate successfully a good quantity of guavas especially Allahabad Surkha and Allahabad Safeda in Dhanupur, Saidabad, Bahria, Jasra, Kaurihar-II, Bahadurpur and Shankargarh after investing a reasonable amount in fertilizers. The 'organic farming promotion programme' for cultivation of guava was launched by officials at the beginning of this year in seven blocks of the district. More importantly, the Department had imparted training to over 800 farmers under its programme with an aim to promote organic farming. "The blocks where organic farming for Allahabad Safeda was undertaken included Kaurihar-II, Jasra, Saidabad, Dhanupur and Bahria," said P K Shukla, District Horticulture Officer adding that farmers residing in other blocks had adapted to organic farming enthusiastically," he added. Officials assured farmers all sorts of assistance and tips on growing guava organically. Currently, farmers in Dhanupur, Kaurihar-II, Saidabad, Bahria and Jasra have more preferred to cultivate guava. The farmers have assured that they would be bringing other crops like tomato, cabbage, peas, ladyfinger, carrot, litchi under organic farming in future, informed Shukla. "We have selected these blocks for organic farming of guava after carrying out a complete study and found parameters like soil, nature, and productivity chances are suitable for organic farming of guava. He added that under the programme, the Department was apprising farmers about methods useful for organic farming and also apprised about producing natural fertilizers and insecticides and pesticides (Source-TNN/Nov 28,2012).

**'Traditional pest control only alternative'**- Ravindranath Shanbhag, president, Human Rights Protection Foundation, Udupi and former Professor of Pharmacology in Manipal University is a strong advocate for human rights, civil liberties, and consumer protection. He was one among the first to link endosulfan to the deformities and various ailments affecting more than 5,000 people in about 103 villages of four Taluks of Dakshina Kannada. His efforts saw the Karnataka Cashew Development Corporation (KCDC) revealing that endosulfan aerial spray was also done in three more divisions i.e. Udupi, Kundapura and Kumta. The Supreme Court-appointed joint expert committee on endosulfan has recently suggested that "to exhaust the available stocks of raw material, manufacture and use of endosulfan may be permitted for a total period of two years". But human right activists do not accept this argument. This powerful endocrine disruptor should not be used only for a silly reason like this. For the past several years, the Ministry of Agriculture has been claiming that endosulfan is a safe pesticide. Now, being a signatory to the Stockholm Convention and Rotterdam Convention, India is committed to discontinuing its use. The committee also said the "disposal of the existing stocks of endosulfan in the existing incinerators may take long due to the limited capacity and the cost of disposal would be exorbitant to the tune of Rs1,189crore".Is there a mechanism to make, available endosulfan inert or chemically neutral? Endodiol and endosulfan sulfate are the two main degradable products of this poison. Scientists at Kyungpook National University and School of Bio-resource Sciences, Andong National University, both in South Korea and University of California, have developed the technology of detoxifying endosulfan. An ideal pesticide is the one which selectively kills the pest without harming human beings and animals. We do not have any pesticide which satisfies this definition. Therefore going back to the traditional methods of pest control such as using neem leaves and organic farming is the only solution. Biological control of pest is the best alternative to the chemical pesticides. For example, scientists from

Horticulture Department have developed several species of worms to control red-headed caterpillar, a pest destroying coconut trees. This is cheaper than chemical pesticide. According to the information received from KCDC, the aerial spray of endosulfan has taken place in Udupi, Kundapura and Kumta. 24 villages of Udupi, 50 villages of Kundapura and 29 villages of Moodbidri sub division have reports of several children in with symptoms similar to that of endosulfan toxicity.

(Source- Stanly Pinto, TNN Dec 9, 2012).

#### **Vermicompost, the story of organic gold -**

Earthworm has caught imagination of philosophers like Pascal and Thoreau. Yet its role in the nutrition of agricultural fields has attracted attention of researchers worldwide only in recent decades. Waste management is considered as an integral part of a sustainable society, thereby necessitating diversion of biodegradable fractions of the societal waste from landfill into alternative management processes such as vermicomposting. Earthworms excreta (vermicast) is a nutritive organic fertilizer rich in humus, NPK, micronutrients, beneficial soil microbes; nitrogen-fixing, phosphate solubilizing bacteria, actinomycetes and growth hormones auxins, gibberellins & cytokinins. Both vermicompost & its body liquid (vermiwash) are proven as both growth promoters & protectors for crop plants. The discussion about the worms composting technology, its importance, use and some salient results obtained in the globe so far in this review update of vermicompost research.

(Source- Adhikary, S. (2012) *Agricultural Sciences*, 3, 905-917)

#### **Shettar sings green mantra, roots for organic farming-**

Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar on Thursday urged the need for encouraging organic farming in the state. Speaking at the inauguration of the BioFach India 2012, the fourth international organic trade fair, Shettar said though some level of self-sufficiency has been achieved in the farming sector by using fertilizers and chemicals, the overuse has resulted in serious environmental degradation and health hazards to both humans and animals.

According to Shettar, Karnataka has made significant progress in organic farming since the organic movement in the state was started in last decade by progressive farmers and NGOs along with support of the Government.

(Source - Nov 30, 2012, DNA correspondant Bangalore DNA).

#### **Plans afoot to promote organic farming, CMs nod awaited-**

The Jammu and Kashmir Kissan Advisory Board (JKKAB) has taken up the issue regarding setting-up 11,000 pits in the state to produce organic manure and to promote organic farming. So far organic manure is being produced in the state in very small quantity. JKKAB has demanded at least 500 organic manure pits for each district. "Earlier, for promotion of organic farming in state, the state government had signed a Memorandum of Understanding with three companies to help cultivators switch over to this mode of farming last year. The Jammu and Kashmir Kissan Advisory Board (JKKAB) has taken up the issue regarding setting-up 11,000 pits in the state to produce organic manure, to promote organic farming. The salient features of the MOU include promoting group organic farming by arranging conversion of conventional fields, farms to organic, besides ensuring necessary technology transfer to farmers, certification by agencies approved by Agriculture and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) and assistance to the farmers in marketing of the organic produce". It was informed that the people of state are not at all aware about the hazards of chemical fertilizers and nothing has been done at any level to promote the organic farming in J&K State, which in fact is preferred nowadays in all the developed as well as developing countries of the world. There is a great potential to shift towards organic farming as the state has large amount of organic manure in view of large population of cattle and livestock in rural areas.

(Source-Avinash Azad, News point, Jammu Tawi, December 2012).

#### **The Effect of organic management treatments on the productivity and quality of lemon grass (*Cymbopogon*)**

**citrates**) - An experiment was conducted at the Model Organic Farm of CSK Himachal Pradesh Agricultural University, Palampur (31°54' N and 76°17' E), Himachal Pradesh, to evaluate the effect of various organic management treatments on the productivity and quality of lemon grass (*Cymbopogon citratus*). Organic inputs (viz. farm yard manure (FYM); vermicompost; agnihotra ash; and neem powder) were added at the time of planting, while Bt + Himbio and the biodynamic preparation BD 500 were sprayed regularly at one month intervals. Crops were sown on dates matching moon and non moon position according to the Biodynamic Planting Calendar. Addition of agnihotra ash along with sowing as per moon position resulted in a higher yield of lemon grass (+124%, +99%) and a higher oil per cent (+155%, +144%) over the control, in both the years of study. Sowing as per moon position may have improved germination rate, water absorption and metabolism of the plants, whereas addition of agnihotra ash may have stabilized the nutrients present in soil.

(Source- Punam et al, *Journal of Organic Systems*, 7(2), 2012)

**The Effect of combinations of organic materials and biofertilisers on productivity, grain quality, nutrient uptake and economics in organic farming of wheat** - Organic farming often has to deal with a scarcity of readily available nutrients, and this is in contrast to chemical farming which relies on soluble fertilizers. The present study was conducted to ascertain the effect of different combinations of organic manures, rice residues and biofertilizers in organic farming of wheat. The field experiments were carried out on the research farm of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi in 2006-07 and 2007-08. Treatments consisted of a control (no fertiliser) and six fertilizer treatments, namely, farmyard manure (FYM), vermicompost (VC), FYM + rice residue (RR), VC + RR, FYM + RR + biofertilizers (B), and VC + RR + B. FYM and VC were applied on nitrogen basis (60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>), whereas RR was applied at 6 t ha<sup>-1</sup>. For biofertilizers, *Azotobacter*, cellulolytic culture (CC) and phosphate solubilizing

bacteria (PSB) were used. The combinations of FYM + RR + B and VC + RR + B resulted in the highest increased growth and yield attributing characters of wheat and increased grain yield of wheat over the control by 81% and 89% (Year 1 & Year 2), and net return by 82% and 73% . These combinations were significantly superior to all other combinations for all the growth and yield parameters, yield, net profit and grain quality of wheat. The results of this study show that VC + RR + B was the most productive treatment, while FYM + RR + B was the most economical treatment with respect to increasing net profit. This was because of the higher price of vermin compost compared with FYM. Both of these combinations resulted in improved grain quality and nutrient uptake by grain. The present study thus indicates that a combination of FYM + RR + biofertilisers or VC + RR + biofertilisers hold promise for organic wheat farming.

(Source- Davari et al, *Journal of Organic Systems*, 7(2), 2012 ).

**Indian agriculture stood on organic farming:** Minister in-charge of Dakshina Kannada C.T. Ravi emphasized the need to change the mindset of farmers to shift from chemical based agriculture to organic farming. Addressing a gathering after inaugurating an agriculture awareness campaign and a meet of organic producers, the Minister said that Indian agriculture stood on organic farming. In ancient times, farmers never used chemicals. Organic farming was part of their lives. But a situation had arisen now where farmers thought that they would not be able grow crops unless they used chemicals. Excessive use of chemical fertilizers had spoilt the fertility of the soil, he said. (Source- Posted by admin on 09th Oct, 2012).

**Pesticides lowering productivity and polluting lakes-** Around 22 representatives from 18 countries gathered at an organic farm, nearly 22 km from Jaipur on Sikar Road, to share their experiences on climate change and sustainability. The programme funded by the Ministry of External Affairs was coordinated by The Energy and

Resources Institute (TERI) under the 'Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.' They were here to discuss the topic 'Climate change and sustainability' and shared experiences about climate change and sustainability. Climate change is a global phenomenon but farmers are trying to see how they can contribute to its mitigation," said Innocent Patrick, who works with the Ministry of water resources in Tanzania. Due to the rampant use of pesticides, fertility has gone down and lakes are getting polluted.

(Source- *Times of India, Jaipur, October 6, 2012*).

### **Not many takers in Kerala for organic food- KOCHI:**

Keralites are in the forefront in agitations against endosulfan and are also well aware of the bad effects of chemical fertilizers. But when it comes to using organic food, they are far behind then the people in states like Karnataka. Though there are some isolated efforts at organic farming as well as outlets dealing in organic food products in some of parts of the state, the idea does not seem to have really sunk in. Ambrose, who operated "Lumiere", an organic food store and hotel in Kochi, had to wind it up after four years. His shop in Bangalore is doing well. He informed that the charge for a vegetable meal was Rs 100 at lunch I would get at the maximum 75 customers; the dinner scene was even worse. So, we had no other option but to down shutters," Ambrose said. "The provision store fared comparatively better. Most customers are attracted to the price, not the quality. For quality food, the rate will naturally be a bit high. But people prefer cheaper food," Ambrose summarized his four-year experiment with the organic food business in Kochi.

(Source-*Times of India, Kochi, TNN Oct 16, 2012*).

### **ICCOA commences marketing linkages in organic agriculture in Karnataka**

International Competence Centre for Organic Agriculture (ICCOA) has now created the market linkages in organic

farming in Karnataka. The Bangalore-based networking and interface organization adopts the process of deploying trained field staff in organic practices to communicate the benefits of organic agriculture to the farmers. It has enrolled 120 farmers to cover 150 hectares under vegetable cultivation in three villages. The organic vegetables are collected and graded into A, B and C. While grades A and B are meant for the retail chains with ICCOA labeling, grade C is taken to the nearby markets and sold as conventional vegetables. The label of ICCOA was created with the leverage of consumers' fear around quality of food, keeping the core themes safe, healthy, chemical-free and tasty. The label also declares the source of the produce. "In the process of creating marketing linkages hurdles were aplenty," said Manoj Kumar Menon, Executive Director, ICCOA. "We took up this challenge and started a pilot project sometime back for 'Organic vegetable production' in villages of the three taluks of Bangalore Rural-Chickballapur, Doddaballapur and Devanahalli," he added. The Centre undertakes Government-sponsored projects in several states to convert farmers from chemical to organic agriculture. The process encompasses three stages – organic adoption, wherein the farmers are trained in principles of organic agriculture; getting the farmers' land certified as "organic", and creating market linkages for the produce grown in the project areas. The market linkages initiative has been undertaken to ensure sustainability of the farmers even after the completion of the project. In the first stage, organic clusters of interested farmers are created. Subsequently they are trained in the principles of organic farming. In the second stage, ICCOA gets the land under the project area certified by accredited certification bodies. And under the third, farmers are trained on harvest planning, grading, labeling and packing in the process of making the produce market ready. Executive Director.

(Source *November 16, 2012*)

## Global Organic

**Enhanced top soil carbon stocks under organic farming-** It has been suggested that conversion to organic farming contributes to soil carbon sequestration, but until now a comprehensive quantitative assessment has been lacking. Therefore, datasets from 74 studies from pair-wise comparisons of organic vs. nonorganic farming systems were subjected to meta-analysis to identify differences in soil organic carbon (SOC). Authors found significant differences and higher values for organically farmed soils of  $0.18 \pm 0.06\%$  points (mean  $\pm$  95% confidence interval) for SOC concentrations,  $3.50 \pm 1.08$  Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> for stocks, and  $0.45 \pm 0.21$  Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> y<sup>-1</sup> for sequestration rates compared with nonorganic management. Meta-regression did not deliver clear results on drivers, but differences in external C inputs and crop rotations seemed important. Restricting the analysis to zero net input organic systems and retaining only the datasets with highest data quality (measured soil bulk densities and external C and N inputs), the mean difference in SOC stocks between the farming systems was still significant ( $1.98 \pm 1.50$  Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup>), whereas the difference in sequestration rates became insignificant ( $0.07 \pm 0.08$  Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> y<sup>-1</sup>). Analyzing zero net input systems for all data without this quality requirement revealed significant, positive differences in SOC concentrations and stocks ( $0.13 \pm 0.09\%$  points and  $2.16 \pm 1.65$  Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup>, respectively) and insignificant differences for sequestration rates ( $0.27 \pm 0.37$  Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> y<sup>-1</sup>). The data mainly cover top soil and temperate zones, whereas only few data from tropical regions and subsoil horizons exist. Summarizing, this study shows that organic farming has the potential to accumulate soil carbon.

(Source- *Andreas Gattinger et al, 2012, Proceedings of National Academy of Sciences Current Issue, 109, 44, Oct 2012*).

**Organic lettuce, rye/vetch, and Swiss chard growth and nutrient uptake response to lime and horse manure compost-**

Improved fertilizer recommendations based on experimental data are required to increase organic crop yields. With this aim, a field organic crop rotation with lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.) followed by a cover crop of hairy vetch (*Vicia villosa* Roth) and rye (*Secale cereale* L.), and by organic Swiss chard (*Beta vulgaris* L. var. *cicla* L.), was arranged as a randomized block design to assess crop growth and nutrient uptake in response to increasing rates of lime (0 and 8 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) applied before lettuce, and horse manure compost (0, 20 and 40 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) applied before lettuce and before Swiss chard. Yield increases with compost and lime were enhanced for Swiss chard compared to lettuce because the effect of lime was not clear on lettuce yield or nutrient uptake but it was very strong on Swiss chard later on crop rotation. Apparent compost N supply increased with lime and for the lowest compost rate. Increases on crop nutrient uptake, with compost and lime, explained crop yield increases and show that organic growers can rely on horse manure compost and lime to enhance organic vegetable crop yields.

(Source- *Luis Miguel Brito et al, Organic Agriculture, October 2012*).

**Palestinian farmers turn to organic farming-**

In an emerging back-to-the-land movement, Palestinian farmers are turning the rocky hills of the West Bank into organic olive groves, selling their oil to high-end grocers in the U.S. and Europe. The move is a reflection of the growing global demand for natural, sustainable and fairly traded products, albeit with a distinct Palestinian twist. The hardships faced by local farmers, ranging from a lack of rainfall to Israeli trade obstacles, mean that organic growing is one of the few ways Palestinians have to compete in outside markets. Organic farming has grown into a thriving business,



by Palestinian standards, since it first was introduced in the West Bank in 2004. Now, at least \$5 million worth of organic olive oil is exported annually — about half of all Palestinian commercial oil exports. The West Bank-based company purchases the oil at above market prices and pays what's called a "social premium" — extra money to farming cooperatives to improve their communities. About 930 farmers have fair-trade and organic certification, while another 140 are "converting" their land — a two- to three-year process during which they stop using chemical fertilizers and pest controls while monitors from Canaan and the Palestine Fair Trade Association provide training and check soil for chemical levels. Their work is overseen by the Swiss-based Institute for Market Ecology, which is accredited to certify organic products for the U.S., E.U., and Japan. Hundreds more farmers are simply certified as fair-trade, where they and their workers are paid decent wages for their work and produce. An average of 17,000 tons of olive oil is produced in the West Bank every year by thousands of farmers, according to aid group Oxfam, which works on the olive industry. Most is for local or personal use and only about 1,000 tons is exported a year, though that number is likely higher since many farmers sell oil informally through relatives abroad. Organic farmers hope the high-end trade will keep them on their lands, despite difficult odds and high overhead costs. *(Source-AP foreign, Friday November 9 2012).*

**Organic farming keeps carbon out of the atmosphere-** With the worst effects of climate change, we are seeing how pollution hurts both human health and the environment but there is good news: a new study shows that organic farming stores more greenhouse gases in the soil than non-organic farming. By switching to organic methods, many farmers across the globe may be helping to solve the climate crisis at the same time as they improve soil quality and avoid the use of pesticides. "Organic agriculture is more than just producing good and healthy food. It is also good for soil quality and fertility and climate change adaptation and mitigation," says study

author Andreas Gattinger of The Research Institute of Organic Agriculture. The study team performed a meta-analysis of other peer-reviewed studies of organic farming that quantified how much carbon was being stored by organic farmers. Meta-analysis is a type of "bird's eye view" study that congregates findings from multiple studies. While the details of individual studies may be obscured in a search for trends, meta-analysis always "delivers the core data of the individual studies to give anybody the chance for tracing back and re-calculation" in order to "deliver evidence-based, quantitative figures on a certain effect or phenomenon." The results of Gattinger's meta-analysis show an overall positive worldwide trend towards an increase in organic agriculture (37 million hectares or 0.9 percent of total world agricultural land). The authors' meta-analysis suggests that organic farming allows more carbon to be stored in the soil than conventional farming. Instead of carbon heating up the atmosphere, it is being stored in the soil, which acts like a carbon sink. The researchers estimate that by using a combination of livestock plus rotating crops (mixed farming), more carbon can be stored in organically farmed soil than any farming system relying on the use of synthetic nitrogen fertilizer and plant protection chemicals. Their results show that 0.37 gigatons of carbon were being sequestered per year globally (0.03 gigaton of carbon in Europe, 0.04 gigaton of carbon in the United States), thus offsetting 3% of current total greenhouse gas emissions (2.3% for Europe, 2.3% for the United States), or 25% of total current agricultural emissions (23% for Europe, 36% for the United States). In fact, the researchers write that the cumulative mitigation by organic farming up to 2030 would contribute 13% to the cumulative reductions that would be necessary by then to stay on the path to keep temperatures from rising two degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels by 2100. Researchers say this meta-analysis provides a strong argument in favor of organic farming. Gattinger says he hopes the study will "have an impact on agricultural, environmental, and climate policies and supporting schemes, in which the

contribution of organic farming should be more acknowledged

(Source: Jenny R. Isaacs, November 28, 2012).

**Italy: Sales of organic food continue to rise-**

The Italian organic market has been growing for nine consecutive years. According to the official Ismea/Gfk panel, sales of organics in supermarkets rose by 9.2 percent in 2011 and by 6.1 percent in the first six months of 2012. The growth rate in the specialist trade is even higher: about twice the increase recorded in the supermarkets. Overall, sales in specialist channels, mainstream supermarkets, farmers' direct marketing, box schemes and the food service sector in 2011 reached a total of 2 billion euros, plus exports worth over 1.1 billion euros.

(Source: *Organic Market Info* (15.11.2012))

**Organic farming enhances soil carbon-**

“Organic agriculture provides environmental benefits through the sequestration of atmospheric carbon in soil organic matter”, says a group of international experts headed by scientists from the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland. In a new study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) they analysed data from 74 field comparison studies that measured the soil organic carbon (humus) levels in different soils under organic and conventional farming systems throughout the world. Of those, about 20 delivered results that enabled comparisons of carbon sequestration rates among farming systems. The general results of the study indicated that soil organic carbon stocks were 3.5 metric tons per hectare higher in organic than in non-organic farming systems and that organic farming systems sequestered up to 450 kg more atmospheric carbon per hectare and year through CO<sub>2</sub> bound into soil organic matter. Significant differences were also found in soil carbon levels between the farming systems for the comparisons that are based on organic systems without off-farm manure input. The results over a long period of 14 years on average were consistent and significant. The findings showed that organically managed soils accumulated soil

organic matter, and by this bind carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. However, the researchers noted that there are some differences in the way that organic farming systems are managed and some do not sequester atmospheric carbon at all. The observed differences in soil carbon levels under organic and non-organic farming seemed to be mainly influenced by practices typical of mixed farming, i.e. livestock plus crop production, which are characterized by organic matter recycling via manure and forage legumes in the crop rotation. Soil carbon levels under modern agricultural practices are likely to be improved if measures intrinsic to organic farming are applied to any agricultural production system. Carbon dioxide is a greenhouse gas, and increasing levels in the atmosphere are responsible for climate change. Organic agriculture has the potential to contribute to mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change by sequestering atmospheric carbon in the soil. Organic agriculture can thus play an important role for “climate friendly” agriculture. However, the researchers caution that carbon sequestration in agriculture is only a part of global mitigation efforts, and that substantial emissions reductions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in all sectors are indispensable to tackle the problem of climate change. In addition, more research is still needed to optimize the ability of farming systems to sequester carbon and to validate the results in different soils, agro-ecological zones and cropping systems. (Source-Frick, *Organic farming and climate change* at [www.fibl.org](http://www.fibl.org), October 16, 2012).

**First Organic Data Network Newsletter-**

The first Newsletter of the Organic Data Network project is now available at the project website. The project "Data network for better European organic market information" (Organic Data Network) aims to increase the transparency of the European organic food market through better availability of market intelligence about the sector to meet the needs of policy makers and actors involved in organic markets. It is funded under the 7th Framework Programme of the European Union and runs from 2012 to 2014. The Newsletter of the

Organic Data Network contains the following articles: Editorial by project coordinator, Interview with Hans-Jörg Lutzeyer about the Organic Data Network project by Kai Kreuzer, Inventory of organic market data collectors, Survey on data needs of end users, Organic Data Network achievements, Conference in Cyprus informs about European organic research.

(Source - Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL). Last Update: 13/11/2012)

### **Cherry fruit fly management: Promising alternatives reviewed-**

Researchers from the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) and the Swiss University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) recently published a review of integrated management of the cherry fruit fly in the open-access on-line journal "Insects". The cherry fruit fly is the most important pest of sweet cherries in Europe. Fruit damaged by this insect is not marketable, and farmers must apply preventive treatments to grow a crop they can sell. Because old insecticides are being phased out in the entire EU, new management techniques and tools are

needed. Claudia Daniel of FiBL and Jürg Grunder of ZHAW reviewed the scientific literature over the past hundred years to provide a comprehensive account of the life cycle of the pest, and effective strategies and tools for its control. Organic and integrated techniques received special attention. Crop netting is one viable cost-effective alternative for the increasing number of dwarf cherries. The beneficial fungus *Beauveria bassiana* that was developed for organic agriculture also shows promise. However, for most situations there is still a lack of efficient and environmentally sound insecticides to control this pest. The review summarizes the literature from over one hundred years of research on *R. cerasi* with focus on biology, history of cherry fruit fly control as well as on antagonists and potential bio-control organisms.

(Source-Claudia Daniel, Plant Protection and Biodiversity, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Claudia. daniel(at) fibl.org, +41 (0)62 865-7291, © Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL). All rights reserved. Last Update: 13/11/2012).

### **"CERTIFICATE COURSE ON ORGANIC FARMING"**

To create first generation organic agriculture extension workers and field worker, to develop rural trainers on organic management practices with special focus on cropping system management, nutrient management and plant protection etc., National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad has proposed 3 courses of 30 days duration residential **Certificate Course on Organic Farming** at its campus Ghaziabad during the year 2013-2014.

**Eligibility of Participation:** The course will be open for rural youth having Degree/Diploma in Agriculture. SAUs/Educational Institutes can also sponsor their undergraduate students for such course.

**How to Apply:** Duly typed application can be submitted on A-4 size paper **clearly indicating choice of duration of course** to the Director, National Centre of Organic Farming, 19, Hapur Road, Near CBI Academy, Ghaziabad-201002 (UP) along with detailed Bio-Data and a passport size photograph (dully attested by gazetted officer) pasted on the Bio-Data, supported by attested photocopies of Educational Qualifications (Degree / Diploma in Agriculture) **10 clear days before the commencement of the course**. The applications can either be submitted directly or through the institutions where the applicant is presently pursuing his studies, **however, a signed, scanned copy of the application must be sent to email id [nbdc@nic.in](mailto:nbdc@nic.in) with subject line "Application for Certificate Course"**. During the stay of participant at NCOF, Ghaziabad, lodging and boarding charges shall be borne by this centre, however, NO TA/DA shall be paid for attending this course. Selection of participant will be on first come first serve basis and it will be the sole discretion of Director, NCOF to change / postpone or cancel any of the course, circumstances, if so warrants.

The date of commencement of each course will be advertised in the national newspapers and also in the website of this office at <http://ncof.dacnet.nic.in>.

## National and International Events

**BioFach India together with India Organic 2012** - BioFach India together with India Organic-2012, India's biggest International Organic Trade Fair was organized at Palace Ground, Bangalore, Karnataka from 29 Nov to 01 Dec 2012. The event was organized by the Nurnberg Messe, Germany and co-organized by International Competence Centre for Organic Agriculture (ICCOA) and Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Karnataka. This was the second year in succession that this international event was organized in the 'organic hub' of Bangalore and supported by the Govt. of Karnataka. The previous two international editions were held in Mumbai. However the first two 'India Organic trade fair' were organized in Bangalore in 2005 and 2006 while subsequent two trade fairs during 2007 and 2008 were organized at Delhi and were organized by ICCOA, and co-organized by Govt. of Karnataka and National Centre for Organic Farming, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India.

This year's fair & conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri. Jagdish Shettar, and the Hon'ble Agriculture Minister of Karnataka, Shri. Umesh V. Katti was the Guest of honour, who is a big supporter of organic movement in Karnataka and was all the time leading the program from front. The other dignitaries present included Shri. Bharat Lal Meena, IAS, Principle Secretary (Agriculture); Dr. KV Sarvesh, Director of Agriculture, Shri Gurudeviah, Additional Director of Agriculture, Govt of Karnataka; Markus Arbenz, Executive Director, IFOAM; Shri Sompal jee, Former Union Minister of State for Agriculture & Chairman Emeritus, ICCOA; Ms Petra Wolf, Member, Management Board of Nurnburg Messe, Germany; Shri Ardhendu Sen, Former Chief Secretary Govt of West Bengal & Director-TERI; Dr. AK Yadav Former Director, National Centre of Organic Farming, Govt of India and Mr. Frank Venjakob, Director, Nurnberg Messe, Germany, among others.

This three-day trade fair & conference program witnessed a variety of activities, including an international seminar, B2B meets, farmers' workshops, consumer connect programs, and also a special interaction session of Karnataka farmers with the Director of Agriculture & officials of the Department of Agriculture, Govt of Karnataka.

An award ceremony of IFOAM's diploma program "Organic Leadership Course" was also held on the third day. 17 students were conferred with this OLC diploma. The valedictory ceremony was held on the concluding day of the trade fair on 01 Dec 2012, during which awards were conferred to Best stalls, Best State pavilions, and Partners. The Karnataka state pavilion bagged the Best Pavilion award for the overall presentation quality as well as for the wide participation of stakeholders.

The Trade Fair had the following Components:

- Trade Fair: Exhibition from *160 Exhibitors from abroad and all parts of India.*
- International Seminar: *Organic Movement – Driving Sustainability Forward!*
- Farmers' Workshops (in Kannada and Hindi)
- Consumer Connect Programs – *'Nature on my Plate'*
- Buyers' Seller Meets – *Trade discussion and business planning*
- Organic Food Court

Trade fair attracted 163 exhibitors including 16 foreign exhibitors, 15 foreign countries and 9 Indian States (as Pavilions/Exhibitors). The event hosted more than 7800 visitors including 3800 Farmers. 25 Buyers' Sellers' meets were the highlights of trade activity and generated trade enquiries worth Rs 22 crores. 33 expert speakers deliberated in International Seminar spanning over six technical sessions, which was attended by 182 seminar delegates.

The themes of the technical sessions of the international seminar were

- Organic Movement Vision 2020
- Organic agriculture can feed the world
- Technologies for increasing productivity/income in organic farming
- Country specific experiments in Organic Agriculture
- 'Creating a win-win for farmers & consumers'
- Organic movement and sustainability: Success Stories

Besides the regular activities, this year's event also witnessed a new programme entitled "Consumer Connect Programme" exclusively for consumers and school children. The themes of these consumer connect programmes were: (a) Nature on my Plate (b) Food for thought and (c) You are what you eat .

The marketing, market linkages and encouraging the trade opportunities is a continuous process and not a one-off event. The suppliers and farmers have met few buyers and started or taken forward a relationship, which needs to be nurtured, groomed and built –upon. This requires firstly fulfilling the promises made during the B2B meets (e.g. to supply certain produce in certain given quantities in certain given time period) this fulfillment builds confidence in buyer and paves the way for further demands and order of more or new produces. Govt of Karnataka has the most significant role in taking this farmer-supplier-buyer relationship forward. The special interaction session by the Director of Agriculture, GoK with farmer-supplier- retailers was a great step in this direction. As the next year's event is also scheduled to be held in Bangalore in November 2013, the role of Department of Agriculture, Govt of Karnataka is very significant in conducting smaller events at district /zonal level in Karnataka, and also developing relationships amongst farmer-supplier- buyer, which should transcend beyond the annual fairs and should fundamentally become a continuous program at different locations .

(A Report by Manoj Menon, ICCOA, Bangalore)

### **Two Days National Seminar on "Organic Farming Enhances Soil Health and Livelihood"**

Two Days National Seminar on "Organic Farming Enhances Soil Health and Livelihood" was organized during 26-27<sup>th</sup> September 2012 by Regional Centre of Organic Farming (RCOF), Bhubaneswar (a Regional Centre under National Centre of Organic Farming, Ghaziabad, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture) at RTMC Auditorium, Bhubaneswar. The National Seminar was organized under the framework and funding from National Project on Promotion of Organic Farming (NPOF). The Seminar was aimed to create mass awareness for promotion of organic farming, in accordance with the objectives of the National Project on Organic Farming at the current backdrop of Indian Farmers facing problems of declining soil health, which restricts yield, profitability, sustainability of land and ultimately livelihood. Accordingly the seminar was organized with following themes:

- Enhancing soil health through organic management practices,
- Enhancing soil health through agro biodiversity,
- Creating livelihood through organic certification
- Creating livelihood through organic production
- Creating livelihood through organic supply chain

In this seminar, people from wide range of institutions, Researchers, Ecologists, Extension Scientists, Farmers were invited for participation and this seminar forum was witnessed by about 230 participants from different states of country. On 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012 the chairman of the seminar Dr. R. N. Bisoyi, Regional Director of Regional Centre of Organic Farming, Bhubaneswar warmly welcomed chief guest and all the distinguished participants to the seminar. The Seminar was inaugurated by Legendary Scientist Prof. G. K. Veeresh, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Agriculture Science, Bangalore and President , Association of Organic Farming, Bangalore by lighting of lamp. In the key note address Prof. Veeresh highlighted the origin and growth of organic farming in India,

importance of soil health for sustainable agricultural productivity and organic certification for empowering the farmers. Also narrated the current fast growth of global organic trade and stressed the promotion of organic farming as a benchmark of farming for future generations as well. A seminar book dedicated to this seminar entitled "Organic Farming enhances soil health and livelihood" edited by Dr R.N. Bisoyi was released by the chief guest during inaugural session. Dr Krishan Chandra, Additional Commissioner (INM), Ministry of Agriculture, DAC and Director, NCOF, Ghaziabad also outlined the current as well as 12<sup>th</sup> plan policies of Govt of India devised to boost organic farming in India. After inauguration of the national seminar, separate technical sessions were conducted with a view to discuss the themes as mentioned above. All the technical sessions were comprised of deliberations on the respective themes by renowned guest speakers like Emeritus Prof. B.K. Senapati, School of life Sciences, Sambalpur University, Prof G.N. Chattopadhyay, Institute of Agriculture. Sciences, Vishwa Bharati, Dr Krishan Chandra, Additional Commissioner (INM), Ministry of Agriculture, DAC, Sh T. Tenzing, Additional Executive. Director, Organic Mission, Govt of Sikkim, Sh Deepak Suchde, Prakruti, Mumbai, Dr V. Pandey, Dr Chandan Mukherjee, Sh M Khillar, SAMBANDH, PGS group, Odisha, Dr B.K. Maity, Dr D Dash, NCERT, Nagaland, Sh R.C. Panda, from DMI, GOI, Bhubaneswar, Prof. A.K. Swain, PG Dept of Commerce, Utkal University, Bhubaneswar and Prof Shambhu Prasad, Dept of Rural Development, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar.

The valedictory session was convened by Dr Dr R.N. Bisoyi, and was chaired by Prof Veeresh along with all the technical session chair persons on dt 27<sup>th</sup> Sept 2012 .The consensus of the participants from National Seminar emerged with the view that Organic Farming approaches can attain higher productivity and profitability while improving soil health and livelihood under Indian situations to address issue of rising prices, increasing soil degradation and rural poverty. Following recommendations were

agreed upon by the participants and were adopted in the seminar:

- Acquire, evaluate and disseminate Organic Farming principles and practices.
- Identify, share and enhance multidisciplinary expertise in Organic Farming
- Develop a holistic and multi-component dynamic agriculture marketing system
- Strengthen PGS and third party organic certification in rural areas
- Support advocacy of organic farming to alleviate problems of soil health and rural livelihood
- Establish multi stakeholder knowledge management system for benefits of organic farmers

The main outcome of the Seminar actions are expected to upscale growth of organic farming, thereby enabling land to be more productive, profitable, sustainable for maintaining soil health and creating livelihood. Moreover, the delegates of the Seminar accorded warm felicitations to Dr. R.N. Bisoyi, Regional Director, RCOF. Bhubaneswar for successfully organizing the Seminar and wished happy retirement life on superannuation next day as well as applauded the contributions made by him for promotion of biofertilisers and organic farming in the country.

The national seminar was well covered by representatives of different press, Doordarshan, All India Radio, TV channels and published news in the News papers like the Dharitri, Samaj Sambad, Pragatibad on 27<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2012 and exclusive interview of Dr. R. N. Bisoyi and Dr. K. Chandra on Organic Farming was published in the daily the Dharitri and Orissa Post on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2012. Moreover, the seminar was visited by Sh. Tathagat Sathapathy on 27<sup>th</sup> Sept, 2012, the Editor, The Dharitri and Orissa Post as well as sitting M.P. Lok Sabha who spent about 45 minutes interacting with organizers, delegates and praised for successfully conducting the seminar. Thus, the seminar created mass awareness on organic farming among all stake holders in this Region.

**At Vasundhara 2012 Farmers handover Manifesto on Jaivik Bharat : "Organic**

**India vision 2020**” - A Manifesto on Jaivik Bharat: Vision 2020, developed by Scientists and Farmers was Presented to Ministers and New Ambassadors of Organic Farming in India during Vasundhara 2012. Vasundhara 2012 was celebrated as a Silver Jubilee function of the 'Navdanya Movement' that completed its 25 years under the leadership of Dr. Vandana Shiva. About 200 farmers from across the country from Ladakh to Chennai and Jodhpur to Manipur attended the celebration. A-Z course participant and international students also participated in the actively. A month long A-Z of Organic farming course also concluded with the celebration. To witness this moment Padma Vibhushan Sri Sundar Lal Bahuguna with his wife Smt. Vimla Bahuguna were present in the inaugural session, whereas valedictory session was graced by the ministers and celebrities. Dr. Harak Singh Rawat, Agriculture Minister of Uttarakhand and his counterpart from the state of Madhya Pradesh Dr. Ram Krishna Kusmaria along with Sri Narendra Singh Negi known folk Singer from Uttarakhand and Jackie Shroff, film actor were present in the concluding session. Mr. Jackie Shroff and Sri Narendra Singh Negi will be the Ambassador of Farmers for Organic India. Before the cultural evening with Mr. Negi, ministers and celebrities were presented with the new books by Navdanya Seeds of Freedom and Poison in Food along with the Manifesto developed by the farmers and scientists in the two day gathering. Packet of Seeds of Freedom (Nine seeds) and a memento was also presented to the guests. Both the ministers assured to work to promote the organic farming in their respective states, whereas farmers affirmed their commitment to continue farming and promoting organic farming in future.

**BioFach Germany 2013 World Organic Trade Fair** - BioFach 2013 world organic trade fair shall be organized in Nurnberg, Germany, during 13 to 16<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Here the visitors will enjoy the whole variety of a world leading exhibition. Organic products are constantly capturing new segments world wide. No wonder making certified organic product successful on the international market has always needed

maximum innovative power and quality awareness, just as much as successful networking between suppliers, decision makers, global and local players, trade, media and politics. The organic sector sets sustainable accents at its world leading exhibition BioFach. One can present their innovations and products to a highly qualified professional audience. From special areas to Romania as country of the year 2013, from the largest international congress to tempting tasting areas for wine, olive oil, coffee and fish. According to the record of success of 2012 among the satisfied exhibitors 92% could make new business connections, 93% met their key target group at Biofach. Successful exhibition duo BioFach and Vivaness 2012 was witnessed by 2420 exhibitors (included 70% international) and 40315 visitors among which 43% were international visitors and net display area was 44851sq mt.

**The 14th China (Beijing) International Organic Food & Green Food Expo, 2013**- Beijing 2013 organic food industry exhibition Expo shall be organized during 7-9 April, 2013 at China International Exhibition Center by Beijing Shibowei International Exhibition Co., Ltd. It is one of the most influential exhibition of Asia in organic industry. This organic food industry expo is supported by IFOAM Germany. National Organic Industry Alliance and Chinese Organic & Natural Foods Association. The Organizing Committee of China International Health Industry Expo are the sponsors and ERES, Shanghai Certification Co., Ltd., China Green Agricultural Federation, China Food News, China Organic Magazine, Trade Key, World Expo Co. Ltd are co organizers. For more details about expo people can contact Ms. Wendy Wei at foodexhibition11@163.com.

**Ekoloji Izmir 2013** - From 16-19 May 2013, Turkey's leading trade show for organic products will take place at Izmir, Turkey for the forth time. This show invites organic stakeholders from Eastern European Countries, Central Asia, Near and middle east and Africa. Ecology Izmir gathers together the entire organic products under one roof. It adds great value to the

sector, and is at the heart of the Turkish organic industry. It has become firmly established as Turkey's leading trade event. The fair continues to grow from strength to strength, attracting the largest number of buyers of organic products to Turkey's trade event. Exhibiting at ECOLOGY İZMİR allows visitors to achieve all of the following and more: Generate sales leads, Launch new products, Find new customers, Demonstrate your products and services, Build relationships with existing customers, Build brand awareness, Position company as a market leader, Meet with distributors and wholesalers, Generate media coverage, Meet with distributors and wholesalers. For more details about this trade show interested can contact Ms. Demet Karasu, International Relations Supervisor. Tel: +90 232 497 12 37 Fax: +90 232 497 12 38 [demet.karasu@izmirfair.com.tr/international@izmirfair.com.tr](mailto:demet.karasu@izmirfair.com.tr/international@izmirfair.com.tr)

**Session on the European market for organic food at the BioFach Congress-February 13, 2013** - On February 13, 2013 the annual session on the European market for organic food will take place at the BioFach Congress. This year it is organized by the European-funded research project Organic Data Network. The session "European Market for Organic Food - Recent statistics and how to improve data quality" will present first results on the European market of the Organic Data Network project. Members of the project will show the latest data on the European market as well as questions related to data quality and the perspective of end users. The session will be moderated by project coordinator Professor Raffaele Zanolli, Università Politecnica delle Marche/Organic Data Network, Italy. Camille Moreau, L'Agence BIO, France, Dr. Susanne Padel, The Organic Research Centre, United Kingdom, Diana Schaack, Agrarmarkt Informations Gesellschaft mbH (AMI), Germany, Corinna Feldmann, Universität Kassel, Germany, Burkhard Schaer, Ecozept, France, Marco Schlueter, IFOAM EU Group - European Group of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements, Helga Willer, FiBL

Research Institute of Organic Agriculture, Switzerland will be the main speakers in this session. Interested people can contact for more details to Dr. Helga Willer, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL, Ackerstrasse 21, 5070 Frick Switzerland, Tel.+41 62 865 7207, Fax +41 62 865 7273 [helga.willer@no-spam.fibl.org](mailto:helga.willer@no-spam.fibl.org), [www.fibl.org](http://www.fibl.org).

**Visitors throng Biodiversity Festival at Nampally** - The People's Biodiversity Festival at Nampally exhibition grounds witnessed a turnout of 3,000 people on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> October 2012. People from all walks of life experienced the real biodiversity of the nation, and the festival saw a number of new stalls springing up enthused by the public response. School students toured the festival with their teachers and joined the celebrations of cultural heritage. Gond adivasis from Utloor area of Adilabad, with their unique attire and headgear, thrilled the festival participants with their traditional Gussadi dance performance. Environmentalist Dr Vandana Shiva, the main speaker of the discussion session on intellectual property rights explained the deceptive underpinnings of the patents regime, which goes against how natural resources and diversity were protected for thousands of years. Several participants shared their experiences and views, including Dr Sagari Ramdas of Anthra, Vaikunta, a savara adivasi from Srikakulam district, Dadaji Kobragade, a seed breeder from Maharashtra who developed the famous HMT rice variety, Jaiprakash, seed breeder from Chhattisgarh and Dr Umashankar organic farmer from Chittoor district. The session was anchored by Jacob Nellithanam of Riccharia campaign, Chhattisgarh. All the experts, farmers and adivasis unanimously rejected the regime of intellectual property rights in seeds, forest resources and other natural resources. The session strongly opposed the Nagoya protocol of access and benefit-sharing which is being pushed in the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) discussions. Vaikunta, savara adivasi from Srikakulam district said, "Our concept of profit and benefit are very different – if everything is converted into money, we lose the real



benefit of diversity. In our view, the real benefit means that we should be able to hand over the wealth of our diversity to our future generations. In total there were 75 stalls by almost 65 organizations and networks, who are working on different natural products, from more than 15 States in India. It was a colourful festival with lot of hangings, posters, handicrafts, designer hand-woven clothes, and rich nutritious food

including organic millets, varieties of red rice and cuisine made from organically grown vegetables and grains. Many participants felt they gained rich food and knowledge. In the evening, a colorful cultural programme was organized by students of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, followed by adivasi cultural performance.

(Source:<http://newindianexpress.com/cities/hyderabad/article1300152.ece>).

**NATIONAL CENTRE OF ORGANIC FARMING  
KAMLA NEHRU NAGAR, GHAZIABAD**

Proforma of application for Subscription of Newsletter/ Change in Mailing Address

To,

The Director,  
National Centre of Organic Farming,  
Hapur Road, Near CBI Academy,  
Kamla Nehru Nagar,  
Ghaziabad-201 002.

Subject : Request for Subscription of Newsletter/ Change in mailing address – regarding.

Subs. No. : \_\_\_\_\_ (if request is for change in mailing address).

Sir,

I wish to subscribed Biofertiliser Newsletter (BFNL – Half Yearly)/ Organic Farming Newsletter (OFNL – Quarterly) being published by your organization. Kindly include the following address in your mailing list for the subscription of aforesaid newsletter(s).

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Designation : \_\_\_\_\_

Office/Residence address : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

District : \_\_\_\_\_ Pincode \_\_\_\_\_

State : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. (Office) \_\_\_\_\_ (Resi) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_

Field of Interest/work : \_\_\_\_\_

Yours faithfully,

Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Place : \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Books Reviews

**Organic Farm Management Handbook 2011/12 by Nic Lampkin, Mark Measures, Susanne Padel (eds) Price: £18.50** - This is a 'must have' publication for everyone interested in the business of organic farming and growing. The next edition will be published in the second half of 2013, with the aim of capturing key CAP reform developments, and editors are preparing for it to become an annual publication subsequently. The handbook reflects honestly the difficulties that the organic sector has faced in the market place, but also shows the evidence from the Farm Business Survey that organic farms have in general maintained income levels and continue to perform as well as similar non-organic farms. Looking forward, increasing general food prices and a potential recovery in the UK organic market (which has continued to grow elsewhere in Europe and globally despite the recession) mean that prospects for organic farming maintaining its profitability are good. Coupled with the serious attention now being given to the role of organic farming by the European Commission as part of the CAP Reform debate, now may be the time to start thinking again about the potential of converting to organic farming. The Organic Farm Management Handbook is the ideal reference source on conversion to and continued organic farming for farmers, growers, consultants, bankers, land agents, buyers, students and many more. (SM)

**One Magic Square: The Easy, Organic Way to Grow Your Own Food on a 3-Foot Square (Paperback) 2010 By (author) Lolo Houbein, 347 pp, ISBN 13: 9781615190126 ISBN 10 : 1615190120, £11.84** - A Hands-On guide to growing organic vegetables, fruits and herbs starting with just one square yard! Lolo Houbein has been growing food for more than 30 years and now, drawing on her wide learning and hard-earned experience, she offers a wealth of information on how to turn small plots of land into sources of nourishing, inexpensive, organic food. Amateur gardeners wondering

how to get started and veteran gardeners looking for new ideas, will be inspired by Houbein's practical, often charming, and always optimistic advice. "One Magic Square" includes: Earth-friendly tips, tricks, and solutions for establishing and maintaining an organic garden. Illustrated, annotated plans for 30 plots with different themes including perennials and pick-and-come-again plants, anti-cancer and anti-oxidant-rich vegetables, and salad, pizza, pasta, and stir-fry ingredients. Comprehensive information about every plant in every plot, Color photographs of the author's own garden plus helpful illustrations, Houbein family recipes for making the most of your bounty including salad dressings, fruit and vegetable juices, stir-fries, and more. (SM)

**The North American Biodynamic Sowing and Planting Calendar 2013 (Paperback) By (author) Maria Thun, By (author) Matthias K. Thun 20 September 2012, £6.64, 64 pp , ISBN 13: 9780863159183 ISBN 10: 0863159184** - The original biodynamic sowing and planting calendar, now in its 51st year. This useful guide shows the optimum days for sowing, pruning and harvesting various plants and crops, as well as working with bees. It includes Maria and Matthias Thun's unique insights, which go above and beyond the standard information presented in some other lunar calendars. It is presented in colour with clear symbols and explanations. The calendar includes a pullout wall chart that can be pinned up in a barn, shed or greenhouse as a handy quick reference. Also includes a memorial section to Maria Thun, who died in February 2012. (SM)

**Organic Farming By Shalini Suri, APH, 2012, vii, 276 p, ISBN : 9788131316580, Rs.895.50** - This book provides readers with an introduction to organic and biodynamic farming with focus on main reasons for undertaking organic products, herbal supplements, agriculture and food systems. Select case studies on

organic and biodynamic farming are made. Select FAQs on organic agriculture and farming are given. An overview of organic and biodynamic farming in India is provided herein with highlights on Shatavari formula and holy basil. The important chapters include: 1. Introduction to organic and biodynamic farming. 2. Select case studies on organic and biodynamic farming. 3. Focus on history of organic farming motivation for organic agriculture and organic certification. 4. Overview of organic and biodynamic farming in India. 5. Select FAQs on organic agriculture and farming. (SM)

**Traditional Organic Techniques for Indoor Garden** by **R.K. Chauhan, Dominant Pub, 2012, x, 296 p, ISBN : 81-7888-622-7, Rs 1125.00**

Students may find this book interesting because through domestic environment and organic means it teaches in a very practical way that how every one of us can get interested in cultural and adopt it as a way of life. Starting chapters look into the conditions for the indoor Garden -- light, temperature and moisture, soils and manures and then proceeds to starting plants from cuttings and management of different kinds of house plants like flowering plants, shrubs and foliage plants, vines, ferns and palms, etc. Onwards to chapter eight and nine, tools and implements used in germination, support and potting are discussed: boxes, window-boxes, vases, hanging baskets, the cold frame. Then comes the topic of the hotbed and gardening, heat germination, flower beds and general garden management which includes insects and diseases. Towards the end of the book composts, manures and a sample garden plan are given for beginners but before that there is a very useful spread of a few chapters that deals with gardening with less water. This particular length is

included because it has greater relevance to future and also in many areas where water is scarce, there should be no reason why our homes be not bestowed with green foliage and colourful flowers. (SM)

**Soil Conservation and Organic Farming** by **Deo Kant Prasad, Enkay Pub, 2012, viii, 264 p, ISBN :**

**9789380995199, Rs. 706.50** - Soil Fertility can be considered to be a measure of the soil's ability to sustain satisfactory crop growth, both in the short and longer-term. Organic farming recognizes the soil as being central to a sustainable farming system. Soil fertility is determined by a set of interactions. Organic matter is essential for soil fertility as it maintains good soil physical conditions e.g. soil structure, aeration and water holding capacity. Important chapter titles are: 1. Introduction. 2. Soil Fertility Management. 3. Managing soil fertility in organic farming systems. 4. Important roles of soil microorganisms in organic farming. 5. Soil fertility management-towards sustainable farming systems. 6. Soil Management for the conservation of soil nitrogen. 7. Effects of different management practices on soil conservation. 8. Weed management in low external input and organic farming system. 9. Organic and conventional farming systems: Environmental and economic issues. 10. Soil fertility management and insect pests. 11. Fertility management dynamics of soil. 12. Effect of land use and soil management practices on soil fertility quality. 13. Soil management and agrodiversity. 14. Managing soils for long-term productivity. 15. The Origin and hazard of inputs to crop protection in organic farming systems. 16. Selected soil enzymes: Examples of their potential roles in the ecosystem and 17. The importance of land-use legacies to ecology and conservation. (SM)

**List of participants of 30 days Certificate Course on Organic Farming from 04<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012 at National Centre of Organic Farming.**

Sl. No.	Name and address	Qualification	Mob .No.
1.	Mr Avinash Kumar Varma, Rithani, Distt- Meerut		
2.	Mr Devananad Giri VPO-Raniganj Kotwa, Distt- Balia		
3.	Ms Lekhu Anita Colony , Jaipur		
4.	Mr Sagar Singh VPO- Nalihussainpur, Panchseel Nagar		
5.	Mr Vineet Shahai , VPO-Garer , Distt- Deoria		
6.	Mr. Sanjeev Kumar, V Bhadaura, Distt- Meerut		
7.	Mr Pawan Kumar Srivastava VPO- Khakaichkhor, Distt-Gorkhpur		
8.	Mr Ramkesh V-Rajawana Bulanshshr		
9.	Mr Ganesh Kumar Varma VPO-Gopinathpur Distt- Basti		
10.	Mr Nem Pal Singh VPO-Aurangabad , Buladshshr		
11.	Mr Alok Pratap Singh PO. Budhan Manchipur Distt-Raiberalli		
12.	Mr Deepak Kumar Sharma , V-Bhojwara , Distt-Dausa		
13.	Mr Susheel Kumar V-Johara Distt Muzaffarnagar		
14.	Mr. Himanshu Kumar Mazaffarnagar		
15.	Mr Vipesh Kumar, Budala Road, Ratia		
16.	Mr Anil Kumar, Shastri Nagar, Allahabad		
17.	Mr Vishal Srivastava Jawahar Vihar Colony, Raiberalli		
18.	Mr Rahul Srivstava, Indira Nagar RDA Colony Raiberalli		
19.	Vibhay Kumay Bajpai , VPO- Bara Buzung Dalmow, Raiberalli		
20.	Mr Gurdeep Singh, Guldchera, Kurukshetra	BSc Ag	9991356288
21.	Ms Shivangi Shukla , CCSHAU Hisar	MSc (Hom Sc.), Ph.D.	8813882541
22.	Ms Promila Dahiya , CCS HAU Hisar	MSc (Hom Sc.), Ph.D.	9991101619
23.	Mr Ankush Kamboj Damla, Yamunagar	BSc Ag	9671219120
24.	Mr Ravi Prakash Pandey , Varansai		
25.	Mr Bhupesh Kumar, Khorangwas, , Distt- Rewari	BSc Ag	8901538510
26.	Mr Sada Ram, Chandwas, Distt-Rewari	BSc Ag	9253865613
27.	Mr Dharmbeer , Ramnagar Raipur Hisar	BSc Ag	9802646442
28.	Mr Dharmbeer Yadav , Fatehabad	BSc Ag	7357224475
29.	Mr Bhawani Yadav, V- Kothal Kalan , Distt- Mohindergarh	BSc Ag	8295347973
30.	Mr Dinesh Kumar Hostel No. 4, CCS HAU Hisar	BSc Ag	9467525281