

## Statistical Review: Worldwide Use of Organic Farming Practices

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In modern scenario organic farming is a technique, which is used for achieving good crop yield without harming the natural environment or the people who live and work in it. This article describes in little the current situation of the organic farming in the world as well as India.

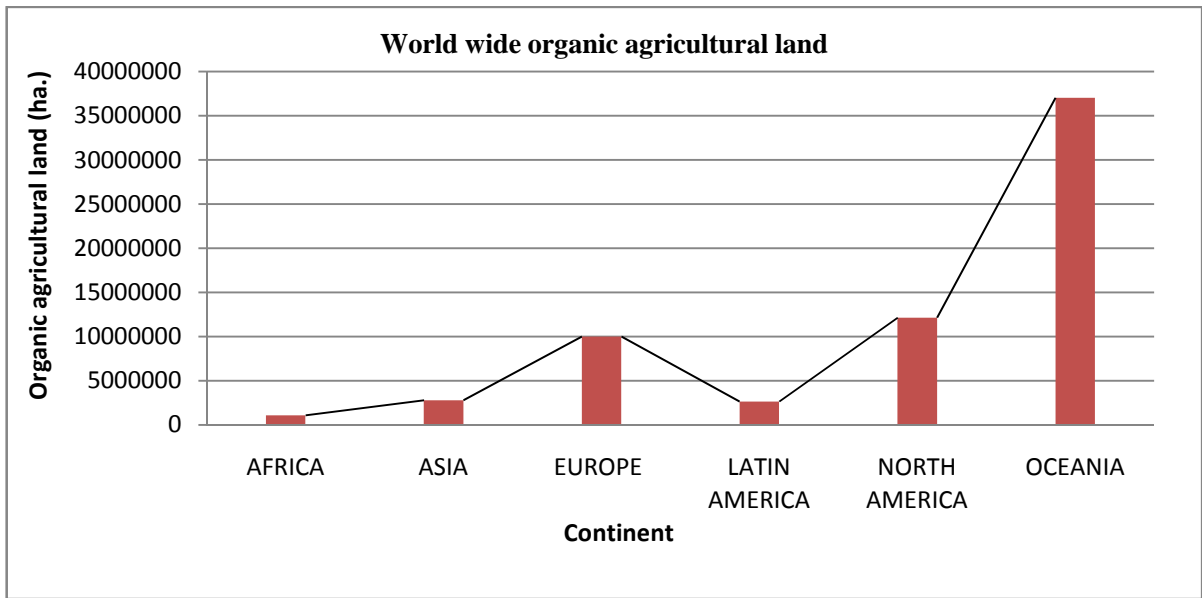
### Introduction

The main theme of food security is to provide sufficient, safe and nutritious food to every common person to meet his dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. To achieve this level of food security various modern agricultural practices have been used in past few decades wherein extremely uses of fertilizes is the main features of these farming practices. But now a day's scientists faces problems like soil erosion, decreased groundwater level, soil salinization, pollution due to fertilizers and pesticides, genetic erosion, ill effects on environment, reduced food quality and increased cost of cultivation, rendering the farmer poorer year by year (Ram, 2003).

For increasing long term soil fertility, controlling the pests and diseases without harming the environment, ensuring the purity of water resources, producing nutritious foods and high quality of food, organic farming methods are very much important in the present scenario. This is the importance of organic farming, that not only total area as well as number of organic producers also increasing in all over the world. In this time more than 160 countries in the world adopted this technique of the farming.

### Current Statistics Related to Shares of Organic Agricultural Land in World

International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), established in 1972 is like a monitoring body for organic farming organization in all over the world. According to the IFOAM survey 2012, total land use under organic agricultural in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, Oceania is 1075892, 2778291, 10002087, 2652624, 12144984, 37041004 hectare respectively (Fig.1). Oceania, which is as a region centred on the islands of the tropical Pacific Ocean, possesses highest land use under the organic farming, which is 2.9 percent of its total land use under the agricultural activities.



Source: FiBL-IFOAM Survey 2012

**Countries with Maximum Land under Organic Agriculture**

Australia under the Oceania is a leading country in all over the world which used 12 million hectare land for organic farming practices. Followed by Argentina, United States, Brazil, Spain, China, Italy, Germany, Uruguay and France (Table 1)

**Table1. Top countries who adopted organic farming practices**

Serial No.	Country Name	Land use under organic farming practices(million hectares)
1	Australia	12.00
2	Argentina	4.18
3	United States	1.95
4	Brazil	1.77
5	Spain	1.46
6	China	1.39
7	Italy	1.11
8	Germany	0.99
9	Uruguay	0.93
10	France	0.85

Source: FiBL- IFOAM Survey 2012

### Countries with Highest Shares of Organic Agricultural Land

Falkland Island possesses highest share of the total land use under organic farming in the world. Uechtenstein, Austria, Sweden, Estonia, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Latvia, Slovakia, Italy are the other countries who possesses significant share of total land use under organic farming practices (Table 2)

**Table 2. Top countries with highest shares of organic agricultural land**

Serial No.	Country Name	Percentage share of organic farming land
1	Falkland Islands(Malvinas)	35.9
2	Uechtenstein	27.3
3	Austria	19.7
4	Sweden	14.1
5	Estonia	12.5
6	Switzerland	11.4
7	Czech Republic	10.5
8	Latvia	09.4
9	Slovakia	09.0
10	Italy	08.7

Source: FiBL- IFOAM Survey 2012

### Status of India in Organic Farming Practices

In India also, organic farming shows a growing trend, with total 1020000 hectares land used till 2012 (Table 3). Currently India's organic trade is above than Rs. 2500 crores. For enhancing organic farming practices Ministry of commerce, started National Program on Organic Production (NPOP). This national programme involves the accreditation programme for certification bodies, norms for organic production, promotion of organic farming. The NPOP standards for production and accreditation system have been recognized by European Commission and Switzerland as equivalent to their country standards. Besides this, Ministry of Agriculture also started various promotion schemes for small farmers. Fifteen Indian states have their own policy of organic farming since 2004, which is a good indication for Indian agriculture.

Table 3- Growth of Organic Area in India

S. No.	Year	Organic Area in India (ha.)
1	2005	42000
2	2006	76000
3	2007	173000
4	2008	538000
5	2009	865000
6	2010	1180000
7	2011	820000
8	2012	1020000

### Conclusion

There is worldwide concern and area under organic farming practices is increasing fast. India has increased 25 times area under organic farming in last 8 years from 2005 to 2012.

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