ISOFAR Newsletter no. 1, 2019



Dear ISOFAR Members and Supporters

Greeting from ISOFAR for beginning of Spring 2019 which is a wonderful time of year, a season of new life, everything feels fresh, more vibrant colors begin to appear and smelling rain on pavement and flowers in bloom. On the farm, we look forward to new baby goats and sheep, getting excited about honey bees, farmers are busy during early spring in preparation for new crops and turning our gardens into a work of art!

The current practical implementations for developing organic farming systems are the ongoing interface with science and research to continually prove and improve performance. The attractive part of organic farming is engaging scientists from all over the world and different fields of agricultural practices, food and nutrition security, socio-economy, health and environment and bring them together, also studies at local and regional levels are shared and coordinated globally in which international scientific institutes or societies such as ISOFAR tries to encourage even more geographically inclusive collaborations between relevant scientists.

The current newsletter issue has several reports as well as introducing published books relevant with organic farming and announcement of upcoming events which received from different countries such as Austria, Denmark, Germany, Turkey and Uganda. Special thanks to all those who actively contributed!

All members have open access to our scientific Springer journal "Organic Agriculture" which is a nice place to publish your next peer-reviewed paper! The ISOFAR website is also open for all ISOFAR members and supporters who want to publish news about events, projects, networks, a country report and you are welcome to get in touch by e-mail (mreza.ardakani@gmail.com) to agree about details.

The ISOFAR website is the place of what we know and what is new in the world of scientific activities in Organic Agriculture created by organic scientists. Therefore, on behalf of ISOFAR, I very much hope for continuing a fruitful partnership of all of us.

Sincerely Yours,

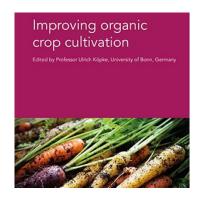
Prof. M. Reza Ardakani, Vice President of ISOFAR

NEWS from ISOFAR:



BSc in Organic Agriculture and Food Production- Warsaw University of Life SciencesSGGW

The Faculty of Agriculture and Biology has the aim to offer the students a holistic and interdisciplinary knowledge in the area of organic agriculture and food production presented by the best specialists from different faculties of Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGGW and from abroad.



Improving organic crop cultivation

This new book reviews ways of addressing the challenges organic crop cultivation, from developing better varieties to ways of improving crop nutrition and pest control.

20% discount on all online orders at checkout – use code **ISOFAR20.**







Improving organic animal farming

This book reviews key research addressing key challenges faced by organic animal farming in improving yields, animal nutrition and health.

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<u>Division of Organic Agriculture / University of</u> <u>Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna</u> (BOKU)

Soil fertility, cropping systems, nutrient-, humus balances, soil tillage, agroforestry, water household, knowledge transfer, local, indigenous, traditional ecological knowledge, farmers' experiments, innovation etc.

6th SYMPOSIUM ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE - May 15-17, 2019, Fuar Izmir (Gaziemir / Izmir)

In Turkey, the Symposium on Organic Agriculture is organized at intervals since 1999 under the coordination of Association of Organic Agriculture Organizations (Ekolojik Tarım Organizasyonu (ETO)).



European Diversity Cereal Festival

The European Diversity Cereal Festival in Denmark will bring together parallel sessions of baking workshops, beer workshops, field demonstrations, market place, posters and lectures. The Festival focus is on heritage varieties, landraces, heterogeneous populations and varieties bred for organic farming.

BSc in Organic Agriculture and Food Production- Warsaw University of Life Sciences- SGGW

The Faculty of Agriculture and Biology has the aim to offer the students a holistic and interdisciplinary knowledge in the area of organic agriculture and food production presented by the best specialists from different faculties of Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGGW and from abroad.



Mission of the Study

The Faculty of Agriculture and Biology has the aim to offer the students a holistic and interdisciplinary knowledge in the area of organic agriculture and food production presented by the best specialists from different faculties of Warsaw University of Life Sciences – SGGW and from abroad.

Aim of the Study

The BSc studies OAFP are constructed according to the expectations of the potential employers within the organic food production. The focus is on the innovative teaching methods activating students and preparing them to the future employment. The studies will offer good possibilities to develop necessary skills and knowledge in desired specialties. The alumni of OAFP can find jobs in the organic food production, processing, trade, also in different companies connected with education, dissemination and advisory services.

Requirements

Qualification based on:

the results of the maturity examination in biology or chemistry or mathematics; confirmed knowledge of English (certificate of English language at least level B2 or maturity exam in English language at an Advanced level with result at least 70%, or a document confirming completion of the high school with program in English as language of instruction).

Duration: six semesters; start: 1st October 2019.

For candidates: http://www.sggw.pl/en/for-candidates/recruitment/1st-degree-

studies

Application deadline: 6 th July 2019

For more information please visit: http://www.sggw.pl/en/news/for-

candidates_/bsc-in-organic-agriculture-and-food-production

For candidates: http://www.sggw.pl/en/for-candidates/recruitment/1st-degree-

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Improving organic crop cultivation

This new book reviews ways of addressing the challenges organic crop cultivation, from developing better varieties to ways of improving crop nutrition and pest control.

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Global sales of organic products have grown significantly, yet organic farming remains a small percentage of overall agricultural production with lower yields than conventional methods. Organic crop cultivation thus faces a range of challenges if it is to grow significantly. This volume reviews the wealth of research addressing these challenges.

Part 1 reviews developments in improving cultivation across the value chain, from breeding more robust, low input varieties to ways of maintaining soil health and improving crop nutrition. Part 2 discusses the key topic of pests and diseases with reviews of integrated pest and weed management as well as organic plant protection products. Part 3 covers ways of monitoring the environmental impact of organic farming whilst the final part of the book discusses ways of supporting organic cultivation in the developing world.

With its distinguished editor and an international team of expert authors, this will be a standard reference for all those interested in understanding, improving and promoting organic farming.

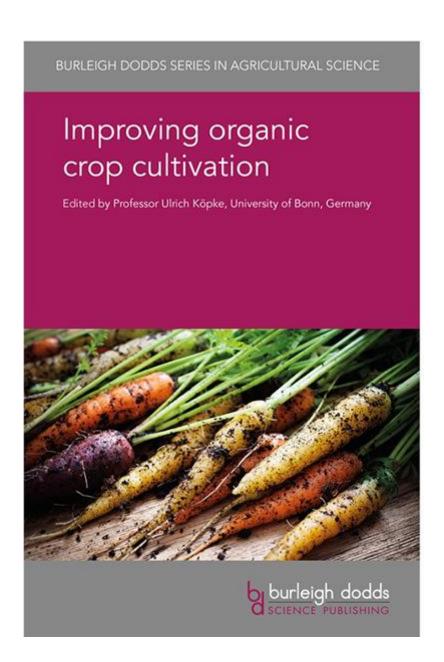
Key features:

- Reviews key advances and best practice in cultivation techniques across the value chain of organic farming
- Discusses ways of monitoring and improving the environmental impact of organic crop production
- Particular focus on ways of supporting organic farming in the developing world

"Arable and particularly horticultural crops are central to organic agriculture. There remain tremendous challenges in research whilst the best sustainable practices are still not fully adopted by all organic farmers. A comprehensive reference book covering the latest research on improving organic agriculture is therefore indispensable and currently missing. With their wealth of expertise, the editor and the authors fill this very gap."

Professor Urs Niggli, Director of the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL), Switzerland

Visit: https://shop.bdspublishing.com/store/bds/detail/workgroup/3-190-56324



Author info:

Edited by: Professor Ulrich Köpke is Director and Head of the Institute of Organic Agriculture at the University of Bonn, Germany. He was Founding President of the International Society of Organic Agriculture Research (ISOFAR) which plays a leading role in promoting collaboration in international organic research. Professor Köpke has written over 200 publications on nutrient management, life cycle analysis and other techniques for optimising agronomic practices in organic agriculture, as well as coordinating a number of major European research projects in organic agriculture.

Improving organic animal farming

This book reviews key research addressing key challenges faced by organic animal farming in improving yields, animal nutrition and health.

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Part 1 assesses current research on environmental impact, promoting animal health, enhancing naturalness and welfare. It also reviews how organic systems fit in with agroforestry, pastoralist and other smallholder farming systems.

The second part of the book includes case studies from leading experts on current research in improving the farming of particular species. Chapters review challenges and opportunities in organic dairy and beef farming, sheep and goats, pigs and poultry. There are also chapters on organic aquaculture as well as organic and natural beekeeping.

With its distinguished editors and international team of expert authors, this will be a standard reference for all those researching organic animal farming as well as the organic livestock farmers, organic certification and regulatory bodies.

Key features:

- Reviews key challenges and solutions in improving the health and welfare of organic farm animals
- Addresses how organic livestock farming can build on smallholder systems such as pastoralism and agroforestry
- Includes case studies on improving organic farming of dairy and beef cattle, sheep and goats, pig and poultry

"Organic livestock production has come a long way since any major, comprehensive summary of it was last published so this book is hugely welcome. The cast of editors and

authors, all leaders in their field, makes the book a reliable reference work for years to come."

Dr Malla Hovi, Veterinary Epidemiologist, Consultant, Preventable Surprises

Visit: https://shop.bdspublishing.com/store/bds/detail/workgroup/3-190-56348



Author info:

Edited by: Dr Mette Vaarst, Senior Researcher in the Department of Animal Science at Aarhus University, and in the International Centre for Research in Organic Food Systems (ICROFS), Denmark. She has published widely on organic animal farming and coordinated a number of major European research projects in this area.

Dr Stephen Roderick manages research and development projects in organic and sustainable farming at Duchy College's Rural Business School in the UK. He has published widely in animal health and farm resource management.

Division of Organic Agriculture / University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences Vienna (BOKU)



Roller-crimper in a rye-vetch cover crop-mixture; Photo: A. Grand

Soil fertility, cropping systems, nutrient-, humus balances, soil tillage, agroforestry, water household, knowledge transfer, local, indigenous, traditional ecological knowledge, farmers' experiments, innovation, regulatory framework, certification systems, home gardens, wild collections, ethno sciences, rural development, urban food / farming systems, organic farming and societal change, systems theory/ scenario technique, transfer approaches, transdisciplinarity, ethics, farming systems in the tropics.

Organic Farming in Austria

In 2017, 21 % of the farms and 24 % of the agricultural land in Austria were under organic management. About one third of the grassland, one third of the fruit production area and 18 % of the livestock units in Austria are organic.

Division of Organic Farming (IfÖL) at BOKU

Teaching:

Introductory courses on Organic Agriculture (OA) can be studied in the bachelor. At master level a German (national) and English (international) (EUR-Organic) master study program is offered.

Research approach:

Organic farming research at the Division of Organic Farming aims at the advancement of organic agriculture and food systems by taking the ethical and systemic nature of organic farming as well as the local knowledge, creativity and innovative capacity of the actors along the supply chain into account.

The division is structured into three working groups: <u>Soil Fertility & Cropping Systems</u>; <u>Knowledge Systems & Innovation</u>; <u>Transdisciplinary System Research</u>

More than 15 PhDs and approx. 20 master thesis per year are working on topics related to organic agriculture, organic food and related aspects.

Selected research projects at IfÖL:

- EIP-Agri: "Yield performance and soil organic matter built-up by reduced tillage and organic fertilization"
- "MUBIL": A long-term field monitoring on the conversion to organic farming and the development of agroecological complementary measurements
- -"ECOBREED": Increasing the competitiveness of organic crop breeding and improving the availability of seed and varieties suitable for organic and low-input production?
- "Homegrown There's nothing like a homegarden!" Agro-biodiversity in farmers' homegardens
- Gathering of wild plant species in organic farming in Austria
- Gathering wild foods in urban areas mixed-methods study on ecological and socio-political sustainability of gathering in Vienna, Austria (UrbanWildFoods)
- Promoting young stock and cow health and welfare by natural feeding systems
- Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS): Facts and fiction on the concept of participation
- ERASMUS+ "EUROEducates": Creation of an agroecological educational toolkit
- "The Future of Urban Food": Scenarios of urban agrofood systems and their eco-economic impacts, case of Vienna
- "EdiCitNet": a reference framework on nature-based Edible City Solutions for inclusive urban regeneration
- Low-Input Farming and Territories ("LIFT") Integrating knowledge for improving ecosystem-based farming
- Innovating Sustainable Agriculture in Mozambique Learning and Teaching Tools (ISAM): Increasing the capacity of young people to contribute to higher education for students and extension services for smallholder farmers in the field of agriculture and rural development
- Building Organic Agriculture in Armenia; Improving the knowledge and skills of organic stakeholders through participatory curriculum development and outreach (BOAA)
- Smallholder Farmer Strategies to cope with Climate Change, Ethiopia and Kenya (SMACC): providing field-to-market strategies for production intensification of selected key crops that are regionally adapted to help sub-Saharan regions cope with Climate Change

AUTHOR

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jürgen K. Friedel; Univ. Prof. Dr. Bernhard Freyer; Assoc. Prof. Dr. Christian R. Vogl, Division of Organic Farming, Department of Sustainable Agricultural Systems, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna; http://www.nas.boku.ac.at/en/ifoel/

6th SYMPOSIUM ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

In Turkey, the Symposium on Organic Agriculture is organized at intervals since 1999 under the coordination of Association of Organic Agriculture Organizations (Ekolojik Tarım Organizasyonu (ETO)). The 6th Symposium that will be held in Izmir on May 15-17, 2019 during the 10th Ekoloji (Ecology) Fair is open for international participants. Symposium linked to the unique Fair in Turkey on organic agriculture will surely brina opportunities participants. The Symposium aims to support scientific and innovative research work, to promote initiatives and cooperation, to discuss the delivered research results with stakeholders, to wide-spread best practices, and to share the problems faced in organic sector with decision makers and researchers. The Symposium is open for oral and poster presentations related to organic agriculture including papers on the current state-of art of organic agriculture or best practices. Panel discussions will also allow researchers interact the practitioners The Panel discussion on promotion of regional cooperation will mainly focus on Eastern European, Central Asian and Middle-eastern countries. Applications are open to all interested parties. The presentations and manuscripts should be either in Turkish English. The manuscripts of the oral and poster presentations will be gathered in a Book of Proceedings after a review process. Detailed information on the rules for preparing the manuscripts will be sent together with the letter of acceptance.

Important Dates

Abstract submission deadline: 24 March 2019 Finalization of the review process: 31 March 2019

Sending letters of acceptance as oral or poster presentation: 7 April 2019

Deadline submission of the full text: 15 May 2019

Symposium dates: 15-17

May 2019

Website: https://goo.gl/KT7m7h

 $\textbf{Registration Form:} \ https://goo.gl/forms/MSyIBCurfxpdrAo33$



SAĞLIKLI YAŞAM İÇİN ORGANİK ÜRÜNLERİ SEÇİN!

Ekoloji İzmir, Türkiye'yi ulusal ve uluslararası alanda temsil eden tek sertifikalı organik ürünler fuarı olarak sizi İzmir'e davet ediyor.

Sektör profesyonellerine önemli iş bağlantıları kurma firsatı sunmakla birlikte, son tüketicileri organik hayatla buluşturmaya bu sene de devam ediyor.

15 - 18 Mayıs 2019 tarihlerinde fuarizmir'de görüşmek üzere!







World class inspiration for production of new cereals, heritage varieties and cereal products.

The European Diversity Cereal Festival in Denmark combine parallel sessions of

baking workshops, beer workshops, field demonstrations, poster sessions and lectures.

If you aim to produce quality cereal and cereal products, this is the place to be.

You will meet and network with experienced farmers, advisors, producers, processors and scientists from all over Europe.

In the field demonstration at the festival there will be 500 plots with cereal, that contain different varieties and populations from all over Europa.

The festival theme is cultivation, heritage varieties, landraces, heterogeneous populations and varieties bred for organic farming. The festival aims to inspire farmers and producers to develop new productions of these varieties.

SIGN UP HERE: https://www.tilmeld.dk/cereal2019/sign-up.html