

Recent Growth Patterns in the U.S. Organic Foods Market. By Carolyn Dimitri and Catherine Greene, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, Market and Trade Economics Division and Resource Economics Division. Agriculture Information Bulletin Number 777.

Abstract

Organic farming is one of the fastest growing segments of U.S. agriculture. As consumer interest continues to gather momentum, many U.S. producers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers are specializing in growing, processing, and marketing an ever-widening array of organic agricultural and food products. This report summarizes growth patterns in the U.S. organic sector in recent years, by market category, and describes various research, regulatory, and other ongoing programs on organic agriculture in the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Keywords: organic agriculture, organic farming systems, organic marketing, organic marketing channels, certified organic acreage and livestock, price premiums, national organic rules, specialty agriculture, high-value crops, USDA research.

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