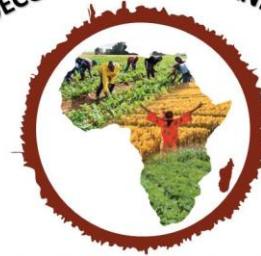


TRANSFORMING AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA
AGROECOLOGY and ORGANIC TRADE



Reducing Synthetic Pesticides and Fertilizers

Organic farming and the role of certification systems: A success story in Italy

Pietro Campus

Italy's Institute for Ethical and Environmental Certification



“ Organic farming is not a journey where we are backing into the caves. It’s a journey of high technology, good health, of better democracy and huge, multiple benefits that go well beyond saving global agriculture and the planet. ”



THE EU AND ITALIAN WAYS TO GO ORGANIC

EU

The value of organic products amounts to 20 billion Euros

Growth rate of 9% compared to the previous year.

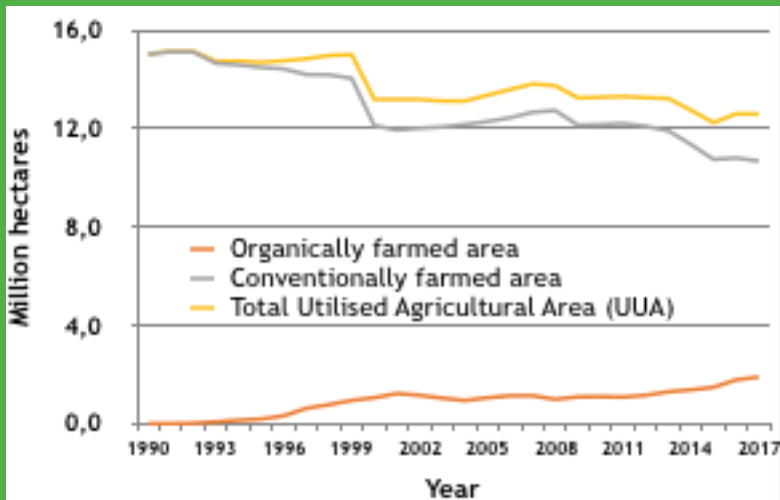
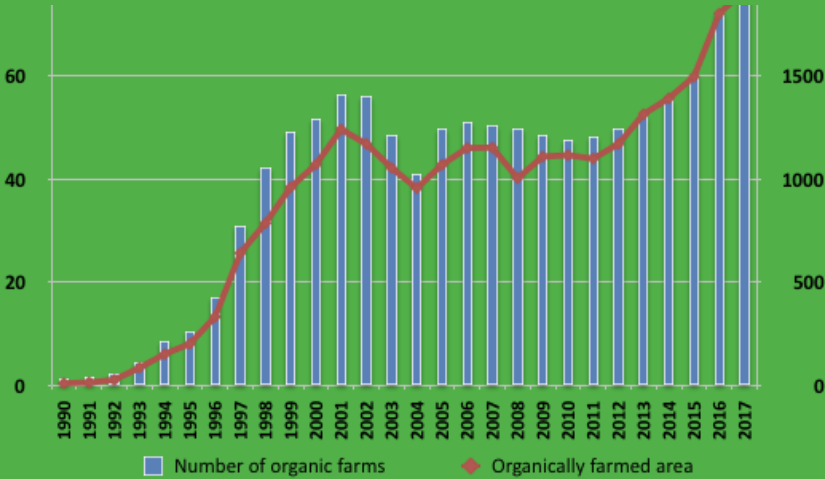
13 million ha, or 18% of the global organic area and 7% of total EU agricultural land.

ITALY

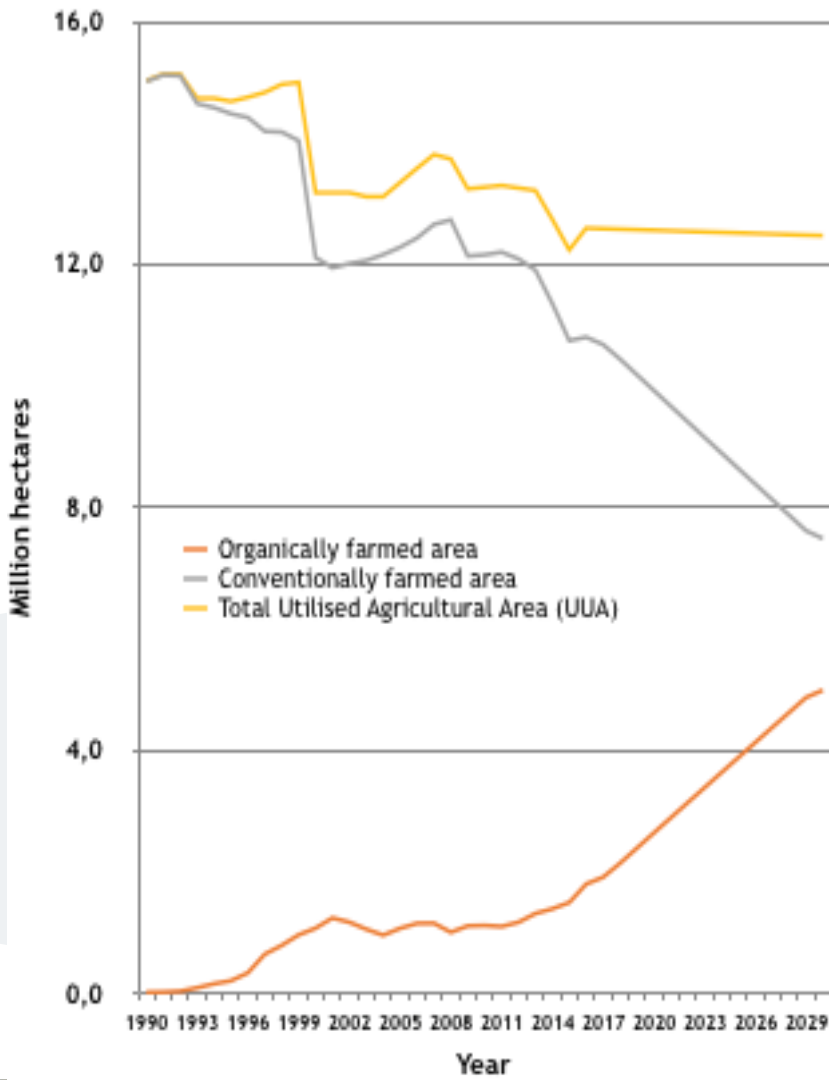
Growth rate of 7% on an annual basis

2 million hectares or 15% of the total agricultural area.

70,000 organic farmers



Potential for growth in Italy



- 40% of the utilized agricultural area or 5 million hectares
- Revitalisation of a declining sector and remote areas of the country
- Contribution—inter alia—to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation



Control and certification bodies in EU organic farming: role and main challenges

- Key role for consumers to trust that the rules on organic production are being followed over all supply chain
- Improving the effectiveness of the control and certification system (filling significant differences within the different Control and Certification Bodies in their organizational and operating features.
- Improving the current certification model and developing more effective certification models, tending to resolve the main problems encountered by producers (especially small-scale ones - in acquiring a certification.)
- More active role of CCBs in terms of transfer of knowledge, increased awareness, market growth) in order to scale up organic agriculture and other diversified farming systems and to reduce the "knowledge gap" that underpins, among others, the "yield gap".

The role of research is key

Filling the 'yield gap'

It raises concerns about the potential of organic farming and other DFS as sustainable solutions to meet food security, biodiversity conservation (limited availability of some inputs in their organic form)

Other priorities

- ❖ scientific evidence on the positive or negative effects of organic farming on human health, animal welfare, food security and on the environment *lato sensu* when compared to conventional farming
- ❖ Dissemination of research results and technology transfer
- ❖ Integration of researches on food waste and losses, transformational change in the way global agriculture produce food and fibres, change of diet



A new EU legislation on organic farming that will come into force on 1 January 2021

- a strengthening of the control system, helping to build further consumer confidence in the EU organics system
- new rules for producers which will make it easier for smaller farmers to convert to organic production
- new rules on imported organics to ensure that all organic products sold in the European Union are of the same standard
- a greater range of products that can be marketed as organic

Thanks!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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