

THE VOLUME OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IS INCREASING

Odiljon Ibragimov^{1(*)}, Ibragimjon Domuladjanov¹, Shakhlo Domulajanova¹, Bekzod Ibragimov²

¹Fergana State Technical University, Fergana, Uzbekistan

²Laboratory of Entomology and Biological Methods of the Fergana Regional Branch of the Research Institute of Plant Quarantine and Protection, Fergana, Uzbekistan

*Corresponding author: olimjonovich1952@mail.ru

Abstract. The article provides a description of Uzbekistan's organic products, which have the potential to enter the global market under a single brand. The Head of State, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, emphasized that the production of food based on organic agriculture is a requirement of modern times, as well as an important factor in preserving and protecting humanity, nature, and the world's soils, while speaking at the Summit of Turkic-speaking States. In this regard, it is necessary to establish an expert working group under the leadership of the ministers of agriculture of these countries to select the first "pilot" projects and implement them in our countries. The main objective of organic agricultural production is to reduce environmental pollution to zero and to produce safe and healthy food products from field crops. The use of genetically modified organisms is strictly prohibited. Inorganic fertilizers, synthetic pesticides and agrochemicals that accelerate plant growth, as well as genetically modified organisms, are also not used. There are international and national standards for organic farming, and before organic agricultural products enter the market, it is necessary to obtain a special certificate confirming that the farming practices fully comply with all standards and that the soil, nature, water, and air are completely clean. To implement this, 10 agro-logistics centers and more than one thousand cold storage facilities will be established. More than 40,000 hectares will be developed as industrial-intensive orchards and vineyards. For this purpose, entrepreneurs will be provided with subsidies to obtain "Organic," "GlobalGAP," "Halal," and "Kosher" certificates.

Keywords: Organic, subsidies, certificates, expert group, agro centers, national, regional, soil, genetically modified organisms, FAO, ministries, products, pilot projects, population, export.

INTRODUCTION

In his address at the Summit of the Organization of Turkic States, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, emphasized from the highest rostrum that our countries have the potential to become global leaders in the production and supply of organic agricultural products to ensure food security.

According to FAO data, the volume of organic products on the global market today exceeds 225 billion US dollars, and it is expected that these figures will continue to grow by 10 percent annually in the future.

Based on the potential of our countries in this area, there is a need to strengthen scientific research and breeding activities, production cooperation, and logistical links in the production of high-quality and in-demand organic products.

In this regard, the Head of State, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, proposed adopting a program of practical cooperation based on the principle of "raw materials – processing – science and technology – finished product," which is of great importance.

In the future, our organic products will be able to enter the global market under a single brand. In this context, we propose establishing an expert working group under the leadership of the ministers of agriculture of our countries to select the first "pilot" projects and implement them across our countries.

The Head of State emphasized at the Summit of the Organization of Turkic States that the production of food based on organic agriculture is a requirement of modern times, as well as the importance of preserving and protecting humanity, nature, and soils worldwide [1-5].

Global population growth combined with an unstable global environment necessitates the implementation of a number of critical tasks aimed at increasing the production of organic agricultural products. What is the concept of organic agriculture, organic farming, and the production of organic agricultural products?

DESCRIPTIVE SECTION

The main objective of organic agricultural production is to reduce environmental pollution to zero and to produce safe and healthy food products from field crops.

The use of genetically modified organisms is strictly prohibited. Inorganic fertilizers, synthetic pesticides, and agrochemicals that accelerate plant growth, as well as genetically modified organisms, are not used.

There are international and national standards for organic farming, and before organic agricultural products enter the market, it is necessary to obtain a special certificate confirming that agricultural activities fully comply with all standards and that the soil, nature, water, and air are completely clean.

Transforming conventional farms in our country into organic farms takes several years, and this system is under constant state supervision. Therefore, organic food products certified as organic agricultural products are highly valued and sold on the market (or markets) at significantly higher prices than other traditional products [6-9].

In conventional agriculture, food security is ensured through the use of chemicals, genetically modified organisms, and complex pest control systems to achieve maximum productivity using modern technologies, without taking into account environmental pollution of soil, nature, water, and air.

Organic agriculture, or more precisely organic farming, is characterized by two main components crop production and livestock farming which are based on natural resources such as healthy soil, environmentally clean water, and clean air. Organic agricultural production requires more labor, while yields are significantly lower compared to those of conventional agricultural production.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Healthy, environmentally clean soil represents nature, water, and air, and therefore ensures the development of healthy plants that are resistant to various diseases and all types of agricultural pests. The soil complex and plants constitute an inseparable whole, forming a global ecological system in which plants and soil coexist and function together.

After studying farms in the provinces of İzmir and Adana in Türkiye that are fully equipped for organic agriculture, we noted the following regarding the surface soil complex. We observed that only leguminous crops, which enhance soil fertility, were planted between the rows of orange, mandarin, and date plantations.

We also found that among farmers practicing organic farming in Türkiye, there are numerous supporters of organic agriculture, as well as diverse approaches and theories applied in practice.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

However, we observed that all discussions surrounding these views are primarily focused on a careful attitude toward nature, the preservation of natural ecological balance and ecosystems, and the complete rejection of synthetic mineral fertilizers and pesticides. The main principles of organic farming in Türkiye are as follows:

1. The concept of maintaining ecosystem integrity and soil balance is based on a pure natural equilibrium; that is, healthy soil implies clean air, productive, transparent, and nutrient-rich water. All theorists and supporters of various approaches recognize and believe in this unified organic concept.

2. The use of synthetic mineral fertilizers, pesticides, and genetically modified organisms is completely rejected.

3. Protection against weeds, diseases, and pests relies exclusively on traditional and natural methods.

4. In fields planted with apples, pears, quince, oranges, mandarins, apricots, almonds, walnuts, dates, and peaches, red clover, Iranian and Kashgar alfalfa, as well as leguminous crops such as soybeans, beans, Turkish black beans, and peanuts were planted between the rows of fruit trees.

5. We observed that the soil surface was always covered with green vegetation, regardless of which of the above-mentioned crops was cultivated.

6. In Türkiye, on fields sown with cotton, wheat, maize, and vegetable crops, green manure crops were planted to suppress weeds and serve as fertilizer. After the main crops, plants with deep root systems and rapid growth were sown on temporarily vacant land.

7. A method minimizing the use of agricultural machinery in cultivated areas has been implemented, along with integrated soil management using several techniques and reduced labor intensity.

8. In organic farming, deep soil tillage and the use of pesticides are not applied. Such practices are harmful to soil organisms, reduce productivity, disrupt soil metabolism, suppress the beneficial activity of earthworms and microorganisms, and ultimately lead to their death.

9. Organic agriculture in Türkiye integrates positive ecological interactions between soil, organic residues of plant and animal origin, and agricultural production.

In organic farming, straw, hay, fallen leaves, roots and their residues, cut grass, and other decomposing organic matter covering the soil surface create natural and favorable conditions for crop cultivation. This practice conserves moisture, protects the soil from evaporation, erosion, and overcooling, and promotes the thriving of regenerative microorganisms within the soil.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In recent years, global climate change, natural disasters, and shortages of land and water resources have created serious challenges for the agricultural sector.

In the 2024 agricultural year, farmers in our country produced 9 million tons of grain, more than 3 million tons of cotton, over 16 million tons of vegetables and melons, 5 million tons of fruits and grapes, 4 million tons of potatoes, more than 15 million tons of meat and milk, and 30 thousand tons of cocoons.

Domestic scientists have achieved high results by developing drought- and heat-resistant varieties of wheat and cotton, introducing yield-enhancing technologies, and applying the experience of leading researchers.

As a result of increased grain production, full satisfaction of the population's demand for staple food products, expanded processing capacity, and price stabilization in markets, grain yields over the past three years have increased by 6.4 centners per hectare.

It is no coincidence that 2025 was declared the "Year of Environmental Protection and the Green Economy" in our country. This decision is of great importance for agriculture, whose future and prospects are closely linked to land and water resources, and it has become a legal basis for the establishment of large-scale green gardens [9-11].

Undoubtedly, the state program adopted for this year will open new opportunities for the sustainable development of the sector, ensure food security, promote the use of green technologies in agriculture, and support the production of environmentally friendly products.

In addition, the Law "On Agricultural Cooperatives," signed on November 8, 2024, is also significant, as it is aimed at developing the sector and further strengthening the legal foundations of cooperation.

In the new cooperative system, agricultural landowners, farming enterprises, or peasants can work together and jointly address issues that a single farm is unable to resolve on its own.

Here is a clear and academically styled English translation of the provided text:

At present, 671 agro-clusters are operating in our republic. When organizing organic agriculture, each of them is allocated 5 hectares of land. If earlier, during the establishment process, 2 hectares had been allocated for organic farming from 3,359 hectares and more than 91,000 farming enterprises, we would now have the capacity to cultivate 182,000 hectares of pure organic agricultural products.

If we take into account that there are more than 5.5 million landowners in our republic, the area of land devoted to organic agriculture could be increased even further.

More than 20 million hectares of land in the country are used for the cultivation of food and agricultural crops required for various sectors of the economy.

In recent years, the world's population has been growing rapidly, and in our country it is expected to reach 50 million within the next ten years. This poses a major challenge for the state to ensure stable food supply, which in turn requires increasing agricultural production volumes by at least 1.5 times.

Under conditions where climate change is becoming more severe each year, natural disasters are occurring more frequently, water scarcity is increasing, and various forms of instability persist, the current situation itself necessitates the implementation of measures and actions that will protect our population from these negative factors and ensure a stable and healthy life.

Of course, this will not happen overnight; however, to ensure a stable and healthy ecological environment, it is essential to transition to the production of organic agricultural products. As is well known, food production in agriculture is highly complex and labor-intensive, and organic agricultural production is among the most challenging yet most relevant tasks that must be addressed today.

In his speech at the Summit of the Organization of Turkic States, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, stated:

"Increasing the production of organic agricultural products is an important and urgent issue, and the Turkic states have put forward an initiative to unite their efforts and capabilities to address this vital challenge.

The expansion of organic agricultural production is based on preserving the ecosystem of the entire world and safeguarding the health not only of our country, but of people worldwide."

Here is a polished and formal English translation suitable for an academic or policy-oriented document:

This is an example of a prudent foreign and domestic policy pursued by our Head of State, made possible through his foresight, tireless efforts, research, wisdom, boundless love for our Motherland and our people, and, most importantly, strong political will.

Indeed, our country has great potential for the development of organic agriculture. Most importantly, we possess fertile, sun-rich land and a hardworking population. It is no longer appropriate to waste water, excessively fertilize fields, or leave them unattended, as was done in the past.

In the production of organic agricultural products, crops planted in the fields cannot be left without proper care. We must learn to use every produced and accumulated resource efficiently. As is well known, the price of organic products on the global market is two to three times higher than that of conventional products.

Currently, only 3,900 hectares of land in 10 districts of our country have organic certification. In the Andijan, Jizzakh, and Khorezm regions, there is not a single certified area suitable for the production of organic products. However, agricultural crops are cultivated on 2,000 hectares of land surrounding reservoirs where pesticides are not used.

Our country has more than 4 million hectares of irrigated land, mainly used for the production of food products and raw materials for the economy. In recent years, 260,000 hectares of land previously used for cotton and grain cultivation have been allocated to farming enterprises, and an additional 104,000 hectares are planned for allocation.

In 2024, food exports increased by 370 million US dollars compared to 2023, exceeding 2 billion US dollars. Of the 260,000 hectares of land allocated for household farming from former cotton and wheat fields, one hectare out of every 100 meets the required standards for organic agriculture.

Thus, it is possible to allocate and certify 26,000 hectares of organic land. To achieve this, local officials within the Ministry of Agriculture must identify such land, obtain the necessary certificates, and complete the registration process. Uzbekistan ranks third in the world in apricot exports, seventh in cherries and peaches, and tenth in mung beans and other leguminous crops.

For apricots, peaches, mung beans, and other leguminous crops, it is sufficient to obtain certification. Since these products already meet international organic agriculture standards, foreign markets are willing to purchase our produce.

Here is a clear, formal English translation suitable for an academic or policy document:

It is necessary to determine the area of cultivated land and obtain certification. Sweet cherries alone are exported to 16 countries. If they did not meet the requirements of foreign markets, our products would not be allowed to cross the border.

Therefore, it is necessary to designate the areas where sweet cherries are grown as organic agricultural zones, identify the relevant land plots, and issue organic certificates. In short, when cultivating sweet cherries, it is essential to ensure that agricultural land obtains organic certification.

There are more than 5,000 rural communities in our country, and an additional 2,000 in district centers and cities, totaling more than 7,000 communities. In these communities, households own land plots ranging from 0.25 to 0.6 hectares and raise cattle, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits, and other livestock.

In the Kushtepa District and the city of Fergana, 4,197 people in 748 households own 46.8 hectares of land. The majority of these households do not apply synthetic fertilizers to their land at all.

By carefully selecting among such households, it is possible to identify farms with an average land area of about 0.10 hectares, with soil, water, and air conditions that fully meet organic production requirements. Two such plots per household could satisfy all necessary parameters.

All that is required is to train these households in organic standards, provide education, and issue certificates. In this way, from each mahalla community, it is possible to allocate five hectares of land—large or small—that meet all requirements. If certified, a potential production capacity of 35,000 hectares of organic products could be achieved from a total of 7,000 household owners.

This is a major global challenge and must be implemented gradually, step by step. It would be sufficient to identify farms and households that have cultivated their land for 20–30 years using only manure.

There are households that annually apply no less than 20–30 tons of manure and organic fertilizers to 0.10–0.12 hectares of land.

In the districts of Altyaryk, Kuva, Kuvasay, Toshloq, Rishtan, Besharyk, Uzbekistan, Furkat, Fergana, and Kushtepa, many farmers have for years refrained from purchasing or applying mineral fertilizers.

If such organically managed lands are identified by the Ministry of Agriculture, laboratory testing data must be obtained.

Based on the above, to avoid errors in the use of organic agricultural products, organic farming practices, organic seeds, and organic fertilizers under clean natural soil, air, and water conditions, farm managers, gardeners, landowners, and the general population should be trained by qualified instructors using specially

developed modules. This training should accompany the process of obtaining organic certificates and the planting of certified clean seeds and seedlings.

CONCLUSION

To implement this initiative, 10 agro-logistics centers and over a thousand refrigerated warehouses will be established. More than 40,000 hectares will be planted with industrially intensive orchards and vineyards.

These opportunities were provided by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, who set the goal of increasing the area of organic agriculture to 10,000 hectares by 2025, and to 100,000 hectares within the following three years.

The President of Uzbekistan also emphasized that the state will cover the costs of laser land leveling for farmers and peasants who establish organic agricultural plots, and entrepreneurs will receive subsidies to obtain certificates such as “Organic,” “Global GAP,” “Halal,” and “Kosher.”

This year, major retail chains in the Sultanate of Oman have allocated a dedicated shelf for Uzbek products, and for the first time, exports of sweet cherries, peaches, and apricots have begun. Similar initiatives were reported in Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Singapore, South Korea, Japan, and European countries, where instructions were given to organize trade fairs and obtain phytosanitary permits.

Overall, it was noted that these measures could increase fruit and vegetable exports to 3.5 billion USD next year.

All of the above actions reflect the great attention the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan gives to the production of organic products, the increase of their volumes, ensuring food security, and the ability to foresee future challenges. It is no coincidence that this global-scale issue was brought to the podium at the Summit of the Organization of Turkic States.

On the initiative of the President of Uzbekistan, as part of the national project “Green Space,” up to 200 million tree and shrub seedlings are planted every spring and autumn, a practice that continues to this day.

It is not surprising that ministries, local administrations, and khokims have established 257 “green parks,” with the total number increasing to 517. This represents one of the bold steps taken to improve and protect the ecological environment, including clean soil and water.

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