

Steps for farmers to organic agriculture certification in Germany

Problem

Farmers in Germany who want to convert to organic production often lack access to relevant information and guidance.

Solution

Provide information to farmers about the basic steps to take for conversion and give an overview of actors that can provide assistance.

Benefits

Enabling farmers to get access to relevant public and private actors and information to support them with conversion to organic farming practices and learning new practices.

Applicability box

Theme

Conversion to organic – standards, regulations, certification and advanced training

Keywords

Conversion, control agency, advisory service, further education

Context

Germany

Practical recommendations





PRACTICE ABSTRACT

Further information

Useful contacts (Germany) – advisory services, authorities, certifiers & more

Federal / national authorities & information

- Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) – Organic farming overview / policy
 - Offices in Bonn & Berlin
 - Links: [General Contact & BMELH – Controls in Organic Farming](#)
- Federal Office for Agriculture and Food (BLE) – Organic programme pages
 - Bio-Siegel contact: Phone: +49 228 6845-2200 + E-mail: bio-siegel@ble.de.
 - [BLE organic pages](#) for information and resources

Regional advisory / practical farm advice

- Verband der Landwirtschaftskammern ([portal to Regional Chambers](#)) – central directory for all state Chambers of Agriculture to find your state contact; Website/addresses directory: [Map of organic advisory services](#)
- Ökolandbau.de – [information portal](#)

Approved control bodies

Official list of control bodies (Germany) – central list and downloadable documents: (Ökolandbau portal / BLE). Use this to pick a certifier for your product/region: [ListeKontrollstellenEU.pdf](#)

Major organic associations & advisory/certification services

- Bioland e.V. (advice, producer support, certification options)
 - Kaiserstr. 18, 55116 Mainz · Phone: +49 6131 23979-0 · E-mail: info@bioland.de; www.bioland.de
- Demeter e. V. (biodynamic standards, certification/advice)
 - Brandschneise 1, 64295 Darmstadt · Phone: +49 6155 84690 · E-mail: info@demeter.de; www.demeter.de
- Naturland e.V. (association + advisory)
 - Kleinhaderner Weg 1, 82166 Gräfelfing · Phone: +49 89 898082-0 · E-mail: naturland@naturland.de; www.naturland.de

Networks & specialist advisory

Organic advisory networks & portals (training and advisor directories) – e.g., Organic-FarmKnowledge / EU organic advisory networks – good to find regional organic advisors and technical publications; www.organic-farmknowledge.org

Weblinks

- Check the [Organic Farm Knowledge platform](#) for more practical recommendations.

About this practice abstract and the OrganicTargets4EU project

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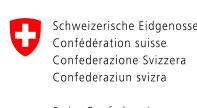


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