

What is Organic Agriculture?

Organic Agriculture is farming system that assures sustainability by relying on ecological management practices such as using nutrient cycling and use of in-farm inputs such as recycled farm wastes.

Benefits of organic products and produce

There is a small but swift rise demand for organic products and produce. Since individuals are choosing a healthier lifestyle that involves eating food that is chemical and pesticide free, the demand for organic products has gradually increased. Organic produce does not contain harmful chemicals or synthetic fertilizers; organic products do not use preservatives; and animals raised using organic practices are not given antibiotics, growth hormones, or animal by-products.

Benefits of OA in the environment

Organic agriculture greatly considers environmental and social impacts by prioritizing the health and welfare of the organic farmers, consumers, and the environment. Organic agriculture cumulatively condition and enrich the fertility of the soil, reduce pollution and destruction of the environment, and prevent the depletion of natural resources.



ABOUT US

The enactment of Republic Act 10068, otherwise known as Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 and amended by RA 11511 in 2021 institutionalized organic agriculture in the country and established the National Organic Agriculture Program (NOAP) in 2012. The NOAP aims to promote, propagate, further develop and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the Philippines towards a competitive and sustainable organic industry.

The Program's mandate focuses on the promotion and commercialization of organic farming practices, cultivation and adoption of production and processing methods, research for development, capacity building of farmers, consumer education, and Extension assistance to Local Government Units (LGUs), Peoples' Organizations (POs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs).



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NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

NOAP CORE SERVICES



Organic Agriculture Livelihood Project (OALP)

The OALP acts as a business integrator for organic farms and businesses. The facilities and components of each OALP, including its scales of operation and phases of development, are based on the organic agriculture commodities of the proponent.



Participatory Guarantee System (PGS)

A top priority of the Program, the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) refers to a locally-focused quality assurance system which is developed and practiced by people actually engaged in organic agriculture. It is built on a foundation of trust, social network, and knowledge exchange. It is used

to certify producers and farmers as actual and active practitioners of organic agriculture. The PGS certification are supported by incentives, trainings, and mentoring.



Capacity Development

Capacity development for groups of OA farmers and fisherfolk covers the following aspects:

- OA technologies
- Organizational development
- Process of OA certification and accreditation
- Business operation



Research for Development and Extension

The goal of the NOAP's research for development and extension (RDE) programs is to develop, enhance, support, and consolidate related technologies and activities for the formulation and implementation of a unified and integrated organic agriculture RDE plans and programs from the national level to the field level.



Youth Scholarship (Internship) Grant on Organic Farming

The Youth Scholarship (Internship) Grant on Organic Farming is a highly specialized internship program available to young people nationwide between 18 to 35 years old. It provides the trainees with funding for start-up projects, rigorous and comprehensive hands-on training on farms, and mentorship during the implementation of their entrepreneurship projects. Its goal is to instill in the trainees the respect for and a desire to work in organic agriculture and have it as a source of income.



Establishment of Organic Seed Centers

To ensure that organic seeds and planting materials are made accessible and available to organic practitioners, LGUs are encouraged and will receive assistance in establishing local organic seed centers.



Marketing Assistance

For farmers and fisherfolk involved in organic agriculture (OA), the NOAP develops and implements market development assistance in partnership with the DA - Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (DA-AMAS). Marketing support includes the conduct of trade shows, market linkage, consumer awareness, digital marketing, promotion of the PGS and

Organic Marks, and strengthening of organic trading posts (OTPs) among others.



Social Credit

The National Organic Agriculture Program, in partnership with the Agriculture Credit Policy Council (ACPC), implements socialized credit programs to provide financial support services to organic agriculture practitioners in order to address the need for capitalization during the start-up or expansion of their enterprises.



Policy Development

To be responsive to the needs of the industry, the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB) composed of multi-sectoral representation, was created as the policy-making body for the Program. It shall provide direction and general guidelines for the NOAP. The National Organic Agriculture Program - National Program Coordinating Office (NOAP-NPCO) shall serve as the planning and administrative secretariat of the NOAB, and as the coordinating office of the Program.



Advocacy & Promotion

The key mandate of the Program is to promote, propagate, develop further, and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the Philippines. This is being done through various platforms such as congresses and summits, celebrations of the OA Month, quad media, IEC materials, and information caravans.