

International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)

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IFOAM has summed up the philosophy of organic farming with the following standards:

IFOAM Standards

- ?? To produce food of high quality in sufficient quantity.
- ?? To interact in a constructive and life-enhancing way with natural systems and cycles.
- ?? To consider the wider social and ecological impact of the organic production and processing system.
- ?? To encourage and enhance biological cycles within the farming system, involving micro-organisms, soil flora and fauna, plants and animals.
- ?? To develop a valuable and sustainable aquatic ecosystem.
- ?? To maintain and increase long term fertility of soils.
- ?? To maintain the genetic diversity of the production system and its surroundings, including the protection of plant and wildlife habitats.
- ?? To promote the healthy use and proper care of water, water resources and all life therein.
- ?? To use, as far as possible, renewable resources in locally organised production systems.
- ?? To create a harmonious balance between crop production and animal husbandry.
- ?? To give all livestock conditions of life with due consideration for the basic aspects of their innate behaviour.
- ?? To minimise all forms of pollution.
- ?? To process organic products using renewable resources.
- ?? To produce fully biodegradable organic products.
- ?? To produce textiles which are long-lasting and of good quality.
- ?? To allow everyone involved in organic production and processing a quality of life which meets their basic needs and allows an adequate return and satisfaction from their work, including a safe working environment.
- ?? To progress toward an entire production, processing and distribution chain which is both socially just and ecologically responsible.