



The Oregon Organic Coalition (OOC) is a trade support organization, working to advance the development and growth of the organic industry and community in Oregon. The OOC represents volunteer stakeholders--farmers, wholesalers, processors, organic certifiers, scientists, consumers and retailers. We lead promotional activities and advocate for state policy to support and grow Oregon's organic trade.

Organic is a triple-bottom-line WIN for Oregon!

- Organic is an economic driver:
 - \$50 billion-a-year industry in the US, with \$350 million in organic farm gate sales in Oregon, accounting for 6% of state farm gate sales, from the overall [\\$5.7 billion, according to the Oregon Farm Bureau](#) (<https://oregonfb.org/about/oregon-agriculture/>)
 - Oregon is ranked 9th in the nation with 864 organic businesses; 416 are farms
 - Oregon has approximately 176,000 certified organic acres in operation
 - Organic farms are profitable, in some cases up to 35% more than conventional farms
 - [Counties with "organic hot spots" showed an increased income of \\$2,000 annually and poverty decreases by 1.35%; 50% of Oregon counties are "organic hot spots"](#) (<https://www.ota.com/hotspots>)
 - 91% of Oregon households purchase organic products, [according to Organic trade Association data](#) (https://ota.com/sites/default/files/indexed_files/HouseholdPenetrationOnly.pdf)
- Organic environmental benefits:
 - Improved water quality with up to 53% less nitrogen runoff in an organic management system
 - [13% higher soil organic matter and 26% higher potential for long-term carbon storage – helping to mitigate climate change](#) (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0065211317300676?via%3Dihub>)
- Organic has human health benefits:
 - Significantly reduced exposure to [proven harmful synthetic pesticides](#) by consumers to residues on food we eat (peer-reviewed scientific study <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0013935119300246>)
 - Significantly reduced exposure by farmers and farm-workers in the field, including to the proven neurotoxin, Chlorpyrifos, the EPA was set to ban in November 2016, but the newly appointed head of the EPA under the Trump administration, denied this petition and banned in Hawaii in 2018 (<http://sitn.hms.harvard.edu/flash/2018/widely-used-pesticide-one-year-later/>)
 - [Organic food has proven elevated nutritional density](#) (<https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2016/02/18/467136329/is-organic-more-nutritious-new-study-adds-to-the-evidence>), including substantially [higher levels of antioxidants in organically grown food crops](#) (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24968103>)

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Advancing the development and growth of the organic industry and community
www.oregonorganiccoalition.org