

KSU Organic Program 2010

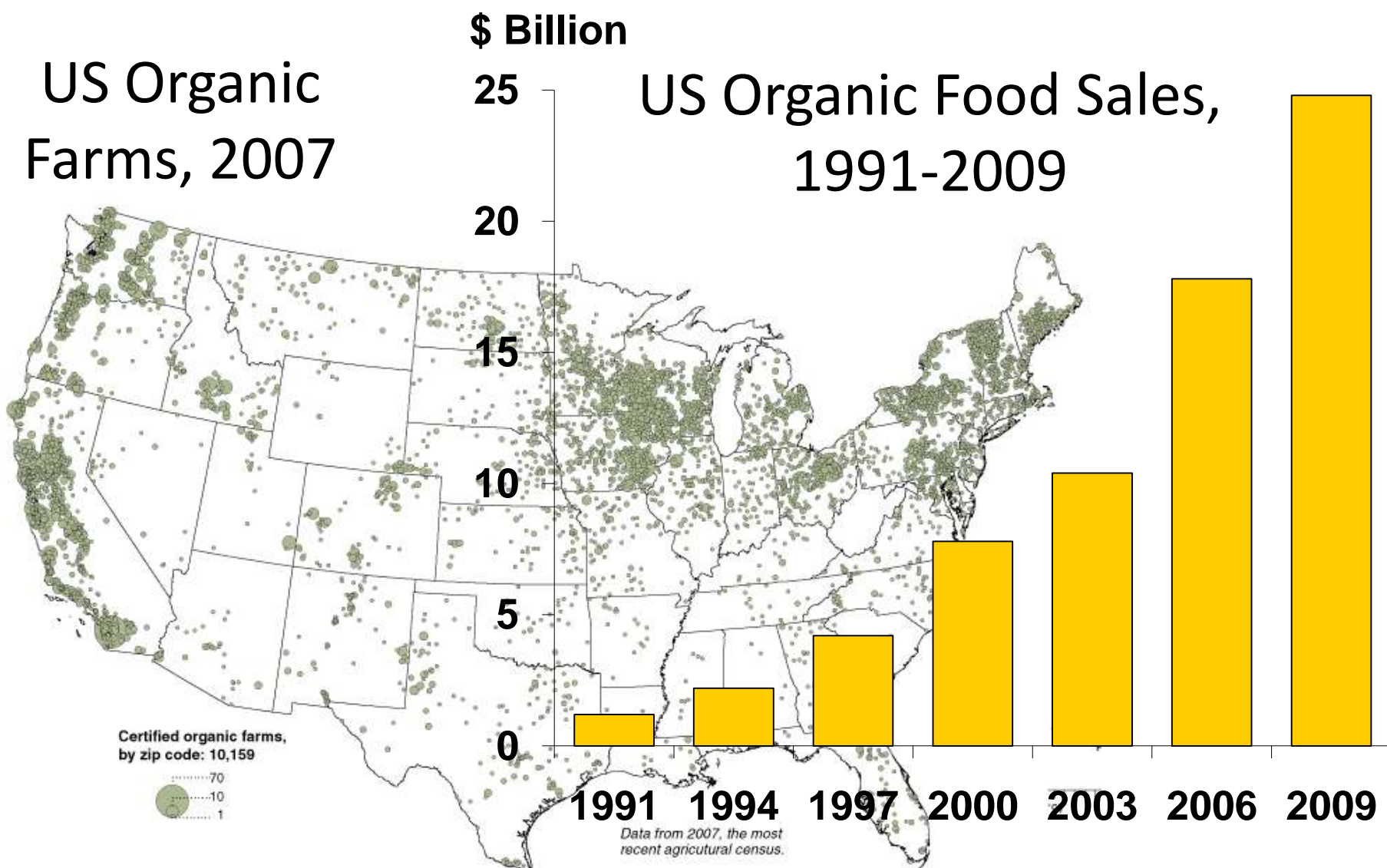
Michael Bomford

Tony Silvernail

Jon Cambron

Michael Ward

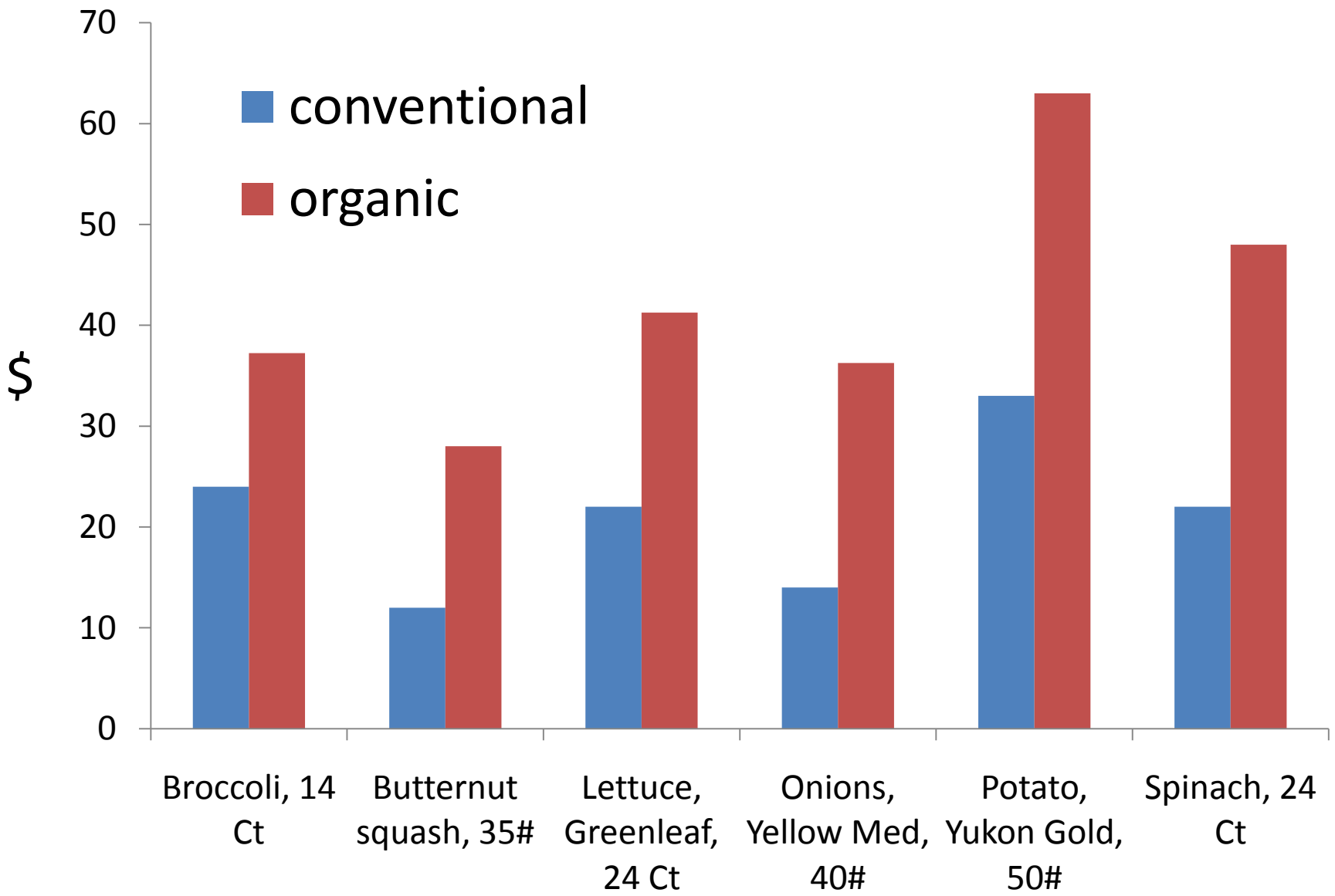
Kentucky has unrealized potential to meet growing demand for organic food



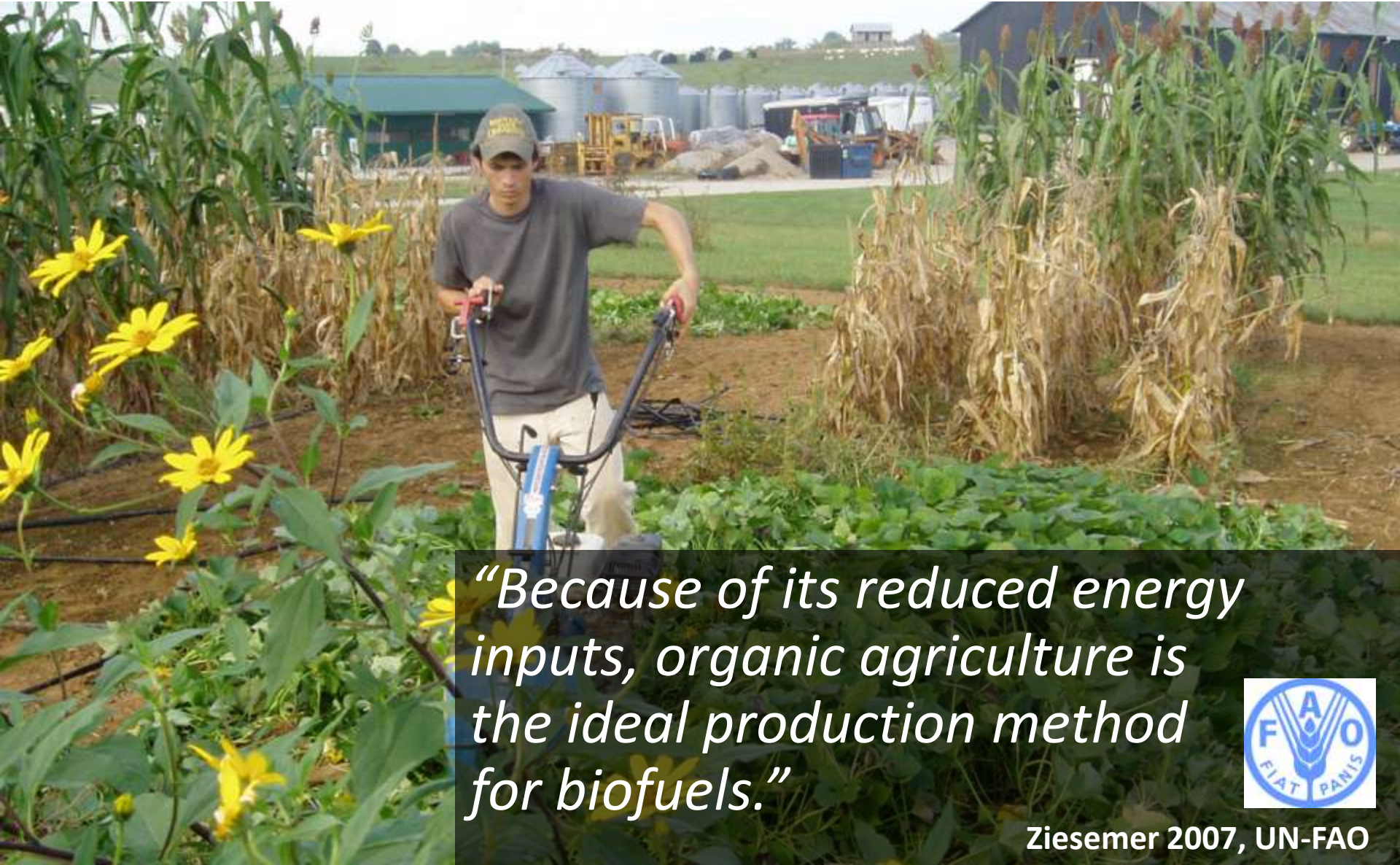
Organic agriculture benefits farmers, consumers, environment

Farmers	Consumers	Environment
Premium prices	Third party certification of growing practices	Greater biodiversity
Growing demand	Mounting evidence of nutritional benefits (more vitamins, antioxidants)	Reduced fertilizer runoff
No exposure to synthetic pesticides	Reduced pesticide residues	No synthetic pesticides added to air, water, soil
Greater energy independence	No routine antibiotics or growth hormones	Lower energy use
Improving soil quality (greater capacity to hold water and nutrients)	No genetically modified organisms	Carbon capture and storage in soil

Premium prices for organic food



Potential to use organic tactics for low-input biofuel feedstock production



“Because of its reduced energy inputs, organic agriculture is the ideal production method for biofuels.”



KSU Program

- 11 ac of KSU farm certified organic
 - Vegetables
 - Fruit
 - Grain
 - Soil-building cover crops
 - Bioenergy feedstock crops
 - Winter production in solar heated high tunnel
 - On-farm biofuel processing

Organic Research

- Organic weed management
- Organic insect pest management
- Organic disease management
- Soil building
- On-farm biofuel production

organic.kysu
KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY ORGANIC AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY

Current Projects

Welcome
People
Facilities
Current Projects
Beneficial insect pheromones
Demonstration gardens
High tunnel
On-farm ethanol
Primocane blackberries
Scale and sustainability
Stinkbugs on blackberries
Third Thursday
Sustainable vegetable training
Vegetable safety
Past Projects
Recent Updates
Approved Inputs
Third Thursday
Presentations


Google Custom Search
Search

OAK
Organic Association of Kentucky

Effects of scale on sustainability of organic food and biofuel feedstock production

Comparing land, labor, and energy-use efficiency at different scales of organic mixed-use food and fuel crop production.

• Preliminary results at [Energy Farms](#) blog



KSU Contacts:
[Michael Bomford](#), [Tony Silvernail](#)


Duration: 2007-11

Funding: [Evans-Allen](#)

-TOP-

Evaluating a beneficial insect lure (PredaLure[®]) in sweet corn

Testing a commercial product intended to attract predatory flying insects such as lady beetles and lacewings.




KSU Contacts:
[John Sedlacek](#)

Duration: 2008-10

-TOP-

Mowing of primocane blackberries to manage stinkbugs organically

Developing insect pest management practices that allow certified organic production of high-value primocane blackberries.



KSU Contacts:
[John Sedlacek](#), [Michael Bomford](#), [Kirk Pomper](#)


Duration: 2007-11

Funding: [KDA](#), through [USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant](#)

-TOP-

On-farm ethanol production from alternative feedstocks

Evaluating of a new tool for on-farm ethanol fuel production from high-carbohydrate waste products commonly available on small Kentucky farms.



Contacts:
[Michael Bomford](#), [Tony Silvernail](#), [Kirk Pomper](#)

Duration: 2009-11

-TOP-

Organic Extension

- Founded Organic Association of Kentucky (OAK), 2010
- Regular workshops on organic agriculture / low-input bioenergy
- Newsletters, pamphlets, websites, blogs, eXtension.org



Impacts

- Number of certified organic farms in Kentucky grows from 12 to 100+ between 2002 and 2010
- Organic Association of Kentucky launches with 91 members in 2010
- Local certified organic products increasingly available to Kentucky consumers
- County extension agents have local source of research-based information on organic agriculture



GOLD

New
Potatoes

\$1.50

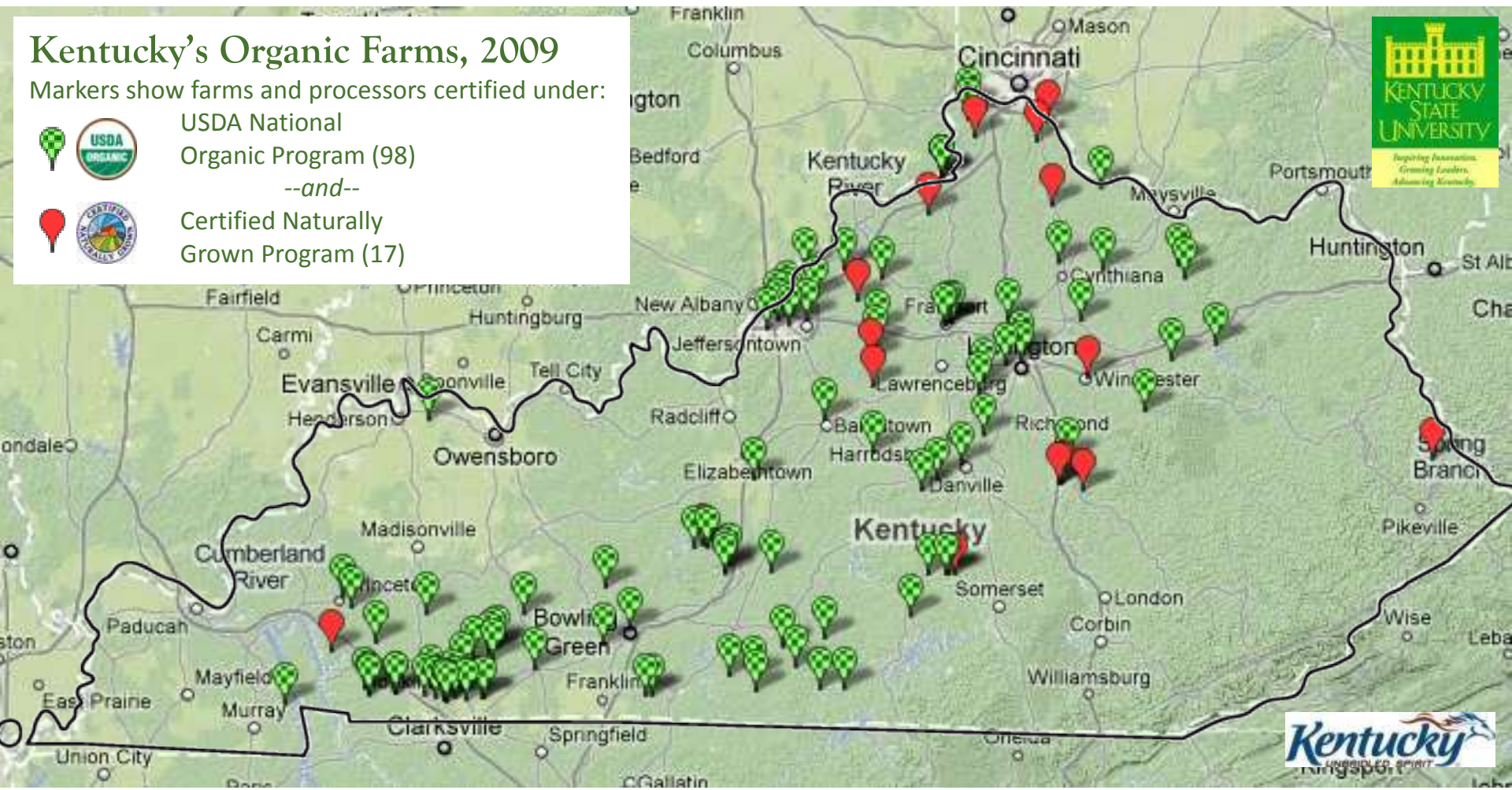
pound

Scott County
from our farm

Kentucky Organic Farms, 2009

Kentucky's Organic Farms, 2009
Markers show farms and processors certified under:

-   USDA National Organic Program (98)
- and--
-   Certified Naturally Grown Program (17)



“I used to think I was the only one...”

Kentucky organic farmer

Goals

- Continued growth of Kentucky's organic sector
- Energy independent organic farms meet their own fuel needs to supply local food
- Conventional producers increasingly adopt elements of organic agriculture to enhance sustainability

