

# ORGANIC ASSOCIATION OF KENTUCKY RESOURCE SHEET



- <http://oak-ky.org/resources.shtml>

## KENTUCKY



- Kentucky Department of Agriculture Organic Program
  - Essential documents from Kentucky's organic certification agency:
    - Certification procedures
    - Forms
    - Fee schedules
- Kentucky State University Organic Agriculture Working Group
  - Information generated by a group of researchers, teachers, and extension staff at Kentucky State University conducting projects related to organic agriculture
  - Updated schedules for free sustainable agriculture workshops held at the Kentucky State University farm on the Third Thursday of every month
  - 'Ask an Expert' service
- University of Kentucky New Crop Opportunities Center
  - Factsheets:
    - Organic transitioning and certification
    - Organic horticulture and field crop production
    - Organic sweet corn and asparagus production



- Higher education opportunities in Kentucky
  - Berea College [Agriculture and Natural Resources Program](#)
    - Bachelor degrees with opportunities for applied work on certified organic land
  - Kentucky State University [Masters in Environmental Studies Program](#)
    - Interdisciplinary training in environmental problem solving includes opportunities to work on certified organic land
  - University of Kentucky [Sustainable Agriculture Program](#)
    - Bachelor degree includes training in environmental stewardship, economic profitability, and social responsibility and offers opportunities to work on certified organic land
  - Western Kentucky University [Department of Agriculture](#)
    - Undergraduate and graduate courses in sustainable agriculture, and student research opportunities to work with organic agriculture systems



## SOUTHERN REGION



- [Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group](#) (SSAWG)
  - Empowers and inspires farmers, individuals, and communities in the South to create an agricultural system that is ecologically sound, economically viable, socially just, and humane
  - Hosts the [Experienced Organic Farmer Network](#), which aims to develop and share successful Southern organic production strategies

## NATIONAL



- [Acres USA](#)
  - North America's oldest and largest magazine covering commercial-scale organic and sustainable farming
  - [Archive](#) of featured articles available for free online
- [ATTRA -- Organic Farming Resources from the National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service](#)
  - A wealth of detailed, readable, and useful information for growers:
    - Organic certification
    - Organic production of vegetables, fruits, flowers and livestock
    - Organic pest management
    - Organic fertility management
    - Organic marketing
- [Cornucopia Institute](#)
  - Advocacy organization striving to empower farmers and consumers in support of ecologically produced local, organic and authentic food
- [eOrganic Community of Practice at eXtension.org](#)
  - Organic agriculture material created by a nationwide network of extension personnel at Land Grant Universities:
    - Articles
    - Factsheets
    - Videos
    - News
    - FAQs
    - 'Ask an Expert' service



**The Kerr Center**  
for Sustainable Agriculture



- The Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture
  - Free guidebooks:
    - *Small-Scale Organics: A Guidebook for the Non-Certified Organic Grower* ([pdf](#))
    - *Farm Made: A Guide to On-Farm Processing for Organic Producers* ([pdf](#))
- National Organic Coalition
  - A Washington voice for farmers, ranchers, environmentalists, consumers and progressive industry members involved in organic agriculture
- The Organic Center
  - Peer-reviewed science on verifiable benefits of organic farming and products
- Organic Consumers Association
  - Advocacy organization representing consumers who wish to promote a healthy, equitable, and sustainable system of food production and consumption
- Organic Farming Research Foundation
  - Sponsors research and education to foster improvement and widespread adoption of organic farming systems
    - Searchable [database](#) of project reports
- Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)
  - Determines which inputs are allowed for use in organic production and processing
  - Maintains a searchable [list of OMRI-approved products](#) that may be used in USDA certified organic operations



- Rodale Institute
  - Nonprofit research and education foundation dedicated to improving the health and well-being of people and the planet
  - Maintains [New Farm Toolbox](#)
    - Free [online course](#) on transitioning to organic production
    - Online cost and income [calculator](#) for comparing organic and conventional field crop production
    - Comparison of organic and conventional [wholesale prices](#) updated weekly
  - Affiliated with [Rodale Inc.](#), a for-profit publishing house, offering print and online resources
    - [Organic Gardening](#) magazine, books, website, and forums
    - [Rodale.com](#), "where health meets green"
- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)
  - Research and education grants to advance farming systems that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for communities
  - Searchable [database](#) of project reports
  - [Publications](#) available for free download or sale include
    - *Crop Rotation on Organic Farms: A Planning Manual* ([pdf](#))
    - *Manage Insects on Your Farm: A Guide to Ecological Strategies* ([pdf](#))
    - *Managing Cover Crops Profitably* ([pdf](#))
    - *Building Soils for Better Crops* ([pdf](#))
- USDA Economic Research Service - Organic Agriculture Briefing Room
  - Research, analysis, and information about the organic market
- USDA National Organic Program
  - Information on organic certifiers, international marketing of organic products, organic labelling, allowed and prohibited substances, and cost share programs for organic producers
  - Regulates organic production in the USA

## INTERNATIONAL



- Certified Naturally Grown
  - Peer-review certification for small-scale, direct-market farmers using natural methods
  - Standards based on USDA Organic Standards, but certifier is not government-affiliated or accredited, so CNG growers cannot label their products organic in the USA if they sell more than \$5,000 worth of product or sell outside direct-market channels
  - Recognized and endorsed by IFOAM, OMRI, and the Sierra Club
- Demeter International
  - Maintains international biodynamic certification standards, which require compliance with national organic standards
  - Governs national biodynamic certification agencies, including Demeter USA
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)
  - Working toward worldwide adoption of ecologically, socially, and economically sound systems based on principals of organic agriculture
  - Promotes integrity and harmonization of organic standards worldwide
    - Articulates unifying principals of health, ecology, fairness and care
    - Addresses criticisms and common misconceptions of organic agriculture
- Organic ePrints
  - Searchable archive of research related to organic agriculture
  - Free and complete manuscripts available for almost 10,000 studies
- Organic Trade Association
  - Association of North American businesses dedicated to promoting and protecting the growth of organic trade to benefit the environment, farmers, the public and the economy
  - Maintains The Organic Pages database of organic products and services
  - Maintains consumer education website, Organic - It's Worth It
  - Maintains How to Go Organic database of resources for producers and processors transitioning to organic
  - Offers industry statistics and news
- Research Institute for Organic Agriculture (FiBL)
  - Organic agriculture research and consulting centers in Switzerland, Germany and Austria conduct practical research and transfer knowledge into agricultural practice
  - Maintains Organic-world.net archive of global organic statistics and news