US Organic Food Sales

Billions of dollars

- 1991: 1 billion
- 1994: 2 billion
- 1997: 4 billion
- 2000: 8 billion
- 2003: 12 billion
- 2006: 18 billion
- 2008: 23 billion
How easy is it to grow common fruits and vegetables organically in Kentucky?

- Okra
- Radish
- Garlic
- Beets
- Tumip
- Pea
- Sweet potato
- Parsnip
- Edamame
- Peppers
- Cabbage
- Rhubarb
- Onion
- Potatoes
- Asparagus
- Squash, summer
- Bean
- Broccoli
- Squash, winter
- Tomatoes
- Pumpkins
- Cucumber
- Cauliflower
- Watermelon
- Eggplant
- Muskmelon

UK New Crop Opportunities Survey
Edamame soybean yields

- Most energy efficient
- Most efficient use of land
- Most labor efficient
Current Projects

Biofumigation in organic high tunnel and conventional field vegetables

On-farm tests of brassica cover crops for their potential to control soil-borne diseases that threaten two emerging vegetable production systems in Kentucky.

- Preliminary study results, 2006 (pdf)
- Preliminary results, 2007
- Streaming video introducing high tunnel production system and presenting results from 2007 and 2008 high tunnel studies

KSU Contacts:
Michael Bomford, Brian Geier, George Antonious

Duration: 2006-09

Funding: SARE

Companion plant spacing calculator

A spreadsheet to calculate spacing in mixed plantings.

KSU Contacts:
Michael Bomford

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

A comparison of land, labor, and energy-use efficiency at different scales of organic mixed-use food and fuel crop production. Study conducted in partnership with the Post Carbon Institute’s Energy Farms Network.

KSU Contacts:
Michael Bomford, Tony Silvernail

Duration: 2007-11

Funding: Evans-Allen