

New Tendencies in the Scientific Research of the Organic Food System in Finland

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ORGANIC FINLAND

- 9 % of agricultural land
- Goal 20 % in 2020
- 1,7 % of food markets
- 15 € per capita /2012
- 4300 farms
- 550 food processors

ORGANIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

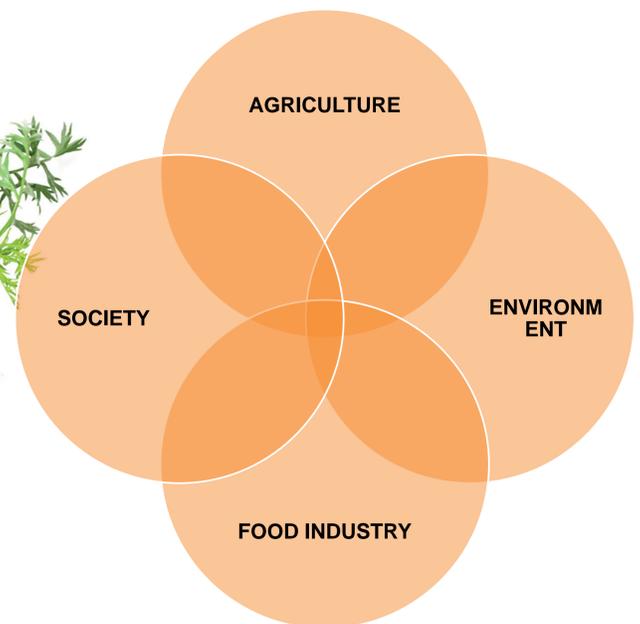
- Founded by University of Helsinki and MTT Agrifood Research
- Started in January 2013
- The coordinating unit in Mikkeli
- Network of 150 scientists and experts
- Co-operation between university and MTT researchers
- Supports the whole food chain and promotes organic food production in Finland by research, science communication, education and development projects
- Responsible for the national research program on organic food system

RESEARCH PROGRAM

- The first national organic research program will be released in December 2013 for five years
- Two programs coordinated by MTT in 1992-2002 and 2003-2006.
- The new program will give guidelines for the research as well as to the financing
- It will be multidisciplinary and divided into agricultural, environmental, food related and social research

RESEARCH ON ORGANIC FOOD SYSTEM IN FINLAND

- The scientific research on organic food system has been mainly on agricultural and environmental issues.
- There is a need to enlarge the research to the whole organic food system and to make the research multidisciplinary.
- Better commitment of the community as well as of the food chain stakeholders is needed.
- The information to the consumers has to be based on scientific research



NEW APPROACHES

- Food system based research
- Multidisciplinary, especially social issues like politics, consumption, communication
- Nordic and international co-operation

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