

## Virna – a database on organic food production

**A**grifood Research Finland (MTT) is the largest research institute in Finland, carrying out agricultural and food research, plus economic and environmental research related to agriculture. MTT Ecological Production, a unit of MTT, is the leading research institute for ecological (organic) production in Finland. The MTT Ecological Production research stations are located in South Savo: Partala at Juva and Karila at Mikkeli. Organic cultivation is also developed at the Ecological Production unit by means of the professional library and information services.

The collections of the library are available quite comprehensively on the Internet. The homepage [www.mtt.fi/english](http://www.mtt.fi/english) takes you to the databases. Project (Tuike) database includes the studies in progress at MTT. Publication (Jukuri)

database contains bibliographic information about articles, reports, books, abstracts and other publications produced by MTT's staff.

Virna is an article reference database on organic food production. It contains material about such matters as organic and ecological crop production and horticulture, soil, fertilization, plant protection, animal production, processing of organic products, marketing and the environmental impacts of agriculture. The literature references have been taken from periodicals and congress publications as well as compilations.

Virna has been compiled by Riitta Koistinen, an information specialist at MTT Ecological Production, and she also catalogued its articles. The database contains about 20 000 references, and



*The library and information service are located at MTT's Partala research station in Juva. Photo: R. Koistinen.*

new items are being added all the time. The publications covered by Virna are available from MTT Ecological Production's Partala library,  
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