

Approaches and Methods

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October 12, 2014

TIPI Workshop

Practitioners Research Agenda

Question: How and Why?

- Should research be conducted under certified organic conditions or can valid research be conducted on organic farming systems outside of the standards?
- Is research and innovation a means to developing new perspectives and principles, or an opportunity to rediscover the original principles and goals?

Questions: What?

- Should organic and agro-ecological research be separated, or is there significant common ground?
- Can organic be THE solution to every problem, or do we need to work within its constraints and the trade-offs to satisfy multiple goals?

Questions: How and What?

- Is the organic concept more critical of science itself or the technologies resulting from scientific endeavour? (Is 'holistic science' an oxymoron?)
- Can organic research provide a basis to rediscover a critical but evidence-based approach to technology assessment?

Questions: Where and How?

- Does organic research need to find global or more locally adapted solutions?
- Should the emphasis be more on systems than component perspectives (or systems (re)design rather than technological inputs)?

Questions: For and by Whom?

- What is the role of stakeholders in the process – what does ‘participatory’ really mean?