Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists —

NJF-Seminar 369

Organic farming for a new millennium

-status and future challenges

Published by Nordic Association of Agricultural Scientists (NJF), Section I: Soil, Water and Environment Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

Alnarp, Sweden June 15-17, 2005

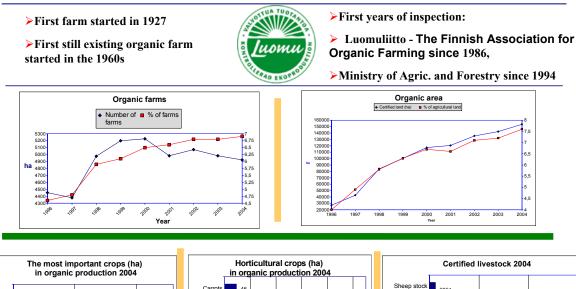
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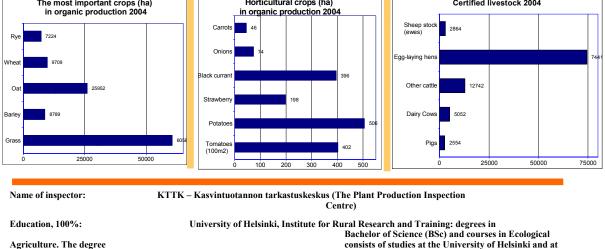
ISSN 1653-2015



Organic production in Finland







 European cooperation
 universities.• Master courses (MSc) in the Nordic NOVA

 cooperation network.
 The main research institute, MTT – Agrifood Research Finland uses approx. 3,6% of its financing on organic production research projects .

 Export :
 Cereals to other EU countries and the US approx. 15 million kg per annum. Shitake mushrooms, forest berries (2004-2005)

Present Status of the Policy and Market Environment of the Finnish Organic Sector:

> Target of 10% surface area has been set for organic production in 2006.

> Organic production receives public subsidies. The sum during the initial five years is €147/ha and €102/ha thereafter. The subsidy is equal to every culture . Also, as from 2005 organic animal production has received a subsidy of €90/ha.
 > So far, Finland has a surplus of organic cereals and grasslands. About 10% of the cereals have been exported and a great share of organic grasslands and cereals used for feeding conventional animals.
 > The total market share of organic products is approximately 1%. The most important organic products are vegetables

(24%), milk (17%) and bakery products (11% share of total organic sales).

Text: Mikko Rahtola, Central Organisation for Finnish Horticulture