Environmental Impacts of Organic Farming

A Farm Perspective

Zeno Piatti - Fünfkirchen
Production Conditions

Map of Austria highlighting important cities.
- 1,000 ha agriculture in AT & CZ
- 1,000 ha forestry in AT
- 8 permanent employees from AT & CZ
- Organic since 1982
- Solely crop production
- Necessity for crop rotation
Environmental Impacts

Soil

- Crop Rotation (7y)
- Organic Fertilization
- Soil Management

- Soil Organic Matter
- Soil Structure
- Erosion
- Edaphon
Environmental Impacts

Biodiversity

- Crop Rotation
- Organic Fertilization
- No Chemical Pest.

- Landscape
- Matrix Resistance
- Habitat Diversity
- Edaphon
Economic Results

Yields

• Up to 30 % less
• Gap can be reduced with new tec. & info
• Weeds & Quality
• Depending on crop and location
• Stable yields (weather extremes)
Economic Results

Prices

• Up to 100%
• Less volatile
• Tendency decreasing
• Important role of certification and unions
Costs

• Labor intense
• Diverse machinery
• Knowledge is critical
• Risk?
Conclusion

• Massive contribution to the environment
• Economic viable
• Increasing sector
• For sustainable growth further support CAP 2020
• Further development necessary
- Thank You -

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alfalfa(2-3y)-</th>
<th>-Wheat-</th>
<th>-Corn-</th>
<th>-Pea-</th>
<th>-Wheat-</th>
<th>-Alfalfa(2-3y)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-Rye-</td>
<td>-Potato-</td>
<td>-Vetchling-</td>
<td>-S.flower-</td>
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<td>-Hamp-</td>
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<td>-Spelt-</td>
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<td>-Peluskins-</td>
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<td>-Barley-</td>
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<td>-Pumpkin-</td>
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<td>-Oats-</td>
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<td>-Soybean-</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Environmental Impacts

Water

- No Chemical Pest.
- Organic Fertilization
- No Chemical Water Pollution
- Slow nutrient release
- Less Leaching & Runoff
- Ground & Surface Water pollution