

Basic Steps and Components of Organic Farming

Organic farming approach involves steps like: (i) conversion of land from conventional management to organic management, (ii) management of the entire surrounding system to ensure biodiversity and sustainability of the system (iii) crop production with the use of alternative sources of nutrients such as crop rotation, residue management, organic manures and biological inputs (iv) management of weeds and pests by better management practices, physical and cultural means and by biological control system, and, (v) maintenance of live stock in tandem with organic concept and make them an integral part of the entire system.



Fig. 1 Components of Organic Farming (Source: http://agritech.tnau.ac.in/org_farm/orgfarm_introduction.html)

Principles of Organic Farming

These are the four principles of organic farming are mentioned below.

1. **Principle of health:** Organic agriculture should sustain and enhance the health of soil, plant, animal, human and planet as one and indivisible. Healthy soils produce healthy crops that foster the health of animals and people. Health is the wholeness and integrity of living systems. The role of organic agriculture, whether in farming, processing, distribution, or consumption, is to sustain and enhance the health of ecosystems and organisms from the smallest in the soil to human beings.