



## Organic Farming in Animal Husbandry

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The use of synthetic materials such as chemicals, feed additives and genetic inputs should be tolerated in organic farming. Organic farming is different from agriculture, it is a combination of farming and cultivation in agriculture, it is a low-input, low-use, sufficiently agricultural agriculture. Organic production methods are indispensable. Organic animal farming requires producers to develop health protection measures. Management of organic systems should be based on a good understanding of animal behavior. Organic policies for animal husbandry are increasing in developing countries. Developing countries that want to export organic or conventional products need to establish effective traceability mechanisms. Animal health needs to be improved, especially in organic animal production. If we want to reap the benefits of organic farming, teachers/consultants and farmers need to be trained in organic production methods. "Organic" is more or less a sign of the purity and quality of food, especially food that has been certified by an accredited organization. ICAR also considers this as a suitable agricultural method of progressing in some areas with potential for organic farming.

### Introduction

The first "scientific" method of organic farming dates back to B.C. 1000 to B.C. It dates back to the Vedas of the "Late Vedic Period" between 600 BC. The important thing is to cooperate with nature instead of using it. The main works are "Vrikshayurveda" (plant science), "Krishishashtra" (agriculture) and "Mrigayurveda" (animal science). Livestock farming is an important part of agriculture. But in this process, "livestock" means any domestic animal or pets raised for food or used for food production, including cattle (including cows and buffalos), sheep, pigs, goats, horses, poultry, and bees. Organic agriculture is defined as animal production that supports the use of organic and biodegradable inputs from ecosystems in animal feed, animal health, animal husbandry and agriculture.

The use of synthetic products such as pharmaceuticals, feed additives and genetically modified inputs is consciously avoided. Organic farming differs from conventional farming in many aspects, including crop management, animal nutrition, nutrition, animal health and pest control. Small-scale farming is basically a combination of healthy agriculture using low inputs and low productivity, giving rise to hope for organic farming and organic crops to shine in India. Combining multiple animals and livestock with crops, as practiced by farmers in the study area, can form the basis of balanced and sustainable agriculture by allowing food recycling and efficient use of resources. The use of variable crops, the protection of domestic animals, and the maintenance of diversity are important features that are highly valued in the organic production process.

### Points that must be considered when converting a unit into organic farming system

- 1) The farm shall be under organic management and certification.
- 2) Animals shall not be fed with feeds, which contain additives like growth hormones and other artificial substances which are not allowed in the standards.
- 3) Animal waste shall be avoided as feed for other animals.
- 4) Animal manures to be properly handled or to be composted before use in the farms.
- 5) The animals shall be selected for breeding based on health and resistance to diseases and pests.
- 6) Use only the herbal and natural treatment.
- 7) The farm should strive to produce most of the feeds from the farm to avoid contamination from external feeds.

### The primary characteristics of organic livestock production systems are

- 1) Well-defined standards and practices which can be verified.
- 2) Greater attention to animal welfare.
- 3) No routine use of growth promoters, animal offal, prophylactic antibiotics or any other additives.
- 4) At least 80% of the animal feed grown according to organic standards, without the use of artificial fertilizers or pesticides on crops or grass.

### Key Considerations in Organic Livestock Production

Developing and applying the principles of organic animal husbandry at all times requires a thorough analysis of the problems and opportunities involved and existing local knowledge. Some key considerations in organic animal husbandry that producers and other stakeholders need to take into account are listed below:

- **Origin of livestock:** All livestock (and all products from these livestock) that are sold, labeled or advertised as organic must be raised under continuous organic management from the last third of gestation or at hatching.
- **Livestock feed:** The total rations of livestock that are produced under organic management must consist of agricultural products that have been organically produced and handled organically. This includes pasture, forage and crops. Certain non-synthetic and synthetic substances may be used as feed additives and supplements. Twenty percent of the feed for dairy cattle which is under nine months of age is allowed to come from non-organic sources. Plastic pellets, urea, manure and by-products from mammalian or poultry slaughter are not allowed.
- **Living conditions:** An organic livestock producer must create and maintain living conditions that promote the health and accommodate the natural behavior of the animal. These living conditions must include access to the outdoors, shade, shelter, fresh air, direct sunlight suitable for the particular species and access to pastures for ruminants.
- **Waste management:** Organic livestock producers are mandated to manage manure so that it does not contribute to the contamination of crops, soil or water and optimizes the recycling of nutrients.
- **Health care:** Organic livestock production requires producers to establish preventive health care practices.

### Role of livestock on an organic farm

- **Nutrient cycling:** A process in which nutrients are returned to the soil through manure and compost. Amending soils with animal manures can increase microbial biomass, enzymatic activity and alter the structure of the microbial community incorporation of

feed crops, such as alfalfa or grasses into crop rotations helps to build soil organic matter. Increasing cropping options, adding diversity to the agro- ecosystem.

- **Weed control:** Feed crops can be used to suppress and control weeds and animals can be used to graze out weeds on crops or pastures.
- **Preparing the ground for cropping:** Livestock such as pigs have a natural tendency to dig the soil if leave on the natural field, hence can reduce the tillage and weed control costs.

### Problems in developing organic animal husbandry

- **Lack of knowledge:** In general, there is inadequate awareness about organic production practices, animal welfare issues and the requirements of importing countries, especially by individual organic trainers/advisers and farmers. Organic production calls for an in-depth understanding of the principles, standards, production practices and requirements of the organic certification agencies. However, the landless animal husbandry system, which is common in India, is not allowed under organic systems of livestock production. Contract farming may be a potential solution. Under this system, many small farmers can contract their farms out to companies that produce organic food products on consolidated holdings.
- **Sanitary regulations:** Only a few developing countries are able to export even conventional livestock products due to the strict sanitary requirements imposed by importing countries. These disease control regulations are even more strictly monitored when it comes to organic livestock products.

### Conclusion

"Organic" is more or less a symbol of the purity and quality of food, especially when certified by a recognized organization. This means that organic agriculture should be given importance and organic production should be increased to meet the demand for such products. Even if the animal is given antibiotics, it is better than any other information (such as when the medication was removed) to ensure that bacteria from the antibiotics do not contaminate animal products (such as milk). The ICAR has also recognized it as a system of agricultural production worth promotion in certain regions having potential for organic farming. Animals are main part of organic farming and sustainability of organic farming is not possible. According to the organic livestock production process, organic meat, poultry and egg products must come from farms that are inspected to ensure they meet strict standards that require the use of organic feed, limit the use of pesticides and provide adequate nutrition to animals. access to livestock. Therefore, it should provide inputs for organic farming in the form of information to help villages change their livestock systems for certification, as well as demand for livestock products and export demand. Organic production systems.