

# ORGANIC FARM KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

## FOR THE EXCHANGE OF SKILLS AND ORGANIC FARMING TECHNIQUES

Launched in 2017, the [Organic Farm Knowledge Platform](#) aims to increase the sustainability, productivity and quality of organic farming across Europe by bridging the gap between science and practice. It disseminates existing practical knowledge and research innovations developed in organic-focused projects to target groups: farmers and farm advisors. The Platform brings this knowledge together at the European level and facilitates user-friendly and barrier-free access to a wide range of practical tools and resources and promotes knowledge exchange.

Based on the awareness that the complexity of organic farming requires farmers to have a very high level of knowledge and skills while the exchange of information on organic farming techniques remains limited, the project was designed in 2017 and realized working together with a wide range of partners, covering issues that they considered as priorities. Initially set up to cover tools and information on organic crop production, animal husbandry, seed and soils, by the years the Platform has been made fit to cover all themes of organic food & agriculture. The Platform offers the opportunity for exchange of knowledge, skills and farming techniques and provides access to a wide range of useful tools for farmers.

In 2023, the [Organic Farm Knowledge platform covers the following themes:](#)

- [Crop production](#): cropping systems; arable crops; postharvest management; grasslands and forages; horticulture; Nutrient management; pest and disease control; Weed management; Seeds and breeding.
- [Animal husbandry](#): breeding and genetics; production systems; animal health and welfare; Feed and nutrition.
- [Soil](#): Soil management; Soil biology; Health and quality.
- [Food chain management](#): food quality; transportation; storage; packaging; processing.
- [Environment and society](#): Agroecological Practices; Sustainable communities; Climate change; Environmental protection; Biodiversity and nature conservation
- [Farm management](#): regulations and certification; marketing and agricultural trade; people and skills; farm technology and equipment; capital and finance.



Users can browse through the platform's themes or search the toolbox directly according to tool type, language, keywords and more. The [toolbox](#) of the Platform contains ample resources for organic farmers and advisors, including factsheets, guides, online calculation tools and videos. Each tool comes with relevant background information and in different languages.

The *Organic Farm Knowledge* web platform was set up in 2017 and developed through the two European Union funded projects [OK-Net Arable](#) and [OK-Net Ecofeed](#). These projects were funded within the Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme.

Currently, the Organic Farm Knowledge Platform is managed by an Executive Board consisting of organizations including the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL Switzerland, [IFOAM Organics Europe](#), the European Group of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements and the International Centre for Research in Organic Food Systems ICROFS. The Platform has also established cooperation with several other projects and [collaborating partners](#) that utilize this tool to disseminate their practice-oriented results, providing farmer-relevant knowledge and materials. Partnerships are a win-win: projects can promote and further disseminate knowledge created in their research direct to end-users, therefore increasing their impacts while facilitating the growth and successful continuation of the initiative.

The platform is open to further collaborations, which enable the continued growth of knowledge provision by increasing its range of available tools. This platform will continue to thrive only through strengthening and furthering alliances. Organic Farm Knowledge aspires to become the European reference hub for practical knowledge on organic farming, thus contributing significantly to the goal that 25% of the European Union's farmland should be organic by 2030.

Organic Farm Knowledge is one of the [initiatives promoted by TP Organics, the European Technology Platform for organic food&farming](#), uniting large companies, small & medium enterprises, researchers, farmers, consumers and civil society organizations active in the organic value chain from production, input & supply, to food processing, marketing and consumption.

Set up to strengthen the organic practices of the various European and associated countries in the EU Horizon 2020 program, the Organic Farm Knowledge Platform is a very useful tool also for actors in all continents that carry out practices of organic agriculture. The wide range of useful tools promoted by the platform is available on the website for all interested farmers and advisors.

More organizations and projects are encouraged to join the Platform.

### **To know more**

[Organic Farm Knowledge Platform](#)

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[Platform events](#)

[OK-Net EcoFeed Project](#)

[IFOAM Organics Europe](#)



[Organic Farming Knowledge in ok-net-ecofeed.eu website](http://ok-net-ecofeed.eu)

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