

ORGANIC INDUSTRY

KEY INFO IN

10
POINTS

1

STRONG GROWTH IN ORGANIC FARMING

In France, organic farming accounted for over 7.5% of the total agricultural area in use in 2018 (2 million hectares), up 16.5% on 2017. The total area of agricultural land used for organic farming increased by 70% between 2012 and 2018. Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur is the region with the greatest area of agricultural land used for organic farming (26%), accounting for nearly one-quarter of the total number of agricultural areas in France. It is followed by Occitanie (15%) and Corsica (14%). (Agence Bio, the French agency for the development and promotion of organic farming, 2019)

2

13.9% OF THE EU'S ORGANIC GROWING AREA

In 2017, France accounted for 13.9% of agricultural land given over to organic produce and 12% of farms within the European Union (EU) and was ranked third in Europe. French organic farming stands out for the diversity of its output, including dairy products, meat, eggs, cereal, oilseed, protein crops, dried vegetables and fresh fruit and/or vegetables. (Agence Bio, 2019)

3

62,000 ORGANIC PRODUCERS

In late 2018, there were 61,768 farms involved in organic farming, 14.3% more than in 2017. They were made up of some 41,623 producers and 23,765 processors, distributors, importers and exporters. The downstream sector included 16,651 processing companies, 7,114 distribution companies and 545 import / export companies. (Agence Bio, 2019)

4

OVER 155,000 JOBS

In 2018, organic farming accounted for 155,347 full time jobs, in both farm work and the processing and distribution of organic products. Since 2012, the number of direct jobs has almost doubled, representing an average annual growth rate of 10.3%. (Agence Bio, 2019)

5

A MARKET WORTH ALMOST €10 BILLION

The French organic food market was worth €9.7 billion in 2018, or nearly 5% of their food consumption excluding tobacco. The French market is the second largest in Europe after Germany (€10.9 billion). From 2015 to 2018, the organic food market grew by 64%. (Agence Bio, 2019)

6

2/3 OF FRENCH PEOPLE REGULARLY CONSUME ORGANIC PRODUCE

In 2018, 71% of French people consumed organic products at least once a month, compared with only 37% in 2003. Nine in 10 French people consume organic produce at least occasionally, while 82% trust organic food labels. (Agence Bio/CSA survey, 2019)

7

MADE-IN-FRANCE ORGANIC EXPORTS

French organic exports, valued at €707 million, grew by 12% in 2017. Wine accounted for two-thirds of these export revenues, but other goods fared well too, including sweet and savory products (worth more than €59 million in 2017), and cider and organic beer (€11 million). (Agence Bio, 2018)

8

QUALITY ACCREDITATION

Products carrying the EU organic logo or the domestic abbreviation "AB" (for agriculture biologique – organic farming) are guaranteed to comply with key principles of organic farming, including: no use of chemical fertilizers, synthetic insecticides or GMOs; mechanical and thermal weeding; crop rotation; limited use of antibiotic treatments; greater respect for animal wellbeing; and limited use of additives.

9

LOCALLY SOURCED FOOD

Sixty-nine percent of organic products consumed in France are produced within the country (80% excluding exotic foods), with this figure even higher for alcoholic beverages (99%), eggs (99%), dairy products (98%) and meat (95%). Twelve percent of all organic food sales in France are made directly by the producers. (Agence Bio, 2019)

10

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

The Dutch specialist in bio-solutions for agriculture Koppert, which has been operating in France since 1984, plans to expand its head office in Cavaillon, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, by 2020, creating around thirty jobs. Koppert France invests 12% of its revenues in R & D every year, and is now venturing into new markets such as horticulture, field crops and gardens/green spaces.



**FRANCE: EUROPE'S
#2
ORGANIC MARKET**
(AGENCE BIO)



**FRANCE: EUROPE'S
#1
PRODUCER OF
AGRICULTURAL
PRODUCTS**
(EUROSTAT)



**FRANCE: THE WORLD'S
#5
EXPORTER OF
AGRI-FOOD PRODUCTS**
(UN COMTRADE)



**THE TOTAL AREA OF
AGRICULTURAL LAND
IN FRANCE USED FOR
ORGANIC FARMING
INCREASED BY MORE
THAN
70%
BETWEEN 2012 AND 2018**
(AGENCE BIO)

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