FiBL

Project Coordination
The Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) is an independent non-profit research institute with the aim of advancing cutting-edge science in the field of organic agriculture.
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Research areas
✓ Plant Breeding and Organic Seed
✓ Livestock Breeding

Integrating organic breeding into value-chain partnerships
to ensure the integrity of organic products and strengthen consumers’ confidence

This initiative aims to enable the organic sector to make targeted investments in breeding by setting up partnership-based engagement along the entire value chain, including breeders.

A platform that supports

- **Awareness**
  - raising awareness about the importance of organic breeding among processors, traders and consumers

- **Exchange**
  - increasing the knowledge exchange between organic breeders, farmers, processors and traders

- **Networking**
  - establishing a coordination office for cross-sector promotion of organic breeding

- **Breeding**
  - developing new plant cultivars and animal breeds in accordance with the principles of organic agriculture

- **Organic**
  - maintaining the independence of the organic sector from multinational breeding companies that are oriented toward the conventional sector
Organic breeding provides benefits to the organic sector

- develops locally adapted cultivars and breeds that satisfy farmers’, processors’ and consumers’ needs
- considers animal welfare, longevity, sustainable feeding and husbandry
- respects values and principles of the whole organic sector
- only uses breeding methods that are in line with the IFOAM position paper on Compatibility of Breeding Techniques in Organic Systems
- ensures the integrity of organic products, adds value and strengthens consumers’ confidence

Organic right from the start

to lay the foundation for the organic foods of tomorrow, strengthen the organic sector and build consumer trust

Organic breeding in Europe - challenges and opportunities

Organic Regulation 2018/848 and organic breeding

- according to the new Organic Regulation 2018/848 (entering into force in 2021), all seed should be organic by 2036
- to contribute to a high level of biodiversity, the use of organic heterogeneous material, organic varieties and animal breeds suitable for organic agriculture should be promoted
- to increase the availability of organic cultivars and animal breeds, a strong independent organic breeding sector is needed

Financing of organic breeding

should have solid and sustainable basis with shared responsibilities along the value-chain

Value-chain partnerships for organic breeding

What distinguishes value-chain partnerships?

- joint provision of sustainably produced food for the mutual benefit of all stakeholders
- close cooperation between actors, based on partnership
- orientation towards quality and transparency for the consumers

Why should organic breeding matter to value-chain actors?

- current cultivars and animal breeds are not adjusted to organic production and processing
- novel breeding technologies are diverging from organic principles
- investment for the future: what is bred today will be on our plates in 10-15 years
- necessary for self-determined and independent further development of the organic sector