

IS ORGANIC FARMING BOON AND CONVENTIONAL FARMING BANE TO FARMERS?

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INTRODUCTION

- Until 1920, only Organic farming was practiced in which farmers used natural ways for pest control and replenishment of soil. With the development of chemicals like DDT, Ammonium nitrate and the industrial revolution traditional practice of farming began to lose its importance.
- Farming method took a turn and non organics method started to be practiced.
- The desire to produce greater quantity of food and that too in shorter period of time led to increased use of chemicals and fertilizers, which had negative effects on environment.

WHAT IS ORGANIC FARMING?

Organic Farming is defined as the farming should be done by using natural fertilizers without using the artificial fertilizers and weedicides and insecticides. Organic Farming is meant to conserve soil, water and reduce pollution within the environment. It is healthy type of farming which improves the health of humans. The crop of organic farming is

pesticide free which provide proper nutrients to the humans and reduce the issue of illness. Organic farming have a smaller carbon footprint, conserves and build up soil health, refill natural ecosystems for cleaner water and air, all without virulent pesticide residue.

NEED OF ORGANIC FARMING

With the increase in population our necessity would be not only to stabilize agricultural

production but also to increase it for further in sustainable production. The scientists conclude that the 'Green Revolution' with high amount of input use has reached a plateau and is now sustained with declined return of falling dividends. Thus, it is important to maintain a natural balance at all cost for existence of life and property. When these agrochemicals which are produced by the fossil fuel and are not renewable and have diminishing in availability. Its cost may also increase on our foreign exchange in future.



WHAT IS CONVENTIONAL FARMING?

Conventional farming is usually associated with high input with modern agriculture which includes the utilization of synthetic chemical fertilizers, fungicides, insecticides and herbicides. A significant amount of chemical inputs are required in conventional farming to produce the best yield of crops. Conventional farming was developed to build up the farming system more efficient, but achieves that efficiency at any cost to the environment. Maintenance of the field easy for farmers as conventional farming involves monocropping, but it is also very expensive. In a conventional system farmers will allot entire fields to just one crop, which creates uniformity. Uniformity can examine both the success and failure of conventional systems. Chemicals and genetically modified organisms make preservation of conventional systems relatively easy for farmers, but need a constant input of energy and money. In conventional system, farmers can apply pesticides and herbicides to crops if they are made up of just one type of plant, but this has a number of undesired consequences. Since the goal of conventional agriculture is to maximize yields of crop, environmental health and biodiversity are usually extremely effected.

Components of Organic Farming	Components of Conventional Farming
Crop residues	Chemical Fertilizers such as Urea, DAP, SSP and MOP
Green manures	Chemical Insecticides like malathion
Compost/Vermicompost	Chemical Herbicides like Paraquat, 2,4-D, Pendimethalin etc.
Biofertilizers	Chemical fungicides like Bavistin etc.
Mulching	
Weed control	
Plant Extract like Neem	

NUTRIENTS AND SOIL FERTILITY

ORGANIC

- Crop rotation.
- Green manure.
- Compost and animals.
- Also commonly allowed are rock phosphate, lime and other natural compounds.

ORGANIC

- Artificial fertilizers primarily produced from ammonia via natural gas.
- All methods of organic farming are practiced to some extent in conventional farms.

EFFECTS OF BOTH THE FARMING

Conventional and organic farming methods have different type of consequences on the environment and human. Conventional agriculture causes increased greenhouse gas emissions, soil degradation, water pollution, and threatens human health. Organic farming has a smaller carbon footprint, conserves and binds the soil and prevents soil erosion, replenishes natural ecosystems for cleaner water and air, all without harmful pesticides and herbicides. The major difference between organic and conventional farming is that conventional farming completely depend on chemical intervention to for pest and weeds control and provide nutrition to the plants. That means synthetically made pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. Organic farming relies on natural principles like bio-fertilizers and different type of composting to produce healthy, abundant food .Organic production is not only to the avoidance of conventional chemical inputs, neither is it the substitution for synthetic ones. While in organic farming the farmers apply techniques which was first used in thousands of years ago, such as crop rotations, monocropping and the use of composted animal waste manures and green manure crops, in such a way that they are economically sustainable in today's world.

CONCLUSION

We believe that farming should be part of our daily healthy life, not part of the problem. The timely addition of organic materials to the soil is the only way to maintain and improve the level of carbon that can be absorbed by the soil and this is the basis step in organic farming. In order to help the farmers to mitigate the potential for harmful environmental effects, we need to move to modern organic methods and avoid the conventional farming because it directly affects the crops by giving them artificial or we can say synthetic pesticides or herbicides. The conventional farming directly affects the yield of plant but it mainly influence the human health because excess use of synthetic fertilizers may affect the human health and increase the death rate of the human. So we can say that farmers should avoid the conventional farming. In order to minimize the effect of artificial fertilizers, we should choose organic farming over the conventional farming as it is scientifically proved that the food produced by the organic is healthier and rich in vitamins and minerals. So we can try promoting the organic farming as conventional farming is the human suicide.

