

Comparative analysis of central attributes in Organic Farming and Agroecology

	Organic farming	Agroecology
Definition	System of farm management and food production	Various, e.g. interdisciplinary study and design of agricultural and food system
Initial paradigms	Soil fertility (and soil sciences)	Ecology (and entomology)
Key concepts	Farming system; value chain	Agro-ecosystem; food sovereignty
Reference models	Mixed livestock-cropping	Traditional multistratified systems
Agricultural forms associated	Biological; biodynamic; organic	Alternative; sustainable agriculture; Integrated Pest Management
Key actors	Farmers; processors; consumers	Diversified small farmers
Technologies	Use of natural substances and processes; no GMOs	Nutrient cycling; biological crop protection; possibly chemical inputs
Food	Quality; content; health	Agri-food systems; sovereignty
Biodiversity	Impact oriented (effect of practices on biodiversity)	Resource oriented; enhancing agrobiodiversity
Regulations	Historical recognition, IFOAM principles and national rules	No international standards acknowledged
Certification	Mostly third-party	Participatory guarantee systems (PGS)



Source:

Bellon, Lamine, Ollivier and de Abreu. 2011. The relationships between organic farming and agro-ecology, Proceedings of the Third Scientific Conference of the International Society of Organic Agriculture Research (ISO FAR), held at the 17th IFOAM Organic World Congress in Cooperation with the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) and the Korean Organizing Committee (KOC) 28 September–1 October 2011 in Namyangju, Korea. Available from: http://www.slu.se/Documents/externwebben/centrumbildningar-projekt/epok/isofar_vol2.pdf#page=252

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