



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Organic Farming

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Organic Farming - Main Drivers



- EU Farm-to-Fork Policy
- High farm input costs
- CAP, new initiatives, new schemes, new focus

Support Provided by DAFM



- Organic Farming Scheme
- OCIS – Capital grants
- Organic Processing Investment Grant Scheme



Schemes reviewed in 2022, new schemes commenced Jan 2023

Organic Production 2022



- 2,477 organic operators (producers & processors)
- 2,050 in OFS
- Approx 110,000 hectares of land under organic production = 2.5% of agric. area.

Breakdown	
Enterprise	Number of Producers
Cattle	1362
Sheep	634
Horticulture	385
Cereals	312
Poultry	208
Dairy	75

New Organic Farming Scheme (OFS)



- Original target of 7.5% UAA under organics by end 2027
- New OFS 2023
- Budget of €256 million
- Enhanced payment rates
- Priority access to ACRES, synergies OFS & ACRES
- Reduction in stocking rate from 0.5 l.u. to 0.1 l.u. per ha
- Ceiling for higher rate of payment increased from 60 to 70 Ha



New Payment rates



	Year 1-2 (in conversion) 1 - 70 ha €/ha	Year 3 – 5 (fully converted) 1 - 70 ha €/ha
Drystock	€300/ha	€250/ha
Tillage	€320/ha	€270/ha
Dairy	€350/ha	€300/ha
Horticulture	€800/ha	€600/ha

- Participation payment €2,000 yr 1 of conversion
- €1,400 annum thereafter



OFS 2023



- Scheme opened late 2022
- 2,130 new applications
- Likely increase in organic area in 2023 of +90,000 ha
- 4.5% of agricultural land under organics in 2023

OFS Eligibility

- Be an active farmer
- Register with and be approved by an OCB
- Register with DAFM Organic Div
- Hold an organic licence at date of submission of OFS application
- Declare all lands in the applicant's name on BISS
- Completion of FETAC level 5 Course in Organic Farming. Cert to be uploaded by 1 Oct '23
- Minimum area 3 ha agriculture; 1 ha horticulture*

Organic Control Bodies Details

➤ Irish Organic Association

- Tel: 0906 433 680
- Email: info@irishoa.ie

➤ Organic Trust

- Tel: 045 882377
- Email: info@organictrust.ie

New Organic Capital Investment Scheme



- Co-funded scheme under TAMS
- 60% of the eligible cost - 2023



<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/24875-terms-and-conditions-of-the-organic-capital-investment-scheme-ocis/>



Organic Strategy Forum



Forum of key stakeholders to guide future direction of organic sector

- Growing the organic supply base
- Education & knowledge transfer
- Market development
- Green procurement



Organic Strategy Forum



Roadmap - key activities delivered in 2022 to grow the supply base :

- 18 farm walks on organic farms attended by an estimated 2,000 farmers
- National Organic Open Day attended by over 1,200 farmers
- Recruitment of an Organic specialist and 5 advisors by Teagasc
- Appointment of an organic specialist by ACA
- ‘Train the trainer’ sessions organised for existing advisors by Teagasc and ACA
- Organic Village at the National Ploughing Championships
- 4 farms walks and information meetings organised by IFA,
- Information meetings organised by ICSA and INHFA
- Helpdesks and 16 workshops/clinics as well as a series of farm walks organised by Organic certification bodies
- Over 1,500 attendees at organic training courses in 2022



Organic Unit Contact



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- Email Organic@agriculture.gov.ie

Further info

- Website <http://agfood.ie/organic>