

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

A production system that is managed in accordance with the Organic Foods Production Act and regulations to respond to site-specific conditions by integrating cultural, biological, and mechanical practices that foster cycling of resources, promote ecological balance, and conserve biodiversity.

USDA definition of organic production



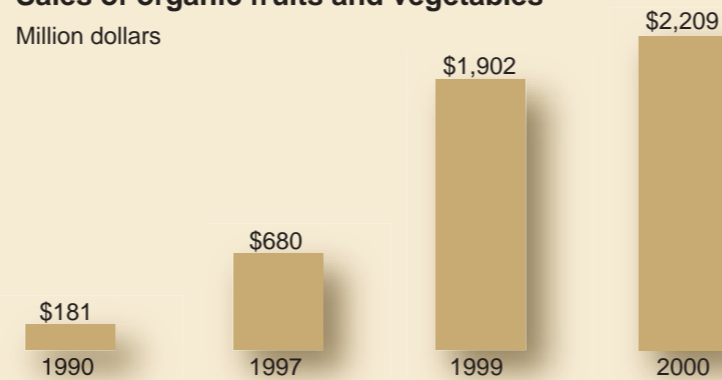
The National Organic Program (NOP) in USDA'S Agricultural Marketing Service administers Federal regulations on organic standards and certification (www.ams.usda.gov/NOP).



Food Sector Growth

Sales of organic fruits and vegetables

Million dollars



Source: 1997 data, Food Industrial Management Program at Cornell University; 1999, 2000, Nutrition Business Journal.

Sales of organic milk, half and half, and cream in conventional grocery stores

Millions of dollars



Source: Glaser and Thompson and Natural Foods Merchandiser.

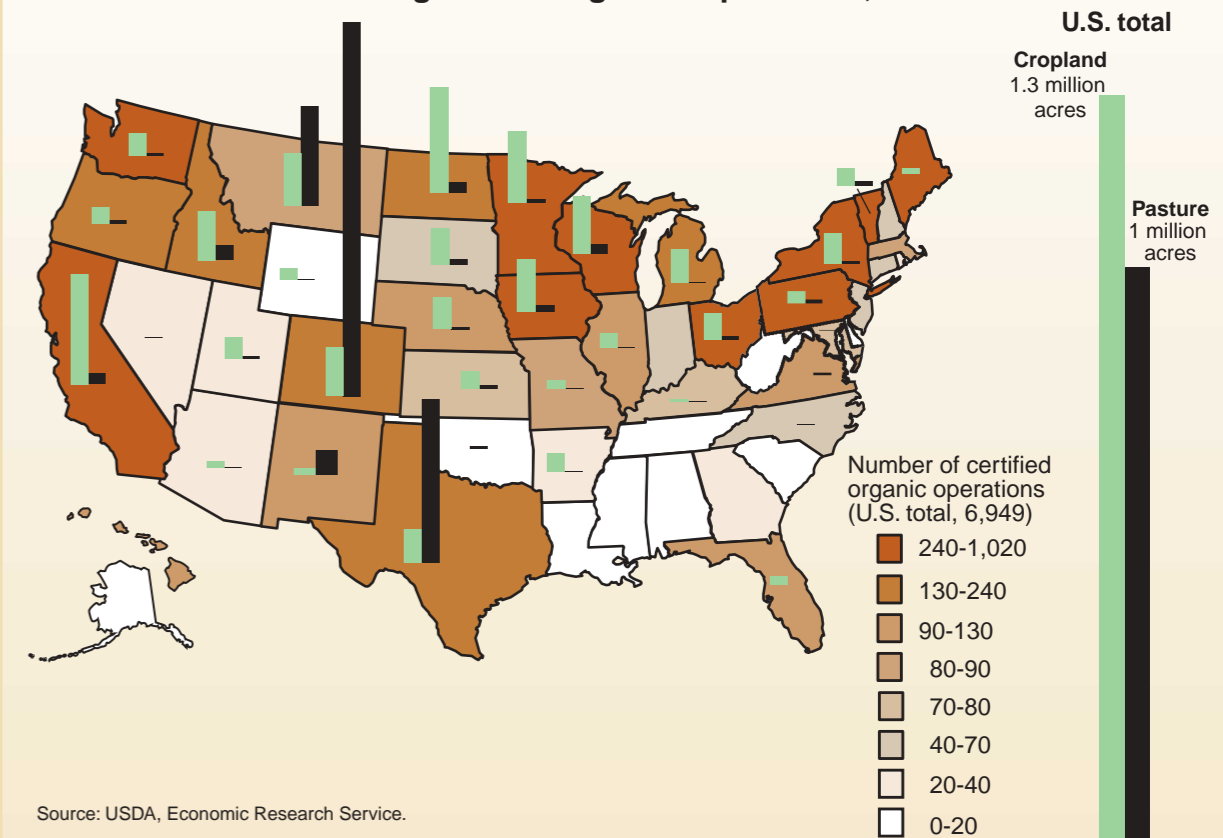
Certified organic livestock production is increasing

	1992	1997	2001
	<i>Number</i>		
Beef cows	6,796	4,429	15,197
Milk cows	2,265	12,897	48,677
Poultry	60,363	798,250	5,014,015

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

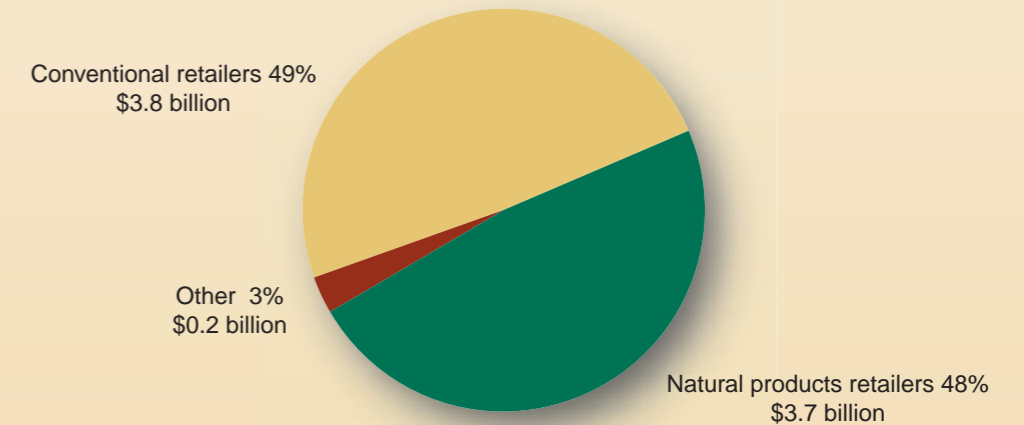
U.S. Characteristics

Certified organic acreage and operations, 2001



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service.

Share and dollar amount of U.S. organic sales by venue, 2000



Notes: Other is direct sales and exports.
Source: Natural Foods Merchandiser, Packaged Facts.