

organic. why?

Organic products are grown and processed without the use of synthetic chemicals, fertilisers or GMO's. They are assessed against a strict set of Organic Standards, which requires the ingredients in foods and drinks to be verified as organic, before a product can be labelled and sold as certified organic.



how can I be sure it is genuine?

The only way to be sure you are purchasing genuine organic products is to check for a certification logo. When you see a certification number and logo, you know that there is a seamless chain of information about every step in the life of that product - from farm to fork.

do organic foods taste better?

Grown naturally, the way nature intended, many consumers claim that organic foods have a better taste than non-organic equivalents. Occasionally other factors may come into play, but taste tests and the millions of people who regularly eat organic confirm the superior flavour.

why does it cost more sometimes?



Organic foods can be more expensive, however this represents the true cost of growing nutritious, high quality, chemical free produce. As some say, 'you get more carrot in your organic carrot'. Food grown using intensive methods may be cheap, but on the flip side can have high health, social and environmental costs such as sickness and cleaning up polluted waterways. 'Can we afford not to go organic?' is the real question to ask.

do organic foods last as long?

Manufactured organic foods have a shelf-life similar to their non-organic equivalents. However, as no synthetic fungicide, pesticide or post-harvest treatments are used, the shelf-life of fresh organic products can vary. In many cases its lower water

content and natural method of production can improve shelf-life.

are organic foods pesticide free?

Pesticides are everywhere - in the air, the ground and water supplies, and therefore the risk of contamination is always present - so it is impossible for any product to claim that it is entirely pesticide free. As organic foods are produced without the use of artificial pesticides, consuming organic is your best way of limiting pesticide intake.

are all goods entirely organic?

Most organic foods are 100% organic however some manufactured goods have a small proportion of uncertified ingredients (a maximum of 5%) from a restricted list which can be found in the Australian Organic Standard. These ingredients must be clearly labelled. All products and operations are audited and tested annually and a cross-section of operations are subject to un-announced audits throughout the year to ensure integrity of organic products.



do organic foods contain any additives?

Organic foods undergo the minimum processing necessary. A minimum number of natural processing aids such as ascorbic acid (vitamin c) and guar gum are approved and must be included on the label when used. These are under constant review and new processing aids can only be added following intense scrutiny.

what about genetic modification?

Organic Standards prohibit the use of genetically modified organisms (GMO's) of any kind during the growing, processing and manufacture of organic foods.

Organic Representative Bodies

The BFA Group



Biological Farmers of Australia

(BFA) is Australia's largest representative organic body, and since the 1980s has been a voice for its members and the organic industry and movement in general - on matters relating to education, trade, promotion and advocacy.
www.bfa.com.au



Australian Certified Organic

(ACO) is Australia's premier certifier of organic produce. ACO maintains conformance with all leading organic standards internationally for worldwide market access. Look for the ACO Bud logo when buying organic products for your guarantee of organic integrity.
www.aco.net.au



Organic Growers of Australia

Certified Ltd (OGA) is Australia's first certification service to cater specifically for the needs of the smaller organic producer. Growers certified under this program have the benefit of reduced costs and simplified certification process due to fewer requirements for servicing smaller domestic markets.
www.organicgrowers.org.au



POST THIS APPLICATION TO
Membership Applications
Biological Farmers of Australia
PO Box 530
Chermside Qld 4032

OR FAX APPLICATION TO
07 3350 5996

APPLY ONLINE
www.bfa.com.au

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
I understand that membership includes the following:
Voting rights
Allocation of one share in the BFA Co-op (Co-operative Act Regulation 19)
This share is forfeited if my membership lapses
Membership is renewed at the beginning of each calendar year.
All prices are GST inclusive.
A tax invoice will be forwarded for your records.

member details

contact person _____
position _____

company name _____
address _____
city/suburb _____ p/code _____
country _____ a.b.n/a.c.n _____

telephone _____ facsimile _____
mobile _____ email _____
website _____

- Applying between January and June \$99 (incl. 4 editions of AOJ and OB)
- Applying between July and December \$66 (incl. 2 editions of AOJ and OB)

member details

cheque/money order payable to 'biological farmers of australia'
marked 'not negotiable'

credit card card number
expiry date _____ amount (aud) _____
name on card _____
type of card visa bankcard mastercard
 I have read the conditions over page

signature _____ date _____

BIOLOGICAL
FARMERS OF
AUSTRALIA



membership application form



keep informed and support organics

BFA membership is your vehicle to keeping informed and having input into the organic industry. Your benefits as a member include:

- Discounts on organic products, events and services
- Free organic publicity materials
- Subscription to leading industry publications - the Australian Organic Journal and the Australian Organic Business
- Australia's annual industry summary report
- Invitations to national and international events - farm walks, operation visits, workshops, seminars and trade fairs.
- Access to a listing of operators from which to source certified organic products.
- Receive technical advice and information.

Be connected to the largest organic network in Australia. BFA members include organic and biodynamic farmers, processors, traders, retailers, consumers and others. BFA offers a pool of resources for anyone entering the world of organics.

organic farming is a system of agriculture which works with nature rather than against it.

supporting organic is the best way we can secure a better and healthier future for ourselves, our children and our planet.

“ **Healthy soil. Healthy plants. Healthy animals. Healthy people.** ”

www.aco.net.au www.bfa.com.au

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why organic?



welcome to the world of organics



YOUR GUARANTEE OF INTEGRITY