

**Main current topics in the development
of organic farming in the EU 2008/9
from the point of view of:**



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The new organic regulation 1

Major focus of our work over last 3 years

- *analysed, publicised, consulted, responded*
- *pressurised the authorities to amend and improve*

Framework regulation 834/2007 (stage 1)

- Published July 2007

Implementing Rules (stage 2)

- Approved July 2008 (still to be published)

Implementing rules for new areas (stage 3)

- Aquaculture, seaweed, yeast, wine

Tidying up loose ends and unfinished business (stage 4)

- Poultry, review of inputs, review of processing

The new organic regulation 2

- **How will it work putting it into practice?**
- Arrangements for control bodies (OFFC 822/2004)
- Imports (equivalence and compliance)
- Labelling (EU logo, origin labelling, organic additives)

IFOAM EU Group Dossier

- *A new regulation for organic food and farming in Europe*
- Comprehensive guide for users
- To be launched at Biofach 2009

Organic research



Organic research technology platform

- Working with ISOFAR
- Clear direction for organic research in the EU
- Lobby DG Research to increase organic research in FP7
- *Vision for an Organic Food and Farming - Research Agenda to 2025: Organic Knowledge for the Future*

Organic is at the cutting edge of sustainable agriculture

- the benefits of organic research go far wider than organic
- so organic research should have a far higher profile

Looking wider

The three challenges of

- Climate change
- Impending peak oil
- Rising food prices

Organic farming can help solve these

- Lobby for the CAP to be truly sustainable
- Support the Countdown 2010 campaign (to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010)
- Continue to fight the useless technology of GMOs

Looking within

The future will be very different

- Drier, hotter, more extreme climate
- Limiting water supplies
- Increasingly more expensive oil and energy

How must we change to reflect this?

- Less oil dependent – less machinery, more labour
- Smaller mixed farms – less input dependent
- More local markets – lower transport costs
- More closely aligned to organic principles

The paradigm is moving – we must move too