

The Act / Basic Direction on the promotion of organic agriculture

- To promote organic agriculture, the “Act on the promotion of Organic Agriculture” was enacted in 2006.
- Based on Article 6 of the Act, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries established the new "Basic Policy on the promotion of Organic Agriculture" in April 2014.

Article 1 Purpose

The objective of this Act is to develop organic agriculture through comprehensively implementing policies on promotion of organic agriculture by means of establishing basic principles and basic matters and clarifying the responsibilities of the state and local governments.

Article 2 Definition

In this Act, "organic agriculture" defined as the farming methods which reduce load on the environment derived from agricultural production as much as possible, basically does not use chemically synthesized fertilizers and pesticides nor genetic recombination technologies.

Article 4 Responsibility of the State and Local Governments (Overview)

In accordance with the basic principles, the state and local governments are responsible for formulating and implementing comprehensive policies with regard to promotion of organic agriculture.

(The rest is omitted)

Basic Policy on the Promotion of Organic Agriculture

Targets for the promoting and expanding organic agriculture (2014)

- ① To double the ratio of organic farming areas to cultivated land in Japan (→1%)
- ② To establish a technological system for organic agriculture
- ③ To develop an extension guidance system for organic agriculture (all prefectures)
- ④ To promote understanding of organic agriculture among consumers (Around half or more of all consumers recognize organic agriculture)
- ⑤ To develop a promotion system for organic agriculture (All prefectures and 50% or more of municipalities)

National government
(Basic direction)



Prefectural governments
(Promotion plan)

(Article 7) Prefectural governments shall make efforts in establish promotion plans in line with Basic direction on promotion of Organic Agriculture.