Why Organic?

Motivations

*For healthier food

* To safeguard the environment

* To be more in harmony with nature by using simple techniques and farm-made material

*To protect the health of farmers

* For higher profits –traders and growers

Motivations

- For exports

Or

- Domestic market

Challenges

- **Government policies**
- **Subsidy regime**
- **Mindset of ICAR scientists**
- **Business lobby (seed, pesticide, fertiliser cos.)**
- **Popular perceptions**

Challenges

- For Farmers:

*No compensation during 3-5 years taken for conversion

*Lower yields in initial period

*Lack of seeds

*Contamination from conventional farming

Challenges

- **Certification**
- **Too costly for small farmers**
- **PGS is a way out; but inherent problems**
- **Can we do away with certification?**

Challenges

- Price
- Changing farmer base
- Consistency of supplies, quality
- Transport-ation issues

Scale of operations

Hopeful trends

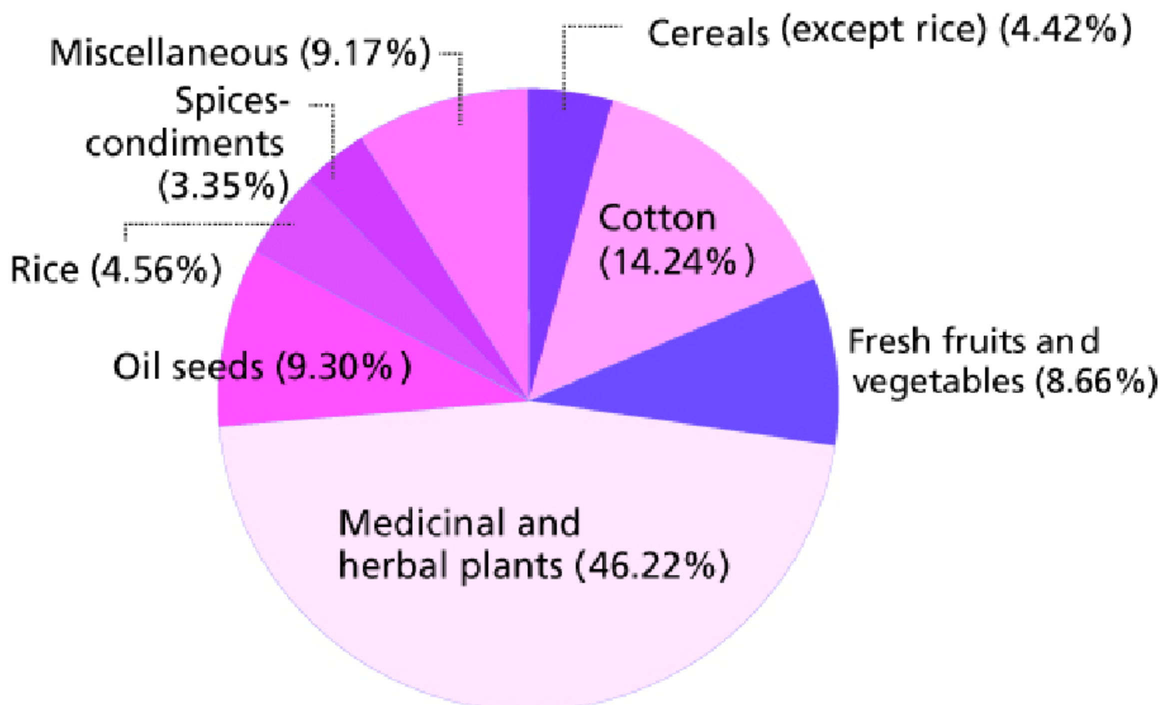
- States promoting organic farming; trying different models
- Farmers looking for alternatives
- Consumer awareness

India's profile

- India tops the global chart in number of certified farmers -- 400,551
- But ranks 33rd globally in land under organic
- And ranks 88th globally in agricultural land under organic

India's profile

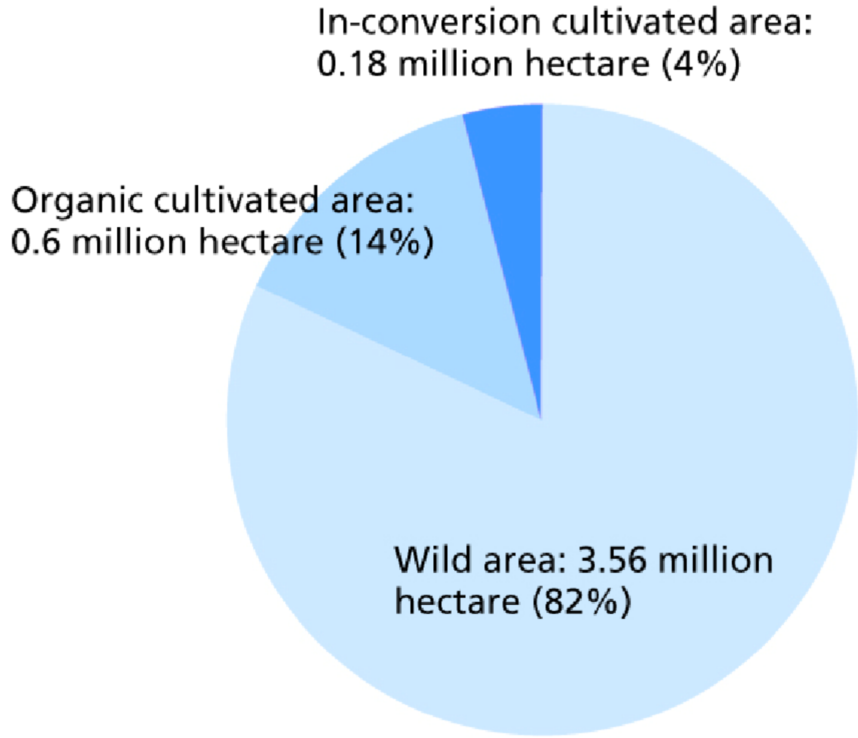
Main organic crops



Total organic production: 3.88 million tonnes
This is just about 1 per cent of the total production

India's profile

Area under organic production

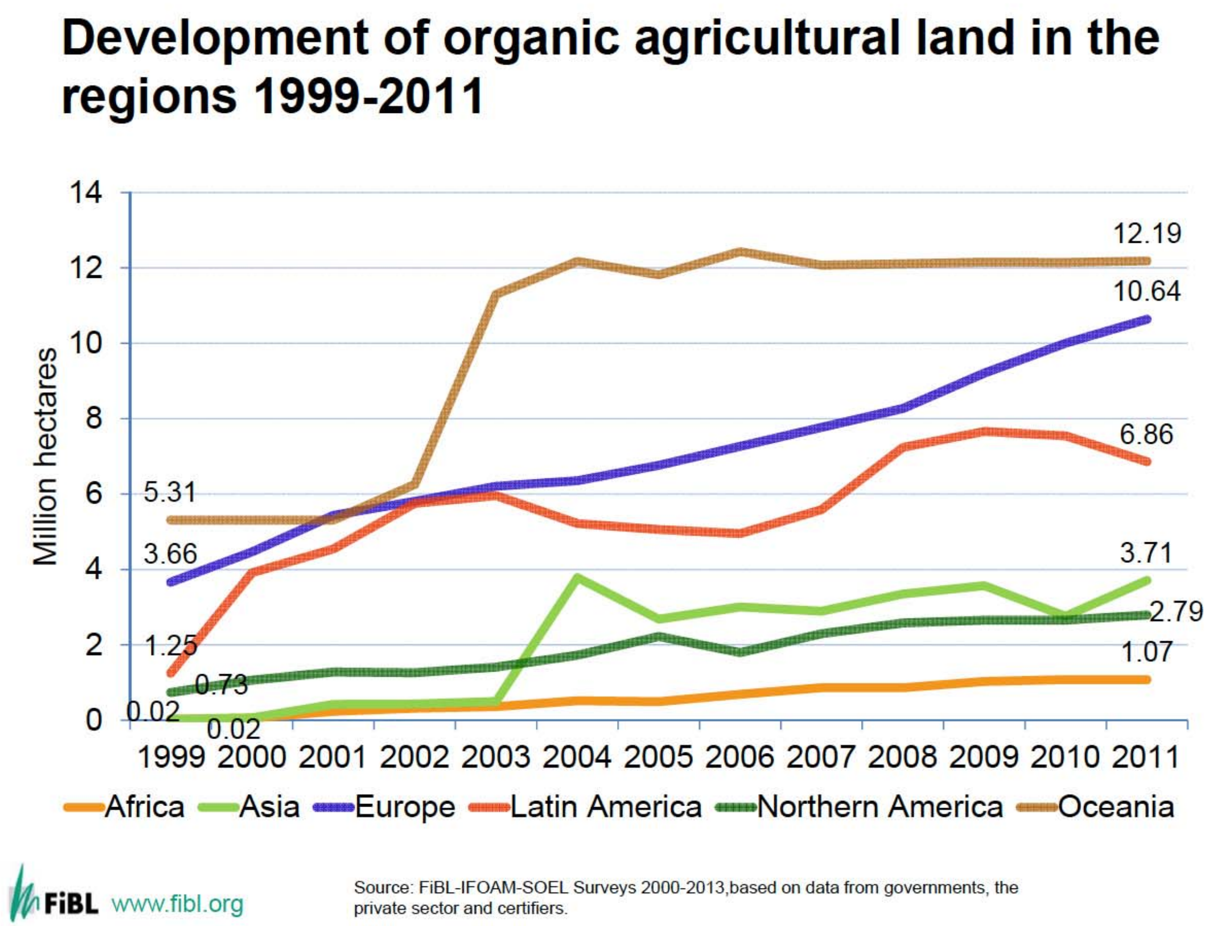


This is less than 1 per cent of the total cultivated area

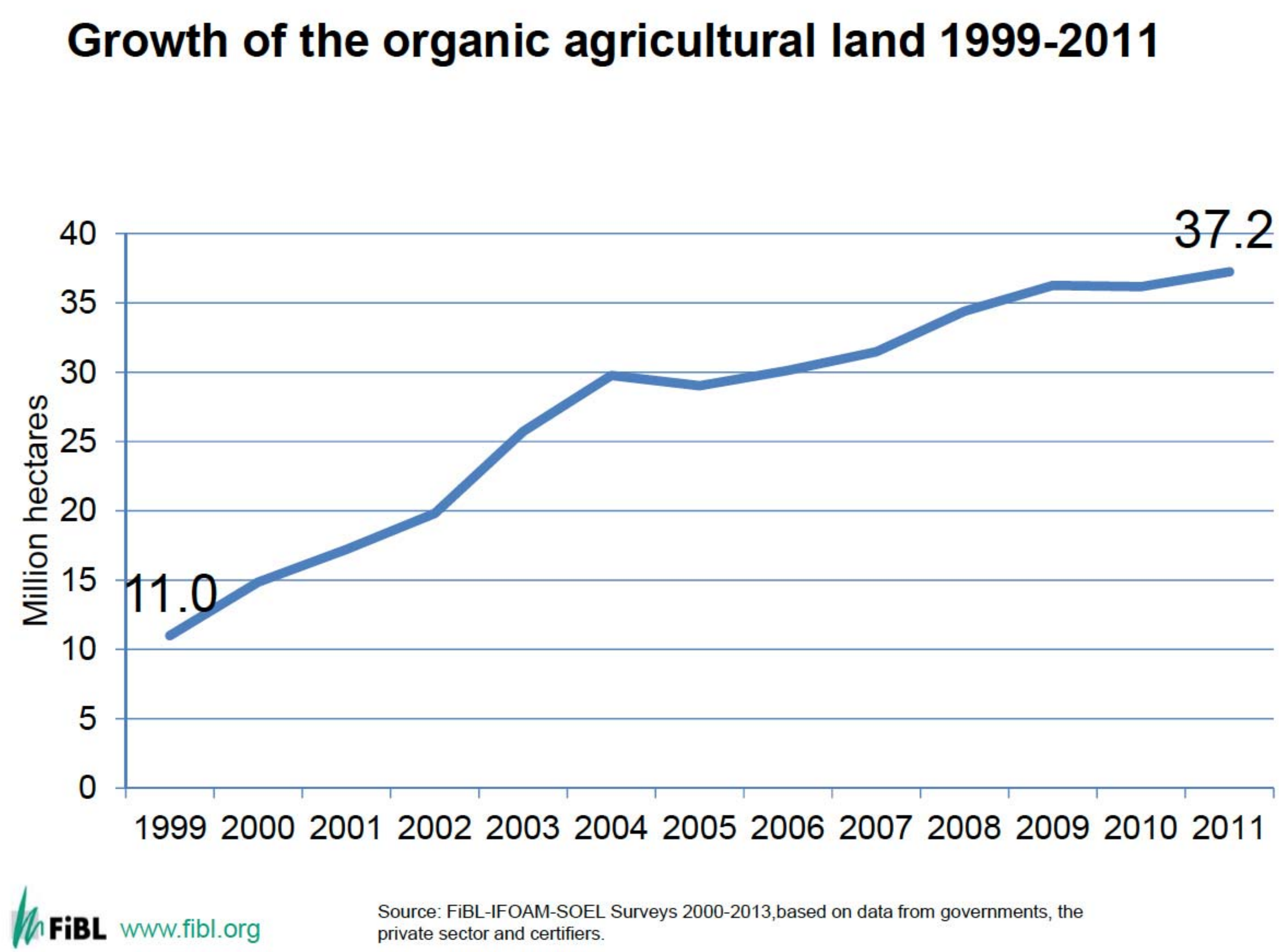
Source: Ministry of Agriculture

All figures for the year 2010-11

Global Scenario



Global Scenario



Global Scenario