



BIOFRUITNET

Boosting Innovation in **ORGANIC FRUIT** production through stronger networks

Organic fruit production

In 2016 there were 62,000 organic fruit growers in the EU, corresponding to 4.1% of the total number of fruit producers. Since then their share has increased every year.

What challenges do organic fruit growers face?

Organic fruit growers need to be more innovative than conventional farmers in terms of pest and diseases management, suitable varieties, fruit quality and yields to stay competitive as they do not use prohibited synthetic inputs nor other conventional methods.

Strong networks

Many farmers have developed local strategies for improving production. Strong knowledge networks are needed to make local solutions available to other fruit growers in Europe.

How can we disseminate the locally found solutions across Europe?

By strengthening the link between organic fruit growing networks across Europe. We collect and analyse their strengths, challenges and facilitate possible collaborations between organic farmers, advisors and researchers.

 organic-farmknowledge.org

 biofruitnet.eu

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Pome, stone and citrus fruit

The EU organic cultivated area exceeds 1 million ha. Of the whole organic area, 8.1% is dedicated to organic temperate fruit. The most important species are apples 45,880 ha, pears 13,281 ha, plums 12,882 ha and cherries 10,227 ha.

Do European organic fruit growers have access to all existing innovative solutions?

Despite ongoing research into organic fruit growing, many farmers have no access to the existing solutions. We identify best practices and make knowledge accessible to all organic pome, stone and citrus growers across Europe.



Ready-for-use material

Scientific results are often too technical to be used by farmers. We are committed to bring scientific findings to organic fruit growers in easy-to-understand language.

How can we make the latest scientific discoveries available to farmers?

We translate best practices for pest and disease control, methods for ensuring fruit quality and yield, and evaluation of fruit varieties in ready-for-use formats. Tools include practice abstracts, fact sheets, e-learning courses, podcasts, videos and short articles.



Expected benefits of BioFruitNet



Connecting organic fruit farmers, advisors and researchers



Improving production by making local strategies accessible to organic fruit growers across Europe



Disseminating best practices and strategies through ready-for-use materials