China: Organic food has huge investment potential

The following is an edited excerpt.

Affluent Chinese, alarmed by a slew of food safety problems in recent years, are increasingly willing to spend a premium on what is served for dinner. This demand has fueled the growth of the organic food market.

International practice defines organic food as that grown and processed without pesticides and additives. In China, produce can be identified as "organic," "green" or "non-pollution" depending on its exposure to chemicals.

Experts agree organic food has a huge potential in China. Du Xiangge, chairman of the China Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (CFOAM), a trade group, said the industry could grow ten-fold in long term.

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