

Organic agriculture ‘unscientific, heavily subsidized marketing gimmick’

Consumers of organic foods are getting both more and less than they bargained for. On both counts, it's not good.

Many people who pay the huge premium — often more than a hundred percent — for organic foods do so because they're afraid of pesticides. If that's their rationale, they misunderstand the nuances of organic agriculture. Although it's true that synthetic chemical pesticides are generally prohibited, there is a lengthy list of [exceptions](#) listed in the Organic Foods Production Act, while most “natural” ones are permitted. However, “organic” pesticides can be toxic.

And, so long as an organic farmer abides by his organic system (production) plan—a plan that an organic certifying agent must approve before granting the farmer organic status—the unintentional presence of GMOs (or, for that matter, prohibited synthetic pesticides) in any amount does not affect the organic status of the farmer's products or farm.

Few organic consumers are aware that organic agriculture is a “trust-based” or “faith-based” system. With every purchase, they are at risk of the moral hazard that an organic farmer will represent cheaper-to-produce non-organic products as the premium-priced organic product. USDA reported in 2012 that 43 percent of the 571 samples of “organic” produce that were tested contained prohibited pesticide residues.

Organic agriculture is an unscientific, heavily subsidized marketing gimmick that misleads and rips off consumers, both because of the nature of the regulations and cheating. The old saying that you get what you pay for doesn't apply when you buy overpriced organic products.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this blog/article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: [The Colossal Hoax Of Organic Agriculture](#)