

Read the text about organic farming methods. Fill in the blanks from the word list on the right. There are THREE words you will not need.

Members of an organic farm community near Rostock, Germany

Image: Smaack, CC BY-SA 4.0
<<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>>, via Wikimedia Commons



Instead of chemicals, organic farming uses a lot of organic (1) _____ to give crops the (2) _____ that they need to grow. Clover, for example, has a lot of nitrogen in it and farmers use it to make the (3) _____ better. Manure from animals and compost are also used to (4) _____ the soil. These fertilizers also help conserve soil, not destroy it after a few years.

Organic farmers also use crop (5) _____ to preserve the good qualities of soils and avoid monoculture.

Chemical pesticides destroy or weaken many of the natural enemies of pests, like birds or frogs. They also can kill those insects that control a great number of pests.

Organic farming creates new (6) _____ areas for wasps, bugs, beetles and flies by (7) _____ them with water and food.

Weeds are (8) _____ by using special machines. Hay, straw and wood chips are put between the (9) _____ of plants to stop weeding.

Many (10) _____ products can be produced in an organic way. Meat, dairy products and eggs come from animals that are (11) _____ organically and can graze outdoors. They live in (12) _____ that are natural to them. Cows, for example, are kept in pastures and fields. Vegetables and fruit are also produced with organic methods.

agricultural
chemical
conditions
controlled
destroy
enrich
fed
living
matter
nutrients
offering
providing
rotation
rows
soil

KEY

Instead of chemicals, organic farming uses a lot of organic **(1) matter** to give crops the **(2) nutrients** that they need to grow. Clover, for example, has a lot of nitrogen in it and farmers use it to make the **(3) soil** better. Manure from animals and compost are also used to **(4) enrich** the soil. These fertilizers also help conserve soil, not destroy it after a few years.

Organic farmers also use crop **(5) rotation** to preserve the good qualities of soils and avoid monoculture.

Chemical pesticides destroy or weaken many of the natural enemies of pests, like birds or frogs. They also can kill those insects that control a great number of pests.

Organic farming creates new **(6) living** areas for wasps, bugs, beetles and flies by **(7) providing** them with water and food.

Weeds are **(8) controlled** by using special machines. Hay, straw and wood chips are put between the **(9) rows** of plants to stop weeding.

Many **(10) agricultural** products can be produced in an organic way. Meat, dairy products and eggs come from animals that are **(11) fed** organically and can graze outdoors. They live in **(12) conditions** that are natural to them. Cows, for example, are kept in pastures and fields. Vegetables and fruit are also produced with organic methods.