

Profile of organic crops in Oregon - 2008

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This report provides a best **estimate** of certified organic crop acreage in Oregon and includes data from the following certifiers: Oregon Tilth Certified Organic (OTCO), Washington State Department of Agriculture Organic Food Program (WSDA-OFPP), California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF), Global Organic Alliance (GOA), International Certification Services (ICS), Quality Assurance International (QAI), Organic Certifiers Inc., and Global Culture. Data were compiled by WSU-CSANR¹ and represent calendar year 2008. OTCO is the primary certifier in Oregon, currently covering 66% of the known acreage and 85% of the certified farms. There are potential sources of uncertainty in the data: 1) any minor crop acres certified in Oregon by additional certifiers; 2) the number of exempt producers (less than \$5,000 gross sales) who chose not to be certified. Data were not provided for an estimated 18 farms certified by California Crop Improvement Association, Stellar Certification Services and Guaranteed Organic Certification Agency. Also, producers are not required to register transition acres, so the reported numbers likely underestimate the actual total. Farmgate sales were based on data from OTCO and WSDA only and represent approximately 75% of certified farms. The 2007 certifier data were compared to the USDA 2007 Census of Agriculture organic data. Livestock, processor and handler information were not included in this report.

Table 1. Estimated NOP certified crop acreage summary for Oregon.
(Combined certifiers; C=Certified, T=Transition)

Crop Summary	Acres						% Total 2008	%Growth 07-08
	C 2004	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008		
Forage	19,778	31,288	43,664	63,055	88,546	4,120	77%	40%
Vegetables	2,094	4,231	4,909	5,243	6,090	328	5%	16%
Grains, Pulses, Oilseeds	2,214	2,861	2,337	4,809	9,151	89	8%	90%
Fruit and Nuts	1,754	1,942	2,195	2,380	2,779	76	2%	17%
Herbs, Mixed Horticulture	614	654	538	605	641	6	0.6%	6%
Other Crops	110	449	314	268	1,015	116	0.9%	279%
Seed Crops	172	497	153	350	208	45	0.2%	-41%
Fallow/idle	1,999	1,795	2,487	4,121	4,782	8	4%	16%
Other Land	2,357	1,712	2,610	2,466	2,291		2%	-7%
Total acres (with double crop)	31,092	45,429	59,207	83,297	115,502	4,788		39%
Area (no double crop)		44,666	58,875	83,037	114,923	4,788		

Lake harvested algae

10,200 5,200 5,400

'Herbs, Mixed horticulture' category includes greenhouse area. 'Other crops' category includes 960 acres of cover/green manure crop. 'Other land' includes defined non-crop land and undefined land that may be cropped. Total acres (2008) include 581 acres double crop. 2004 values include OTCO and WSDA only. CCOF, QAI, ICS, GOA data added in 2005. Global Culture data added in 2008. Totals may vary due to decimal differences.

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In 2008, NOP-accredited certifiers provided data on **424** certified organic farms and **1** transitional farm, including both crop and livestock producers, in Oregon. An additional **3** producers harvested lake algae only. The number of certified organic farms increased 7% in 2008 compared to increases of 12% and 15% the previous two years. Certified land **area** totaled 114,923 acres; organic **acreage** was 115,502 with the inclusion of 581 reported double crop acres. Certified land expanded by 32,205 acres (39%) in 2008, compared to 24,090 acres (41%) the previous year. Certifiers reported 4,788 acres of cropland in transition (**Table 1**). Acres were typically segregated by use (crop, fallow or “other non-crop land”). However, 357 acres of undefined WSDA land included in the “other land” category could contain crop land acres as well as non-cropped areas. Additional certified organic lake harvested blue-green algae area (5,400 ac) was reported in a separate category.

The existing organic farm data sources pose a number of challenges for developing accurate statistics. Certifiers request information in different forms and categories, and are not always consistent in how a land use is classified from year to year. Growers may switch from one certifier to another, causing an apparent drop if only the original certifier is being tracked, but causing no net change if both are. It can be difficult to sort out harvest year for fall planted or rotation acreage. As an example, alfalfa following a spring crop, or fall planted grains may be entered into a database for both the planting and harvest years; ideally, data would only be included in acreage statistics for the year of harvest.

2008 Certified Crop Summary

Organic acreage in Oregon is dominated by forage crops. Vegetables, grains and fruit are also important. Detailed crop acreage breakdowns for 2005-2008 crop years are listed in **Table 2**. Additional information, figures and graphs have been posted on-line at the following link: <http://csanr.wsu.edu/Organic/OrganicStats.htm> .

Forage In 2008, forage production including pastureland, comprised 77% of Oregon’s total certified organic acreage. Grass hay area nearly doubled from the previous year. Alfalfa acreage has also experienced a strong growth trend in response to the high feed demand that occurred after a number of new organic dairies came on-line in 2006. Transition acres indicate that forage acres, especially alfalfa, should continue to grow. Crop acres were defined as hay/haylage/silage (including greenchop) if at least one cutting was reported. Multiple use ground, cut and pastured, was also assigned to the hay/haylage/silage category. Pasture was defined as forage ground with no cutting reported. However, given varied certifier reporting systems, forage categories can be difficult to determine if not specified clearly. For example, it is sometimes unclear if forage was cut or grazed; if small grains, such as barley, were grazed, hayed or harvested for grain; and if corn was cut for silage or grain. Currently, organic hay and pastureland make up 5.2% and 0.4%, respectively, of the state’s total area of these crops.

Vegetables Oregon organic vegetable production continued a moderate upward trend and increased 16% to 6,090 acres, including double cropping. Organic vegetables now account for 4% of all vegetable acres in the state. Four leading crops [sweet corn (1,228 ac), peas (1,170 ac), potatoes (1,101 ac) and onions (854 ac)] made up 71% of the organic vegetable acres, and they each accounted for 3-5% of the total state acres of that crop. Seven percent of the vegetable acres were reported only as ‘mixed’. Sweet corn peaked in 2006 (2,034 acres) and then returned to a more typical level. Oregon producers reported about 4% of the total U.S. organic vegetable acreage in 2005 (USDA-ERS, 2006).

Deleted:

Table 2. Estimated certified organic crop acreage in Oregon; combined certifier totals.

C = Certified, T = Transition, NS = not specified

Dry Beans/Pulses	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Black	7	7	7	15	-
Garbanzos	10	10	88	33	-
Kidney	8	8	8	-	-
Peas and Lentils	160	554	-	40	-
Pinto	7	7	7	-	-
Other or NS	94	15	15	49	-
Soybeans	-	-	-	141	-
Pulse Total	286	601	125	278	-

Forage	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Hay/Haylage/Silage	12,051	25,941	40,772	53,165	3,592
alfalfa	5,970	11,127	18,758	22,342	2,667
mixed alfalfa	-	-	3,722	2,915	251
small grain	202	880	1,654	2,462	294
grass	1,700	6,601	11,215	20,018	292
mixed	2,021	4,659	1,893	1,836	88
unspecified	2,158	2,675	3,530	3,592	-
Fodder beets	-	-	-	102	-
Silage, corn	-	140	288	718	60
Pasture	13,244	17,583	21,995	34,561	468
NS Forage	5,992	-	-	-	-
Forage Total	31,287	43,663	63,055	88,546	4,120

Grains*	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Barley	289	394	830	1,499	-
Corn	314	273	1,072	1,712	-
Oats	11	194	234	160	-
Rye	-	-	177	134	-
Triticale	30	18	387	569	-
Wheat	1,779	562	1,781	3,919	72
Wheat, hard red	225	-	4	171	-
Wheat, hard white	-	-	-	-	-
Wheat, soft white	1,429	542	1,471	1,330	60
Other or NS Wheat	125	21	306	1,442	12
Wild Rice	22	28	30	30	-
Other or NS Grains	70	268	173	744	17
Grain Total	2,515	1,736	4,684	8,767	89

*Includes all grains not specifically reported as forage (may include some forage)
Summer Fallow included in "Other Land"

Oilseeds	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Mustard	50	5	-	106	-
Other or NS	10	-	-	-	-
Oilseed Total	60	5	-	106	-

Vegetables	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Assorted Vegetables					
Asparagus	33	29	3	4	-
Celery		13	19	14	-
Pepper	28	42	80	29	-
Salad Greens	48	143	149	181	101
Spinach	-	-	-	111	101
Other	-	-	-	70	-
Sweet corn	1,181	2,034	1,289	1,228	-
Tomato	21	33	25	38	-
Mixed, Other or NS	367	253	370	471	55
Subtotal	1,678	2,547	1,935	1,965	156
Allium					
Garlic	5	13	15	27	-
Leek	1	1	3	3	-
Onion	429	532	711	854	-
Onion, green	-	12	13	14	-
Other or NS	3	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	438	558	742	898	-
Beans and Peas					
Beans, Snap	257	185	293	240	-
Edamame	52	-	-	-	-
Fava Beans	21	1	1	47	-
Peas	711	149	934	1,170	-
Subtotal	1,041	335	1,228	1,457	-
Brassicas					
Broccoli	9	29	22	25	-
Cabbage	10	31	30	42	-
Cauliflower	8	23	25	41	-
Other or NS	3	7	4	31	-
Subtotal	30	89	81	139	-
Cucurbits					
Cucumbers	1	11	13	27	-
Cantaloupe	1	5	10	2	-
Watermelon	6	16	1	21	-
Other or NS melons	-	-	7	16	-
Squash, summer	-	20	27	43	-
Squash, winter	332	434	401	286	42
Squash, other or NS	9	3	54	28	-
Pumpkins	1	10	14	20	-
Other or NS	23	-	-	-	-
Subtotal	373	498	527	443	42
Roots and Tubers					
Beets	1	9	8	18	-
Carrot	3	12	32	13	-
Parsnip	15	11	10	1	-
Potato	645	842	671	1,101	130
Radish	4	5	4	54	-
Turnip	4	4	4	<1	-
Other or NS	-	1	1	-	-
Subtotal	672	883	730	1,187	130
Vegetable Total	4,232	4,909	5,243	6,089	328

Tree Fruit	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Apple					
Mixed	123	108	106	136	-
Subtotal	123	108	106	136	-
Pear					
Asian	21	23	24	33	-
Other or NS	194	178	190	221	42
Subtotal	215	201	214	254	42
Stone					
Apricot	3	3	1	6	-
Cherry	151	183	183	215	18
Nectarine	8	7	6	9	-
Peach	19	23	18	37	-
Plum/Prune/Pluot	114	152	142	91	-
Other or NS Stone	1	-	-	4	-
Subtotal	296	367	350	362	18
Mixed Tree Fruit	192	173	167	149	-
Tree Fruit Total	826	849	837	901	60
Nuts					
	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Almonds	-	-	-	-	-
Chestnut	13	13	33	33	-
Filberts, Hazelnut	110	111	111	110	-
Walnuts	15	15	5	6	-
Other or NS Nuts	4	3	2	1	-
Subtotal	142	142	151	150	-
Small Fruit					
	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Berries					
Blackberry	25	40	38	88	-
Blueberry	55	160	218	357	1
Cranberry	27	36	26	34	-
Huckleberry	-	15	15	15	-
Marionberry	21	21	78	86	-
Raspberry	18	18	29	56	-
Strawberry	10	11	8	20	-
Other or NS	25	6	10	7	1
Subtotal	181	307	422	663	2
Grapes					
Juice	-	-	-	1	-
Table	9	9	9	9	-
Wine	694	873	928	1,012	14
Pinot Noir	347	398	435	462	14
Pinot Gris	234	304	375	372	-
Cabernet Sauvignon	-	51	4	59	-
Chardonnay	28	19	19	16	-
Others	85	101	95	103	-
Mixed or NS	2	2	5	5	-
Subtotal	705	883	942	1,027	14
Other Fruit					
	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Kiwi	1	2	1	14	-
Olive	1	1	1	1	-
Mixed Fruit& Nuts	86	12	25	23	-
Subtotal	88	14	27	38	-
Fruit and nuts Total	1,942	2,196	2,380	2,779	76

Mixed horticulture	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
< 5 ac	136	138	186	160	6
>5 ac	219	135	56	46	-
Total	355	273	242	206	6

Herbs	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Culinary	8	22	26	48	-
Medicinal	222	190	223	206	-
Mint	28	7	19	61	-
Lavender	14	20	17	60	-
Other or NS	1	-	13	4	-
Total	273	239	298	379	-

Other Crops	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Christmas trees	-	2	2	2	-
Flowers, cut or edible	12	12	18	19	-
Green manure /cover	288	131	170	960	112
Hops	-	-	-	15	4
Mushrooms	3	1	2	2	-
Seed Crops	497	153	350	208	45
Wildcraft	47	27	17	17	-
Other or NS	59	26	59	-	-
Total	906	352	618	1,223	161

Greenhouse/Nursery	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Plant starts	2	1	-	-	-
Mixed horticulture	2	2	7	33	-
Native plants	22	22	22	22	-
Other or NS	-	-	36	1	-
Total	26	25	65	56	-

Other Land	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Timber/Woods	40	110	114	340	-
Fallow or idle land					
Summer Fallow*	138	1,166	1,804	1,970	-
Fallow, NS/Other	826	523	900	1,757	8
CRP/CREP	420	194	194	-	-
Natural areas	411	606	898	462	-
Farmstead land	304	281	211	253	-
Other or NS	1,408	2,329	2,466	2,291	-
Total	3,547	5,209	6,587	7,073	8

*Only includes specified summer fallow; fallow and other categories may also include summer fallow.

Combined Certifier totals	C 2005	C 2006	C 2007	C 2008	T 2008
Crop, fallow & other land	45,429	59,207	83,297	115,502	4,788
Lake algae acres	-	10,200	5,200	5,400	-

Totals may be off slightly from decimal rounding. 2007 and 2008 data include farms certified by OTCO, WSDA, CCOF, Global Culture, GOA, ICS, and QAI (CCOF included from 2007). Data do not include farms certified by CCIA, SCS, and GOCA, in 2008 (~18) or in previous years. Certified acre totals include estimated double crop for 2008 (581 ac); 2007 (260 ac); 2006 (332ac); 2005 (763ac).

Grain, Pulse and Oilseed Oregon has typically been a minor producer of organic grains, pulses and oilseeds. However, grain production (particularly wheat, corn and barley) experienced strong growth the last few years, increasing >100% in 2007 and an additional 90% in 2008, to a total of 9,151 acres. Some of the crops reported as grain may have been used for hay; regardless of end use, organic small grain area is increasing. Organic wheat makes up 0.5% of total state wheat acres. Soybean and mustard plantings also grew. Certified dry peas and lentils peaked in 2006 (550 acres) but have only had minimal acres reported since then.

Other crops Oregon remains a minor producer of other organic crops. **Fruit and nut** area experienced a moderate annual increase of 17%. While nut area remained stable, tree fruit (apple, pear, cherry, and peach) and small fruit crop acreage grew. Annual growth of blueberries and canefruit area was 64% and 58%, respectively. Wine grape area also continued to increase 7% (2007) and 9% (2008) to more than 1,000 acres. Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris make up 80% of the planted varieties. A large area of **cover crops** (960 acres) were reported in 2008, compared to 170 acres the previous year. Also, 15 acres of organic **hops** were reported this year. Kiwi, herb and greenhouse crops also had some minor growth.

Other land, fallow Detail on summer fallow versus permanent fallow is difficult to sort out with the current reporting systems. For example, cover crops may be defined as crop or designated as fallow; some pasture ground may also be reported as fallow. It would be helpful to be able to define all fallow land in a crop-summer fallow system. Other land reported as fallow may include farmstead, roads, other buildings and natural areas. 'Other land', including fallow and undefined land, comprised 6% of the certified acreage.

Geographic Distribution

The statewide distribution of certified organic farms and acreage (by region) is shown in [Table A1](#). Nearly half of the state's certified producers were located in the Willamette Valley, including the Portland Metro counties area. Farms tended to be smaller in western Oregon (105 acres average) and larger in the central and eastern counties (570 acres average). Higher value crops also appeared to be concentrated in western Oregon.

Northwest and Portland Metro Willamette Valley organic production is highly diverse. In 2008, crop and livestock operations produced certified forage, wine grapes, vegetables, berries, nuts, tree fruit, milk, beef and poultry. Nearly half of the state's organic dairies are located in the region. Willamette Valley producers reported over 43% of the state's estimated gross annual organic farmgate sales for 2007, based on data from OTCO and WSDA only. Five Willamette Valley counties each had over 2,000 acres of certified land in 2008 including Marion, Linn, Yamhill, Clackamas and Lane. Marion County exemplifies the diversity of the region; 2008 certified acres included 2,475 acres forage, 516 acres vegetables 190 acres small fruits and nuts, and an additional 55 acres in small grains. Two-thirds of the state's organic wine grapes were grown in Lane (462 acres) and Yamhill (216 acres) counties. Yamhill also had 214 acres of certified berries including half of Oregon's organic blueberry acres. Oregon's **northern coastal** is characterized primarily by organic forage production and dairies.

Southwest This region produces multiple organic crops including forage, herbs and vegetables, and also has certified dairy and beef cattle operations. While forage production dominated, Jackson County also had 450 acres of vegetables, primarily sweet corn, salad greens and squash, and more than 50 acres of tree fruit certified in 2008. In addition to other certified crops, Josephine County had 50 acres of certified herbs and Douglas County had 96 acres of vegetables and 43 acres of tree fruit and berries. The **southern coastal** region is home to minor certified specialty crops including cranberries and huckleberries (Curry County) but primarily forage and grain. The southwest region's dairies are concentrated in Coos County.

North Central This area, including the Hood River Valley, is also a diverse organic crop and livestock production area. In 2008, this region had 42% of the state's organic vegetable acres (including double crop), 50% of the tree fruit, and 53% of the field corn area. Morrow County had over 1,300 acres of certified grains (corn, triticale, wheat) and a large area of organic vegetable production including 820 acres of green peas (70% of state total), as well as dry onions (640), sweet corn (284) and potato (203) acres. Sherman County growers produced over 1,000 acres of certified small grains, mostly wheat. Deschutes County had nearly 3,000 acres of certified hay. The majority of the region's certified pasture was located in Morrow, Gilliam and Wasco counties. Organic tree fruit was produced mostly in Hood River (346 acres) and Wasco counties (115); Wasco also had 600 acres of certified small grains and over 30 acres each of small fruit and lavender. There were 24 acres of small fruit certified in Hood River County. Jefferson County crops included 120 acres of herbs.

Southeast and Northeast The Southeast and Northeast (Columbia Basin) region's farms produced organic forages and grains and had several certified dairy and cow-calf operations. Umatilla, Klamath and Union counties also had notable certified vegetable production. Umatilla County producers had more than 5,100 acres under organic management in 2008. Important crops included alfalfa (1,900 acres), small grains (845 acres), sweet corn (450 acres) and green peas (450 acres). Certified soybean, dry pea and mustard were also produced. Union County had several certified crops including alfalfa (568 acres), potatoes (118 acres), and mint and wheat, each at just below 60 acres. Forages dominated in Baker and Wallowa counties. Klamath County producers had over 30,000 acres certified in 2008. Although 33% of this area was pasture, nearly 8,000 acres of alfalfa were under organic management; 3,500 acres of small grains were produced, primarily wheat and barley. Other important Klamath County crops included potatoes (775 acres) and onions (200 acres). Lake County had 6,200 acres of organic hay and silage (50% specified as alfalfa) and nearly 4,000 acres of pasture and rangeland. Harney and Grant counties combined had 2,862 acres defined alfalfa hay, 4,832 other hay, and 3,660 acres pasture. Grant County also had minor area of certified tree fruit. Malheur County producers had nearly 1,000 acres certified hay and silage (72% specified as alfalfa), 220 acres of field corn and 162 small grain acres.

Livestock

In 2008, more than 60 dairy operations were certified for organic milk production in Oregon (combined certifiers). An additional dairy was pending certification. Three operations were certified for milk goats. Reliable herd numbers were not available for 2008; certifier data were incomplete. Based on NASS (OR) numbers and estimated combined certifier numbers, organic milk cows represented 12.5% of the total state herd in 2007, compared to 8% in 2005. Similar to conventional operations, the organic dairies are concentrated in the western counties. In the southwest region, the dairies are primarily in Coos (12) and Klamath (7) counties. Seventy percent of the organic dairies located in the northwest and Portland Metro areas are in Marion, Linn, Tillamook and Yamhill counties (Tables A2 and A3). Data for certified beef cattle, poultry and other livestock were also not available for 2008. Estimated livestock numbers for 2005-2007 are available on-line at http://organic.tfrec.wsu.edu/OrganicStats/OR_Livestock_2007.pdf

2007 Estimated Farmgate Sales

Certifiers collect farmgate sales data based on value sold in the previous year (e.g., data reported in 2008 represent sales during the 2007 calendar year). This report only includes sales data from WSDA and OTCO. Previous year farmgate sales data were available for approximately 75% of the farms certified in both 2007 and 2008, representing 85% of the acreage certified in 2007. The reported total gross sales exceeded \$89.3 million, a 53% increase over the previous year (Table 3). This value underestimates true value as sales data were incomplete. However, the data are helpful to illustrate the overall upward trend of annual organic sales. Sales by crop, product or type of livestock are not available for this report. Producers located in western Oregon accounted for 63% of sales value (Table 4).

Table 3. Estimated growth of annual farmgate sales in Oregon.

Calendar year	Sales (million \$)	Annual % increase
2003	\$33.75	--
2004	\$36.35	8%
2005	\$52.12	43%
2006	\$58.18	12%
2007	\$89.30	53%

Data from OTCO and WSDA certified farms only; sales underestimated.

Table 4. Estimated organic farmgate sales by farm region. 2007

Region	Sales (million \$)	% of Sales
Northwest	\$33.6	37.7%
Southwest*	\$16.4	18.4%
North Central	\$15.2	17.1%
Southeast*	\$11.3	12.6%
Northeast	\$6.6	7.4%
Portland Metro	\$6.1	6.8%
	\$89.3	

*Estimate includes only WSDA and OTCO certified producers; Coos and Klamath counties have sizable operations not included in this estimate.

2007 Census of Agriculture Data Comparison

The 2007 USDA Census of Agriculture collected general information on organic sales, farm numbers, acres used for organic production and acres being converted to organic, at state and county levels. This provided the opportunity to compare census data to NOP certifier data provided for our 2007 report (Table 5). The Ag Census data represented NOP-certified farms *and* the certification exempt organic producers (sales below \$5,000), giving insight on the scope of farms not typically included in our certified organic annual report.

Census data ranked Oregon 11th, nationally, in total acres managed for organic production, but 3rd for organic product farmgate sales (\$88.4 million) behind California (\$656.8 million) and Washington (\$159.8 million). Census data showed 933 self-identified organic farms in Oregon reporting 92,405 total acres used for organic production. This included 45,834 acres from which organic crops were harvested, 41,844 acres pasture, and a balance of 4,727 acres. Respondents (470) reported 16,175 acres being converted to organic. Presumably this number includes farms with both organic and transition acreage as well as transition only farms.

NOP certifiers who contributed data for our 2007 annual summary reported 397 certified organic producers in Oregon, representing 42% of the number of producers who responded to the census; 29 of these farms also registered land in transition. One additional farm registered transition land but no certified organic area. Another 25 farms were likely certified by other NOP certifiers who did not provide information. Available certifier data estimated a minimum total of 83,280 certified acres including 55,498 acres of land in crops, 21,195 acres of certified pasture, summer fallow and idle area (4,121 acres), and undefined and other non-crop area (2,466 ac). The 601 undefined use acres likely included both harvested and unharvested area. Fewer transition acres (4,867) were reported compared to census respondents. Reported census organic area was 10% higher than that reported by the NOP certifiers in

2007. It appears that the majority of organic acreage is being certified and is accounted for in our annual report. However, census respondents reported double the pasture acreage compared to certifier data. The reason for this is unclear. It seems unlikely that exempt producers would have that much additional pasture and more likely that some land was double reported as both hay ground and pastureland. The higher census number of acres in conversion is useful to know and verifies that reporting of transition acres to certifiers is limited.

Table 5. Comparison of 2007 Ag Census and reported 2007 NOP certifier data.

	2007 Certifier Data	2007 Ag Census Data
Number of organic farms	397 (25)*	933
Organic Cropland	83,280 acres	92,405 acres
Transition Cropland	4,867 acres	16,175 acres
Farmgate sales	\$89.3 Million**	\$88.4 Million

*Estimated 25 additional certified farms that are not included in the data.

**Represents only 75% of Oregon NOP-certified farms.

Farm gate sales for products sold in 2007 were underestimated in both reports. Census organic sales data were provided by 799 respondents and totaled \$88.4 million (2007 Census of Agriculture; Table 43). Annual sales of < \$5,000 per farm (exempt from NOP certification, i.e. potentially not certified) were reported by 436 (55%) of respondents. Sales value from the <\$5,000 sales class totaled \$620,000 representing 0.7% of Census reported and certifier reported sales. Certifiers (WSDA and OTCO only) reported farmgate sales of \$89.3 million based on approximately 75% of certified producers.

The census data allow us to estimate the presence and impact of exempt organic farms in Oregon. Based on the results, there were twice as many producers who identified themselves as organic farmers as the certifier data accounted for. This higher census producer number indicates that many farms eligible for exemption have indeed chosen to forego certification. However, these producers represent a small share of the total identified organic land base in the state (estimated at less than 2,000 acres, or 2% of the total), and an even smaller share of known certifier farmgate sales (less than 0.7%). The comparison of certifier and Census data for Oregon is very similar to the results found for Washington, reinforcing the conclusion that the acreage and sales data are quite accurate despite lack of inclusion of large numbers of exempt growers.

References and Further Readings

Oregon

Kirby E. and D. Granatstein. 2009. *Oregon Farm Statistics: 2008*. PowerPoint presentation.
<http://csanr.wsu.edu/Organic/OrganicStats.htm#or>

Additional WSU-CSANR Oregon organic agriculture statistics reports (2007 crop year and earlier) are found at <http://csanr.wsu.edu/Organic/OrganicStats.htm#or>

Washington State

Kirby E. and D. Granatstein. 2009. *Profile of organic crops and livestock in Washington State: 2008*.
<http://csanr.wsu.edu/Organic/OrganicStats.htm#wa>

Kirby E. and D. Granatstein 2009. *Organic Farm Statistics 2008: Washington State*. PowerPoint presentation.

Granatstein, D. and E. Kirby. 2007. *Organic Feed Crops in Washington State*. PowerPoint presentation.
<http://csanr.wsu.edu/Organic/OrganicStats.htm#wa>

Painter, K., D. Granatstein, E. Kirby, and L. Carpenter-Boggs. 2007. *Research Brief: Market and Opportunities for Organic Feed Production in Eastern Washington*. Sustaining the Pacific Northwest Newsletter. Vol. 5. No.1 <http://csanr.wsu.edu/whatsnew/SPNW-v5-n1.pdf>

General

USDA – Economic Research Service. 2006. *Organic Production Data Set; 2000-2005*. State Level Tables 4-12. <http://151.121.68.30/Data/Organic/>

Information Sources

California Certified Organic Farmers
<http://www.ccof.org/>

Certified Naturally Grown
<http://www.naturallygrown.org/>

Global Culture
<http://www.globalculture.us/>

Global Organic Alliance
<http://www.goa-online.org/members.html>

International Certification Services
<http://www.ics-intl.com/>

Oregon Tilth Certified Organic
<http://www.tilth.org/certification/index.html>

Washington Department of Agriculture Organic Food Program
<http://agr.wa.gov/FoodAnimal/Organic/>

USDA Economic Research Service
<http://www.ers.usda.gov>

Appendix

Table A1. Estimated number of Oregon certified farms and certified area by county. 2008

Region	County	Number of ----- Acres -----		
		Farms	Certified	Transition
	Benton	12	831	
	Clatsop	--	--	--
	Lane	36	2,030	--
	Lincoln	3	84	--
	Linn	23	3,361	12
	Marion	39	3,863	303
	Polk	12	1,772	--
	Tillamook	8	1,660	80
	Yamhill	23	2,714	210
Northwest Total		156	16,315	605
	Clackamas	30	2,109	7
	Columbia	3	137	--
	Multnomah	10	128	--
	Washington	17	734	--
Portland Metro Total		60	3,108	
	Coos	18	6,877	--
	Curry	4	157	--
	Douglas	9	561	--
	Jackson*	22	2,260	532
	Josephine	19	1,479	--
Southwest Total		72	11,335	532
	Crook	--	--	--
	Deschutes*	1	2,945	--
	Gilliam	1	480	--
	Hood River	21	831	8
	Jefferson	5	482	43
	Morrow	4	7,123	1,797
	Sherman	2	2,242	--
	Wasco*	8	2,356	18
	Wheeler	--	--	--
North Central Total		42	16,459	1,866
	Harney	8	11,736	--
	Klamath	38	31,801	1,174
	Lake*	20	10,561	240
	Malheur	7	1,443	31
Southeast total		73	55,541	1,444
	Baker	4	1,140	--
	Grant*	3	474	--
	Umatilla	8	8,849	332
	Union	3	874	--
	Wallowa	4	826	--
Northeast Total		22	12,163	332
State Total		425	114,921	4,787

Combined certifier data. Number includes dairy and livestock producers. Rounded decimals may cause slight totals errors. *Farms were counted only once, in home county; at least 6 farms have area in more than one county.

Deschutes, Grant, Jackson, Lake, and Wasco counties have additional producers. Area has been segregated to counties where possible. County area does not include 581 ac of reported double cropped acres, mostly in Marion and Umatilla Cos. Numbers do not include farms certified by CClA, SCS, and GOCA, in 2008 (~18) or in previous years. Klamath Co. has 3 additional producers that harvest lake algae and are not included in numbers above.

Table A2. Organic percent of state milk herd.

	NASS Milkers	Certified Milkers	% Organic
2005	121,000	9,916	8.2%
2006	118,000	11,667	9.9%
*2007	116,788	14,390	12.3%
2008	114,000	--	--

*2007 NASS Oregon milker number was 115,000 so used the higher Ag Census value of 116,788 head

Table A3. Geographic distribution of certified organic dairy operations in Oregon. 2008.

Region	County	Number of Dairies
	Benton	1
	Lane	1
	Linn	5
	Marion	7
	Polk	3
	Tillamook	5
	Yamhill	5
	Clatsop, Lincoln	--
Northwest Total		27
	Clackamas	3
	Columbia	1
	Multnomah	--
	Washington	1
Portland Metro Total		5
	Coos	12
	Curry	1
	Douglas	--
	Jackson	1
	Josephine	3
Southwest Total		17
	Jefferson	1
	Crook, Deschutes, Gilliam, Hood River, Morrow, Sherman, Wasco, Wheeler	--
North Central Total		1
	Harney	--
	Klamath	7
	Lake	1
	Malheur	2
Southeast Total		10
	Umatilla	2
	Baker, Grant, Union, Wallowa	--
Northeast Total		2
State Total		62

Combined certifier data.