ORGANIC IS REGENERATIVE

Resources for organic advocates

Organic farmers have long been engaged in systemsbased regenerative approaches, yet organic is often overlooked in the conversation about climate solutions. Organic agriculture has a clear legal definition, is grounded in principles that collaborate with nature, foster healthy soil, and contribute to clean water, biodiversity, and thriving farm communities. **Organic is the original climate-smart agriculture.**



By building healthy soils that retain water and store carbon, organic agriculture builds resilience and stabilizes our food supply in the face of drought and other extreme weather conditions that will occur with increasing frequency in a changing climate. Recognizing the need for the organic industry to present a unified, science- and standards-backed message about what organic is, OFRF dove into a messaging project. We began with an extensive review of the messaging that already exists around organic & regenerative agriculture and the synergies between them. We found consistent support for the understanding that *When practiced well*, *organic IS regenerative, and so much more.*

THREE PILLARS OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE:

- ORGANIC SUPPORTS A RESILIENT PLANET
- ORGANIC BUILDS HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
- ORGANIC IS TRUSTWORTHY



1. ORGANIC SUPPORTS A RESILIENT PLANET

Organic is Climate Friendly

Organic farming reduces greenhouse gas emissions and builds climate resilience.

Organic is Healthy For Soils

Organic farming practices contribute to the long-term fertility of the soil.

Organic is Protective of Biodiversity

Organic farming practices contribute to high levels of diversity in plant and animal communities.

Organic is Systems Focused

Organic agriculture is based on whole-systems thinking, not on any single practice.





2: ORGANIC BUILDS HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Organic is Good for the Economy

Organic agriculture provides economic benefits and opportunity for growth.

Organic is Safer for Farmworkers and Rural Residents

Organic protects the health of farmers, farmworkers, and people in agricultural areas.

Organic is Better for People

Eating organic protects people from toxic pesticide and herbicide residue on food products.

Organic is Better for Animals

Organic farming prioritizes healthy animals.

3: ORGANIC IS TRUSTWORTHY

Organic is Third-Party Certified

The National Organic Program (NOP) provides integrity and accountability.

Organic is Non-GMO

Organic is THE choice for consumers wanting to avoid GMOs.

Organic is Tried and True

Organic agriculture is time-tested and scientifically supported.

Organic is Evolving and Improving

The organic standards are designed to be responsive to changing needs.



Learn more about our Organic is Regenerative toolkit at <u>www.OFRF.org/organi</u> <u>c-is-regenerative</u>

Or reach out to brise@ofrf.org