

# **Organic Pilot Farms in North Rhine-Westphalia**

**Acronym:** Organic Pilot Farms

**Contract period:** 01.07.2017 - 30.06.2020

**Funding:** MULNV, NRW

**Contact staff at AOL University of Bonn:** Christoph Stumm

**Other staff involved:** Britta Staffel, Ariane Eckstein

## **Project aims**

Since 1993, in the German Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia, research, advisory service and practice work together on solutions for selected issues of plant cultivation and animal husbandry with practical relevance for organic farmers. The project that is funded by the federal ministry entails demonstration and optimisation of selected organically operating farms and their methods of production as well as professional advice. In this participatory and interdisciplinary approach of practice, extension service and research, 30 farms and organic advisory services are involved in the development of research questions, the conduction of experiments and the demonstration facilities as well as the discussion of experimental results. Useful solutions are assessed and optimised on farm level, and if suitable, demonstrated at field scale of pilot farms in order to secure the transfer of knowledge into broad commercial practice. The feasibility of the methods in question will be immediately assessed by practitioners and passed on to colleagues.

## **Role of the Agroecology and Organic Farming group:**

Leading and coordination of the project as well as scientific research based on questions of practical interest leading directly into knowledge transfer.

## **Project partners:**

Chamber of agriculture North-Rhine Westphalia

30 organic pilot farms

## **Previous relevant work**

The results of the previous project terms can be obtained on the project homepage:  
[www.leitbetriebe.oekolandbau.nrw.de](http://www.leitbetriebe.oekolandbau.nrw.de)