2021 Organic Sector Survey/ Enquête sur le secteur biologique

Organic Sector / Filière biologique

Question 12

- **What do you believe are the greatest barriers and challenges to the continued growth of organic production? (Select all that apply)**
- **Selon vous, quels sont les plus grands obstacles à la croissance continue de la production biologique? (Sélectionnez tout ce qui s'applique)**

Answer Choices/ Responses

Access to land / Accès à la terre: **38.60% (127)**
Cost of buying land / Coût d'achat des terres: **55.93% (184)**
Availability of inputs / Disponibilité des intrants: **28.57% (94)**
Cost of inputs / Coûts des intrants: **32.52% (107)**
Availability or cost of organic appropriate technology / Disponibilité ou coût de la technologie biologique appropriée: **28.27% (93)**
Cost of transitioning to organic production / Coût de la conversion vers la production biologique: **35.26% (116)**
Appropriate crop insurance policies / Programmes d'assurance-récolte appropriés: (**0.97% (69)**
Cost of labour / Coût de la main d'œuvre: **32.52% (107)**
Availability of labour / Disponibilité de la main-d'œuvre: **39.21% (129)**
Access to professional advice / Accès à des conseils professionnels: **30.09% (99)**
Training on organic standards and practices / Formation sur les normes et les pratiques biologiques: **26.44% (87)**
Difficulties in interpreting the standards and record keeping / Difficultés relatives à l'interprétation de la norme et tenue des registres: **32.52% (107)**
Low yields / productivity / Rendements/productivité peu élevés: **18.84% (62)**
Pest problems / Problèmes liés au contrôle des organismes nuisibles: **24.01% (79)**
Other (please specify) / Autre (veuillez spécifier) **23.40% (77)**

Answered/ Ont répondu: **329**
Skipped/ N'ont pas répondu: **490**

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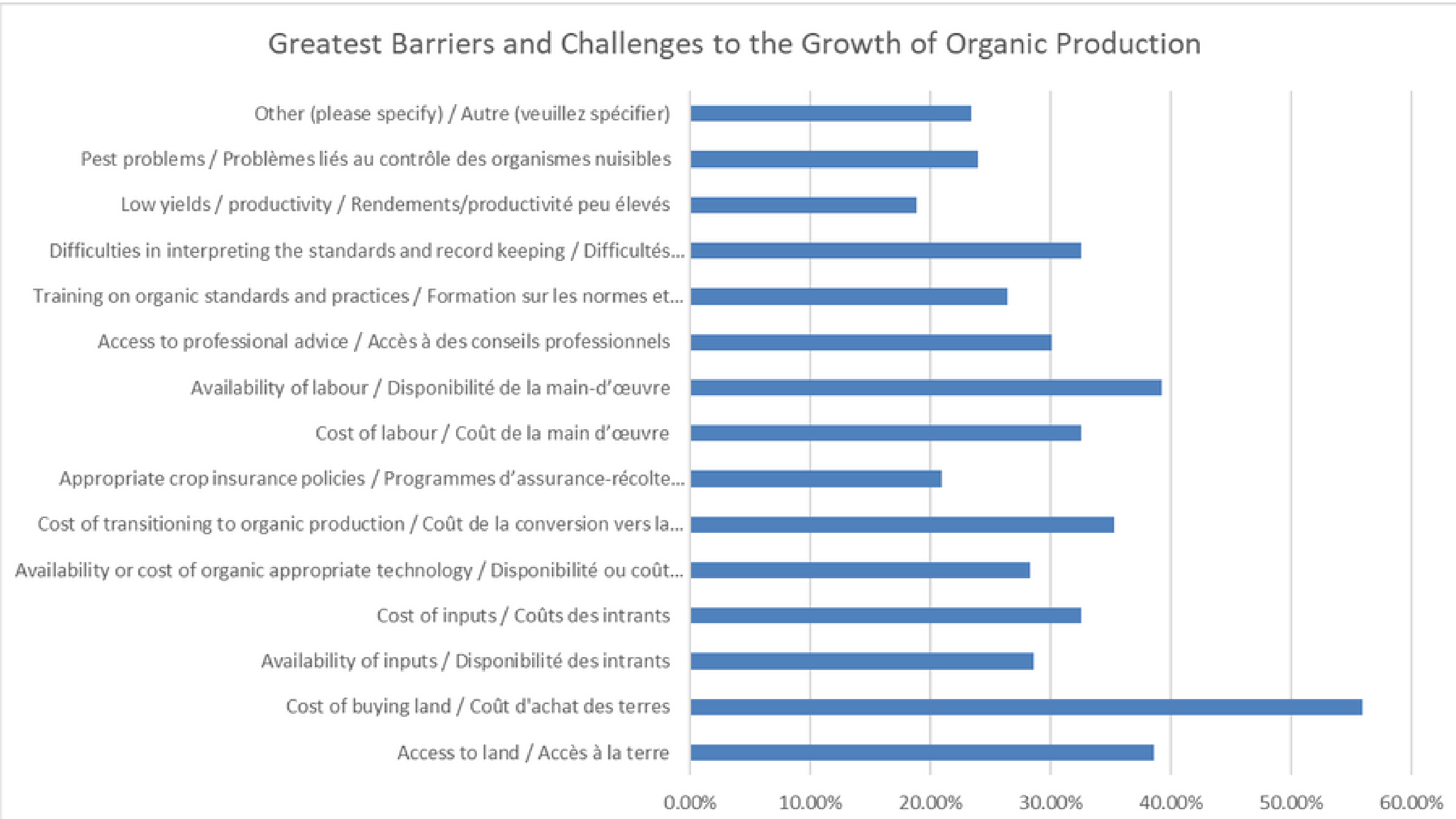

Comments / Commentaires 77

Note: The comments below were submitted to the survey by individuals, and do not reflect the views of the Organic Federation of Canada, Canadian Organic Trade Association, or the Canadian Organic Growers.

Remarque : Les commentaires publiés ci-dessous ont été soumis par les participants au sondage et ne reflètent nécessairement pas le point de vue de la Fédération biologique du Canada, de l'Association canadienne du commerce biologique, le Centre d'agriculture biologique du Canada, ou de Cultivons Biologique Canada.

- Organic network model needs improvement
- low priority given by government
- Lack of terminal capacity and lack of markets
- coût de la certification
- increasing bureaucracy and excessive recordkeeping, challenging-to-work-with VOs
- Access to independent agronomy advice. Cost of certification especially unknown milage for inspectors plus inconsistency among inspectors.

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- farmer and consumer perception of the value and purpose of organic -- if this was solved, there would be will and drive to remove these other barriers
- Low Farmer wages and very long hours
- Government support and commitment provincially and federally
- Ventes
- Organic has lost it's target to be kind to the planet. It's kinder, but the people who are looking for the most planet-friendly way to farm do not need nor want to bother with organic certification
- lack of government funding that recognizes organic farming has different issues than conventional farming.
- no idea--i am not a grower :)
- Weed management
- consumers willing to pay a reasonable price for quality food
- Len manque de sensibilisation des consommateurs et gouvernements
- proper education about growing organic crops (i.e. cover crops, rotations, intercropping, etc.)
- low prices for organic
- stop importing apples who don't meet Canadian organic Standards. Prices will go up for the growers and attract more farmers.
- price of organic product: premium over conventional
- Poorly trained inspectors
- It seems all the above are relevant
- Cost of oOrganic Certification
- weed competition with crops
- It appears only way organic cans sell itself is by attacking conventional agriculture.
- Pricing at farmgate, lack of marketing power
- Being stuck in an 'input substitution' mindframe, or defining ourselves by a list of 'prohibited substances'
- Need to better capture soil health as a driver. Continued tillage is going to be more and more of an issue.
- Cost of inputs - for example certified organic chicken feed is twice the price of regular feed.
- unfair competition from imports and/or other quasi-organic. (need regulation)
- Qualité des semences ; semence adapter à la culture bio
- soil fertility for transitioners

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- lack of precipitation
- Low prices - lack of premiums to cover costs/risks
- Access to useful organic allowed substances, blocked by contradictory federal or provincial regulations.
- Marketing infrastructure
- Cost of all the fees for organizations that really don't do anything for the farmer, just trying to justify their salaries
- Organics experiences many of the same barriers as traditional agriculture
- On the Prairies is hard to encourage farmers to transition to grain production when organic prices are low - prices are low (we are in that part of the cycle), movement is slow and conventional grain prices are on the upswing.
- Lack of knowledge of producers transitioning, Access to markets
- Access to investment capital. Consumer confusion & false marketing claims.
- Expectation that food should be low cost
- Mindset: how to understand benefits of scale for locally owned organic farming
- Lack of government support, especially compared to the massive supports for conventional farming. The Lobbying power of global food production Giants.
- farm insurance
- erosion of trust in the organic label by younger generation
- demand
- the mind set of the average producer
- Importations bio étranger avec normes plus laxistes
- government not suppoorting small organic farms - 'get big or get out '
- SELLING your product even though DEMAND is achieved
- public expectance
- Thinking about production practices from 75 years past versus looking forward
- Thats it
- Cost (in both money and time) of certification
- international organic regulations which are not aligned with the COR
- Market opportunity, product prices.
- confusion between "local" and "organic" being the same

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- Lack of seed varieties appropriate to organic production and lack of public research for their development.
- public trust in a standard that helps solving global environmental issue
- Weed control
- The cost and amount of paperwork.
- Competition & access to market.
- Environmental Education
- Mindset - of war against nature, rather than holistic, long-term thinking. Also mindset of "feeding the world" where non-human species are not really considered as part of "the world" and that organic farmland can provide food for many species at the same time.
- Costs and record keeping. Ie work that doesn't produce $. Can I dream of a world where non organic farmers pay a fee to be non organic and must register to farm in such a way and keep detailed records if their chemical fertilizers and pesticides use?
- Weed management and stigma from other farmers
- le prix de vente trop cher par les distributeurs
- Lack of customer service orientation/arrogance of certifying bodies
- Public awareness
- cost to consumer of product
- Imports. Something like supply management needed
- Cost/access to land has always been a factor over the past 100 years.It is important but owning land and servicing the debt is how you build your retirement.
- Accès à de l'information concernant les coûts de la transition (outils de planification rares)
- Market price for organic ingredients too low to stimulate transition
- low priority given by government
- Certification