

2021 Organic Sector Survey / Enquête sur le secteur biologique

Certification

Question 25

- **How concerned are you that fraud is happening in the organic industry?**
- **Dans quelle mesure êtes-vous préoccupé par la fraude dans l'industrie biologique?**

Answer Choices/ Responses

Very concerned / Très préoccupé: **36.19% (93)**

Concerned / Préoccupé: **28.40% (73)**

Somewhat concerned / Assez préoccupé: **24.12% (62)**

Not so concerned / Peu préoccupé: **6.61% (17)**

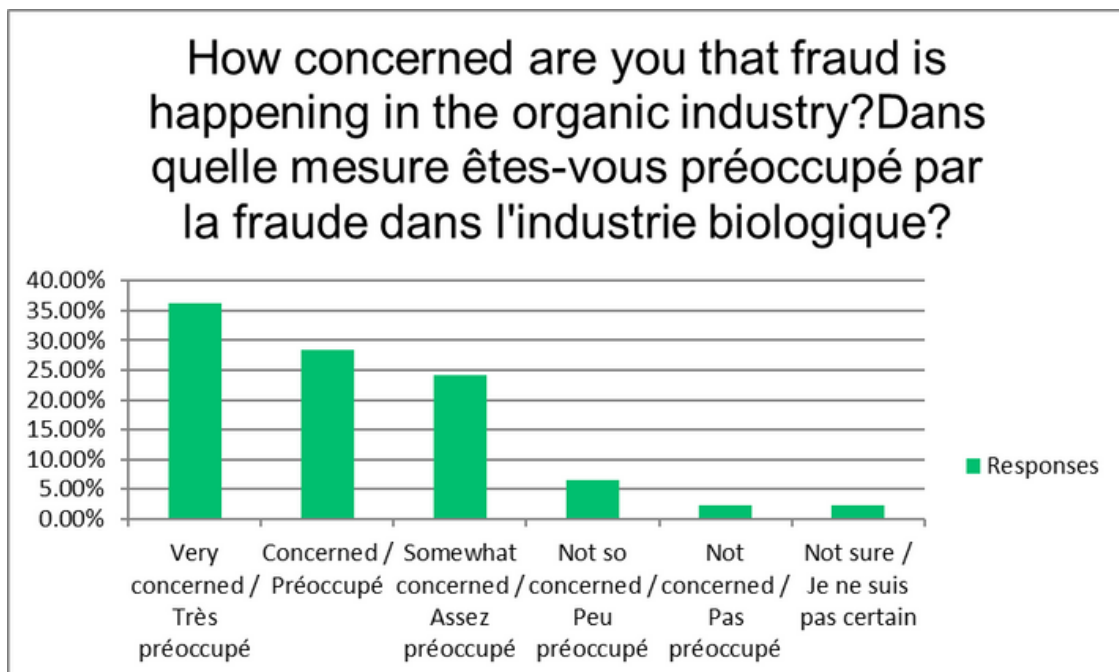
Not concerned / Pas préoccupé: **2.33% (6)**

Not sure / Je ne suis pas certain: **2.33% (6)**

Comments / Commentaires: **36**

Answered/ Ont répondu: **257**

Skipped/ N'ont pas répondu: **562**



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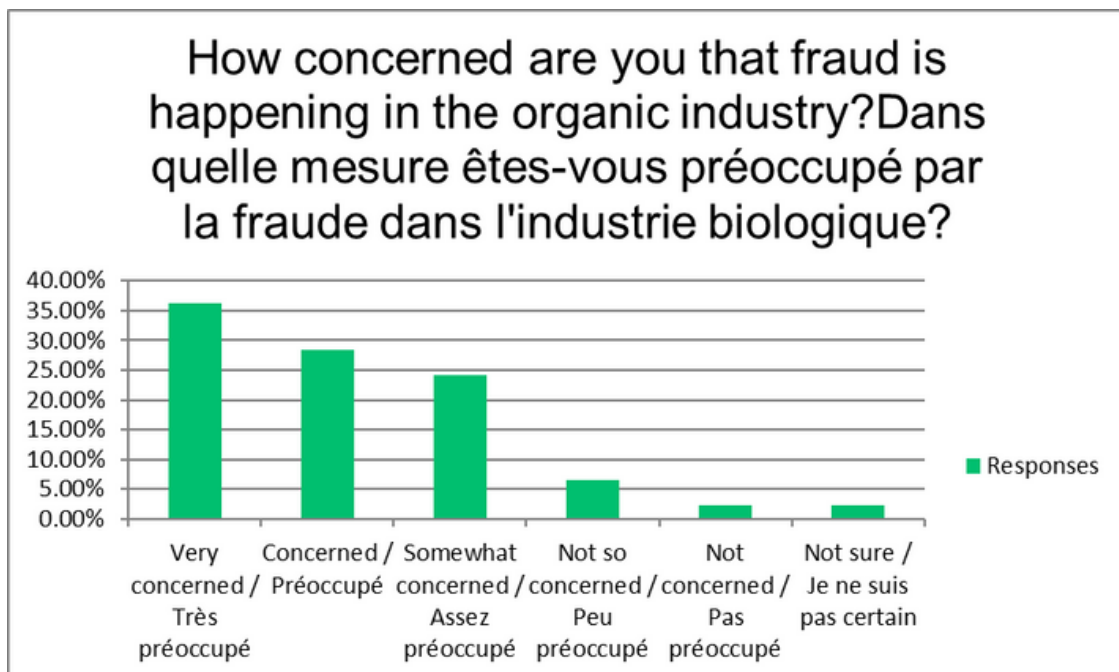
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Comments / Commentaires

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, the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada, 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 ou, le Centre d'agriculture biologique du Canada de Cultivons Biologique Canada.

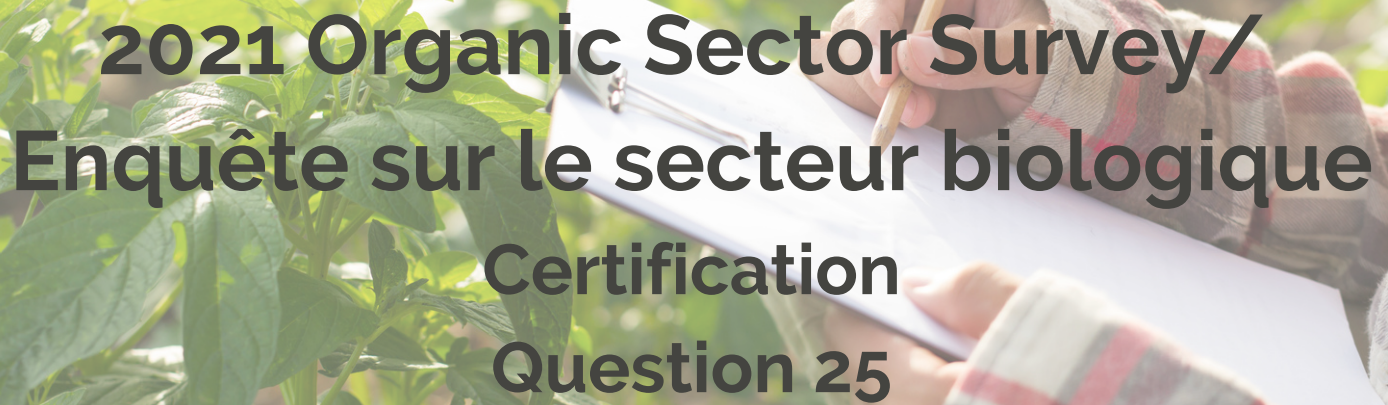
- C'est dans la nature de certains humains de frauder il y en aura toujours
- surtout sur les importations.
- ça peut nuire à toute la crédibilité de la filière biologique
- Locally I am not concerned - very concerned about low cost questionable certified imports - even from US.
- fraudulent products are taking market share from true organic producers
- Mostly from large scale producers who are just using the label and still using destructive monoculture, highly mechanized practices.
- There are people involved only for the potential higher income, many traders are not really aware of what organic farming means, some have not even eaten the foods they sell as commodities.
- There should be punitive measures similar to what the USDA has.
- Concerned if it is fairly extensive, not so much if occasional
- I am very concerned about fraud in organic imports. I am not concerned about fraud in domestic organic production. CFIA needs to increase inspection of imports.
- I am not in the loop to know, but I suspect it in general.
- I'm not aware of fraud, still somewhat concerned
- I've worked on a couple of farms that violated organic standards and COABC did not help me.
- Just come by our local farmers market and grocery store, or read the local paper- there are false claims everywhere!
- How much oversight do we have on imported "organic" products?
- Jeopardizing customer trust would be a problem for our industry.
- certain
- I don't think fraud is common. Inspection is rigorous and there are lots of checks to catch fraud. If fraud occurs there must be consequences. I am more concerned that fraud is happening with importers and processors - they need to be carefully watched and prosecuted if they commit fraud.

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- There was a serious issue with turkies in Canada a few years ago, and it gives producers a bad rep..
- We can usually find certified organic inputs as we are a small farm. Big industry farming can get away with using some conventional inputs after proving they can't find a large enough supply of certified organic inputs in their area to meet their demand. This makes for unfair competition between large and small organic farms.
- seeing producers mixing conventional and organic product; labels which are confusing and lead consumers to believe that they are buying certified organic when they are not; misleading sales information
- Ultimately it is a consumer's choice. There is always going to be someone keen to tout a picture of a red barn and say "home grown" or something. By keeping our standards we can at least maintain our integrity.
- When corporate industry is involved
- real organic project in USA
- I know it happens but it seems to be at the margins. However, any types of bad press here, particularly about domestic actors is a challenge for the industry.
- Considering what was involved in my certification, it wouldn't be hard to cheat if I wanted to.
- "Beyond Organic" labelling/ marketing is the worst!!!
- I do think that if you say you are certified organic, you'd better be Certified Organic. However, I do understand that if you grow organically, it is expensive and onerous to become certified. We have to make it easier to be certified. We must!
- Concerned because the anti fraud requirements are an imposition on all when there are just a few bad actors
- It happens, we know. I even told our cb but the company is still in operation. They have 2 certifying bodies, that should not be allowed at all!
- La section 8.2.3 laisse suffisamment de marge de manoeuvre pour passer les produits chimiques nécessaire au bon fonctionnement de l'entreprise quand aucun autre choix n'est disponible. je ne suis pas trop touché par les autres secteurs.
- Internationally not so much domestic
- More on the end of imports coming in to the country and being resold



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- Very concerned by stories like the raspberries relabeled as organic in Argentina and shipped to Canada (over many years) for the organic frozen fruit marketplace.
- Rather than Big Ag putting a spin on it that "there is trouble in paradise", we need to be proactive as a sector - expose it, shut it down and make those that are doing it pay financially whatever it takes (fraud is always for profit or power).
- happens a lot. 11 years of experience. cannot go to court for every case.