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This week Ireland’s Classic Hits Radio is looking at Organic Farming.

**Did you know….**

* Organic farming is a sustainable production system.
* It provides the opportunity of an alternative farming system based primarily on balancing inputs and outputs in a 'closed' system.
* Increased consumer awareness of food safety issues and environmental concerns has contributed to the growth in organic farming over the last few years.
* Organic farmers can access a range of services and information from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
* If you are an organic food consumer, the department can help connect you with producers.
* Organic farming requires:
* the consideration and application of production methods that do not damage the environment.
* a more respectful use of the countryside.
* concern for animal welfare and the production of high-quality agricultural products.

**Advantages of Organic Farming….**

1. No more genetically modified organisms (GMOs)

2. Soil Protection

3. Better nutrition

4. Healthy working environment around farms

5. Resistance to pests and diseases

6. Fertilizers are made naturally and on-site

7. Opportunity to grow a variety of crops

8. Climate-friendly

**For More Information:**

[www.irishorganicassociation.ie](http://www.irishorganicassociation.ie)

[www.ifa.ie/organic-farming-scheme](http://www.ifa.ie/organic-farming-scheme)

[www.farmingfornature.ie/nominees/diana-pickersgill](http://www.farmingfornature.ie/nominees/diana-pickersgill)

[www.gov.ie/en/service/f5a48-agri-climate-rural-environment-scheme-acres](http://www.gov.ie/en/service/f5a48-agri-climate-rural-environment-scheme-acres)

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