

Supply chain modelling in organic farming for sustainable profitability

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The authors are fully responsible for both the content and the formal aspects of the electronic supplementary material. No editorial adjustments were made.

Electronic supplementary material

Supplementary Appendix S1

Appendix S1. Unstructured questions shared with the farmers

1. How long have you been involved in organic farming? Why did you start? How long did it take you to complete the transition to organic farming? Have you fully converted your farm into organic?
2. Who are your mentors in the organic farming journey?
3. How do you decide which crops to grow and when?
4. How do you choose your suppliers of seeds, manure, inputs, types of equipment, etc.?
5. Do you pattern multi-cropping? If yes, how do you decide on crop mix and planting season?
6. What factors do you think affect profits?
7. What variables need to be addressed to maintain profitability?
8. Can you list the steps you are taking to ensure sustainable profits?
9. How many crops are you growing?
10. Why did you choose to grow these crops?
11. Can you sell the crops the moment you harvest them? Are you getting a fair price for these crops?
12. How do you compare your yield with conventional farming?
13. How do you compare your expenses with conventional farming?
14. How do you compare your water and labour requirements with conventional farming?
15. How do you rate your soil productivity compared to a conventional farm?
16. How would you rate the size, colour and flavour of your crops compared to conventional farms?
17. Do you discharge any waste from your field to the environment?
18. How did you develop your current practices for organic farming?
19. What were the biggest obstacles you faced while developing your current principle on organic farming?
20. How did changing to organic farming affect your lifestyle, expenses, yield, and profitability?
21. What is the most significant difficulty you faced in selling your entire produce?
22. How do you manage to deal with low market prices of crops?
23. Do you know when your crops sell best? How did you find out? Do you keep records of this?
24. Have you checked the impact of your organic products on the health of the consumers?
25. What is the important difference between your organic crops and conventional crops in the market?
26. How do you choose your customer? Do you have a long-standing customer or sell to unknown people?
27. Do you sell directly to customers or through intermediaries? What problems do you encounter with intermediaries?
28. Do you get a fair price for your crops? Are you able to sell all your produce without problems?