

SME Organics 5th Field Visit – South Ostrobothnia 6-7 June 2017

OAPs in regions – A Finnish perspective Pirjo Siiskonen, Ph.D. (Pol. Science) Finnish Organic Association, chair





Contents:

- Some Features of Organic Food
 Production in Finland
- Regional Features in Organic Food
 Production in Finland
- Case South Savo



Some features in Organic Food Production in Finland 1

- field area 241 463 hectares; 10,6% of all field area
- increase in the organic field area 2016-2017 10%
- objective in the NOAP: 20% in 2020
- 4 493 farms; 9% of all farms
- medium size 54,5 hectares (bigger than conventional)
- share of food markets (daily shops) 2%; increase 2015-2016 14%
- market leader: eggs; 15% of all eggs sold



Some features in Organic Food Production in Finland 2

- main product in crop production is oats
- main products in gardening: carrots, tomatoes, onion and cabbage
- main products in animal production are milk and beef



Some features in Organic Food Production in Finland 3

Positive

- National Organic Action Plan 2013-2020
- Certification of forests and forest products
- Growth development of organics in all sectors (production, consumption, farmers' interest, export)
 Negative
- concentrated milk and meat processing industry (few small processors); slow development in processing



Some features in Organic Food Production in Finland 4: FOA

Activities:

- Lobbying
- Mentor service
- Magazine (6/year)
- Seminars and events
- Ladybird -certificate



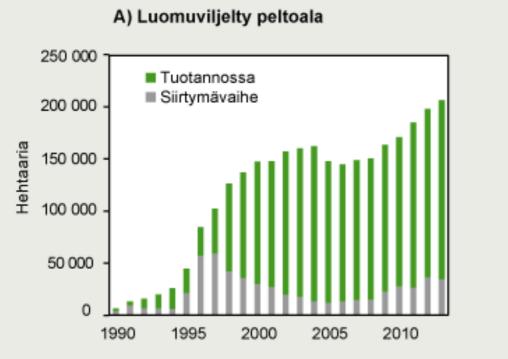


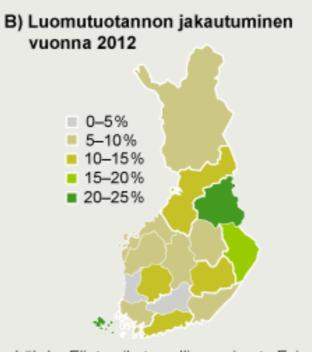
Regional features 1: Regional specialization

- Milk and meat production areas (mainly east and north, North Savo, Kainuu)
- Piggs, chickens, hens (in the west)
- Crop production areas (south and south-west, Varsinais-Suomi, Kymenlaakso, Uusimaa)
- Garden production areas (South Savo)
- Certificated forests (Lapland, Kainuu, South Savo)



Development of organic field area in Finland 1990-2012





Lähde: Elintarviketurvallisuusvirasto Evira











Regional features 2

Followings:

- Problems in circulation of nutrients
- Lack of vegetable protein for animals
- Food industry far from production areas
- Food chain is not organised on regional level
- Few regional bränds
- No regional OAPs
- Possibility: renovation of province administration (maakuntauudistus)



Case South Savo 1

- Long history in organic food production: Committee "Ekoläänitoimikunta" 1981 and many pioneers
- Common understanding among actors and administration of the possibilities of organic food production in 2000'ies and start to co-operate
- EU-structural funds used in different projects promoting organic food production (education, training, development work) 1996-2016



Case South Savo 2

- Finnish Organic Research Institute was founded in Mikkeli, capital of South Savo, in 2013
- FORI organised 3 special projects promoting organic food chain activities 2013-2016
- Main principals: to be a forrunner in the country, to promote organics in South Savo especially, to cooperate and connect all actors in the province



Case South Savo 3

Special features, results:

- Leading area in carrots, cabbage and onion production
- Public catering, restaurants and retail shops committed
- Organic food connected with tourism (food tourism)
- Active development and project work in forest certification
- Experiments and future visions on exporting







Thank you for your attention!

• Pirjo.Siiskonen@luomuliitto.fi

- www.luomu.fi
- www.luomuliitto.fi
- www.proluomu.fi
- www.luomulehti.fi