

PRESS RELEASE

EU Organic Awards 2025 celebrate excellence and inspire the future of organic

BRUSSELS, 23 SEPTEMBER 2025 – Today, EU Organic Day, during a ceremony at the European Commission in Brussels, the <u>winners of the EU Organic Awards 2025 were revealed</u>, shining a spotlight on Europe's most outstanding initiatives and actors in the organic sector.

The awards, jointly organised by the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Committee of the Regions, and IFOAM Organics Europe, honour innovation, commitment, and excellence across the organic value chain.

The winners of the 2025 EU Organic Awards are:

- Best Organic Farmer (female): Ms Albina Yasinskaya, Rozino Organic Farm, Bulgaria
- Best Organic Farmer (male): Mr Lieven Devreese, Het Polderveld Farm, Belgium
- Best Organic Region/Bio-District: Võru County, Estonia
- Best Organic City: Valpaços, Portugal
- Best Organic SME: Joseph Brotmanufaktur GmbH, Austria
- Best Organic Retailer: Radis&Bona eG, Germany
- Best Organic Restaurant/Catering Service: <u>Peskesi Restaurant</u>, Greece

These champions of organic exemplify how the sector contributes to resilient food systems, rural vitality, and sustainable development across Europe.

Speaking on behalf of IFOAM Organics Europe, President Jan Plagge said: "It gives me great pride to congratulate this year's winners of the EU Organic Awards. Their accomplishments are tangible proof that sustainable food and farming systems within our planetary boundaries are not a distant ideal but an unfolding reality. By pushing boundaries - whether in farming practice, food processing, retail, or community engagement - these projects light a path toward a more resilient, equitable, and vibrant organic sector. May they inspire many more across Europe to join in this movement, advancing rural livelihoods, climate action, biodiversity, and consumer confidence in organic agriculture."

A forward-looking sector

Referring to the Awards Ceremony's opening speech by Commissioner for Agriculture Christophe Hansen, our Director Eduardo Cuoco said: "IFOAM Organics Europe takes note of Commissioner Hansen's announcement of a targeted revision of the EU organic regulation and welcomes the European Commission's commitment to continue developing organic production, market and research through a new EU Organic Action Plan." He then continued: "We stand ready to work with the Commission, the Parliament and the Council to ensure that this targeted revision of the organic regulation will focus on fixing legal issues and ensuring the regulation is coherent and implementable for the thousands of organic farmers and operators in the food production who already deliver for sustainability. IFOAM Organics Europe wants to ensure that none of the high standards that the organic regulation delivers for soils, water and biodiversity, as well as animal welfare, will be touched upon, and urges Member States and MEPs to guarantee that this revision will be smooth, targeted and efficient."

Celebrating vision and commitment

Today, EU Organic Day, we celebrate more than just winners of awards: we honour the bold ideas, the strong dedication, and the creative solutions that are helping to shape the future of organic across Europe. Each finalist and awardee reminds us that organic agriculture is not just about methods: it is about health, ecology, fairness,

care, and vision. As we reveal this year's winners, we also reaffirm our commitment to working with policymakers, producers, processors, industries, consumers and all partners to ensure organic systems are supported with long-term frameworks, fair incentives, and recognition for their contributions to public goods.

Ends.

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Background information

About the EU Organic Awards

<u>21 candidates from 13 EU countries were shortlisted</u> out of more than 100 applications. With 6 categories and 7 individual awards, the EU Organic Awards recognise innovative, sustainable, and inspiring projects that add significant value to organic production and consumption. The EU Organic Awards are a commitment of the <u>Action Plan for the Development of Organic Production</u>. They are jointly organised by the European Commission, <u>the European Economic and Social Committee</u>, the <u>European Committee</u> of the <u>Regions</u>, <u>COPA-COGECA</u>, and <u>IFOAM Organics Europe</u>, with support from the European Parliament and the Council.

For more information about the previous editions of the EU Organic Awards:

- Articles about past EU Organic Awards winners and finalists on our website,
- On social media using #EUOrganic and #EUOrganicDay
- 2024: Videos winners #EUOrganic Awards 2024 and our article,
- 2023: Videos winners #EUOrganic Awards 2023 and our article,
- 2022: Videos winners #EUOrganic Awards 2022, and our article.

About EU Organic Day

EU Organic Day, an <u>initiative launched in 2021</u> by the European Parliament, the Council, and the European Commission celebrates and promotes organic production. Besides the EU Organic Awards ceremony in Brussels, organic becomes more visible at many local, national and regional events – in person, online and according to the organisers' own flavours.

Have a look at the messages celebrating the European organic sector by browsing #EUorganic and #EUorganicDay on social media.

IFOAM Organics Europe is the European umbrella organisation for organic food and farming. With almost 200 members in 34 European countries, our work spans the entire organic food chain and beyond: from farmers and processors organisations, retailers, certifiers, consultants, traders, and researchers to environmental and consumer advocacy bodies.



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