

# **Press release**

## BIO AUSTRIA represents the organic farmers of Austria

Austria is the number one organic country in the European Union. On an area of almost 700,000 hectares, organic farmers work on the ecologization of Austrian agriculture and produce high-quality organic food. This means that 22.5 percent of the farms and about 27 percent of the agricultural land in Austria are managed organically.

With around 13,000 member farms, BIO AUSTRIA is the largest association for organic agriculture in Europe.

BIO AUSTRA stands for best Organic Quality.

### **BIO AUSTRIA - the fields of activity**

The field of activity of BIO AUSTRIA includes the areas of further education, consulting and quality management as well as representation of interests on a political, economic and social level. BIO AUSTRIA works closely with international and Austrian research institutions and cooperates with more than 470 partners in the economy.

# **BIO AUSTRIA Quality**

BIO AUSTRIA quality means best raw material quality from Austria and highest possible safety:

- Secure, regional origin of agricultural raw materials
- Highest process quality
- Transparency and traceability back to the farmer
- Quality assurance system in compliance with BIO AUSTRIA guidelines
- Assurance of BIO AUSTRIA quality through our own quality management system
- BIO AUSTRIA certification

# BIO AUSTRIA is an important partner on the Organic Market

BIO AUSTRIA cooperates with more than 470 companies from the food and feed industry. **BIO AUSTRIA Marketing GmbH** is a 100 percent subsidiary of BIO AUSTRIA. It ensures the BIO AUSTRIA quality, awards the BIO AUSTRIA trademark and offers the decisive advantage on the organic market:

Business partners of BIO AUSTRIA Marketing GmbH receive important market information, are advised on entering organic processing and organic marketing, and receive support in the procurement of raw

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materials. A quality assurance system controls compliance with the BIO AUSTRIA quality standard. An own quality management additionally ensures the regional origin of the agricultural products and their high quality.

The BIO AUSTRIA trademark may be used by the partner for certified BIO AUSTRIA products. Together with processors and marketers, BIO AUSTRIA Marketing GmbH defines the range of organic products of-fered by organic farmers to the market with the aim of further strengthening organic agriculture.

### **BIO AUSTRIA - Cooperation with Research**

BIO AUSTRIA works closely with international and Austrian research institutions. This guarantees the further development of organic agriculture in order to meet technical and social challenges.

### **BIO AUSTRIA - Consulting Competence**

BIO AUSTRIA has teams of experts in all Austrian provinces:

- Introductory courses and further training in organic farming
- Expert advice on production and farm development
- Organic guideline information and advice on organic inspection
- Organization of expert excursions and seminars

### **BIO AUSTRIA - Representation of Interests**

BIO AUSTRIA actively influences developments in agricultural and market policy:

- Positioning of organic agriculture as the guiding principle of Austrian agriculture
- Representation of agricultural policy interests at national and international level
- Implementation of PR and lobbying activities
- Ongoing media work on agricultural topics related to organic farming

#### Contact

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#### **BIO AUSTRIA**

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