

Millets and Organics: Cultivating Traditional, Nourishing Future (ITF-2024) - Goodness in Every Grain

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SUMMARY

The fifth edition of the Millets and Organics International Trade Fair 2024, organized by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, serves as a significant platform for fostering connections and exploring opportunities in the organic and millet sectors. The event emphasizes the promotion of "organic produce and millets" as "Traditional Super Foods to Nourish Future Generations." Karnataka's journey in organic farming dates back almost two decades, with dedicated policies in 2004 and 2017, focusing on self-reliance, rural development, conservation, and marketing linkages. The state government actively promotes millets as "Smart Foods," highlighting their profitability for farmers, nutritional benefits for consumers, and positive environmental impact.

INTRODUCTION

The fifth edition of Millets and Organics International Trade Fair 2024 is organized by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka. It will be a platform for farmers, farmer groups, domestic and international companies, central and state institutions in the organic and millet sector to connect and explore opportunities in Agri-horticulture, processing, machinery, and Agri-technology.

The ultimate objective of the State is to popularize "**organic produce and millets**" as "**Traditional Super Foods to Nourish Future Generations?**"

Karnataka's Journey Organics

- Government of Karnataka initiated promotion of organic farming a viable alternate almost 2 decades ago
- An exclusive organic policy was brought out way back in 2004 to address self-reliance, rural development conservation and nature
- A revised organic policy brought out in 2017 emphasizing on millets & marketing linkages

Millets

- The State Government has been promoting traditionally & organically grown millets as the "Smart Foods" as they cater to the most important three objectives;
- Profitable for the farmer
- Best for the consumer
- Good for the environment

Fair Highlights for ITF 2024

- Millet and Organic food court
- International exhibition and Conference
- Buyer seller meets
- Consumer Connect
- Farmers Workshop
- Cultural events

Products on Display

- Millets, Organic and Natural range
- Spices and herbs
- Fresh fruits & vegetables

- Oil seeds, nuts, dry fruits and coconut
- Organic cereals l& pulses
- Certified wild-harvest produce
- Indigenous livestock Products -Dairy, poultry, honey
- Indigenous textiles, cosmetics, personal care items
- Millet processing machinery
- Eco-friendly products

Target Visitors

- Organic and natural farmers & producers
- Wholesalers, retailers, traders and SHG
- Exporters & importers Restaurants and caterers
- Academicians, researchers, experts
- Food manufacturers and processors
- Service organisations
- Students, Nutritionists, Consumers

CONCLUSION

The Millets and Organics International Trade Fair 2024, organized by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Karnataka, embodies a pivotal initiative to cultivate traditional practices and nourish the future. With a focus on promoting "organic produce and millets" as "Traditional Super Foods to Nourish Future Generations," Karnataka's two-decade journey in organic farming underscores its commitment to self-reliance, rural development, and environmental conservation. The event, featuring 300 air-conditioned stalls across 100,000 sqft, serves as a comprehensive platform for farmers, producers, and stakeholders to connect, explore opportunities, and showcase a diverse range of products. By emphasizing the profitability for farmers, nutritional benefits for consumers, and positive environmental impact, the fair reinforces the significance of millets as "Smart Foods." With its international exhibition, conferences, buyer-seller meets, consumer engagement activities, and cultural events, ITF-2024 emerges as a dynamic space fostering sustainable agriculture, innovation, and the propagation of traditional and organic practices.

REFERENCE

Millets and Organics -International Trade Fair 2024