



BIOCYCLIC VEGAN AGRICULTURE IS GOOD FOR ...

... Climate

By consistently refraining from keeping livestock for commercial use and slaughter and by using purely plant-based high-quality compost or even biocyclic humus soil with its high CO₂ binding capacity, biocyclic vegan agriculture makes an effective contribution to climate protection.

... Biodiversity

The establishment of a natural ecological balance is an important principle for preventive plant protection and the promotion of biodiversity. Biodiversity rises significantly on areas cultivated according to the biocyclic vegan principles, which is achieved through wide crop rotations, systematic mixed cultivation, a careful and diversified tilling of the soil, the planting of hedges and flower strips as well as the creation of habitats within the farm area.

... Soil

Biocyclic vegan agriculture implies the preservation and/or regeneration of natural soil fertility. This is achieved by a high supply of organic matter in various forms such as green manure, mulching, the spreading of mature purely plant-based compost and the extensive use of biocyclic humus soil, which protects the soil from erosion and dehydration, significantly binds CO₂ and stimulates the formation of permanent humus.

... Ground and Surface Waters

By using mature compost of plant-based origin and biocyclic humus soil, which is characterised by a physiologically stable molecular structure, it is possible to greatly reduce leaching, e.g. of nitrate, which leads to an improvement in groundwater quality and counteracts the eutrophication of surface waters.

... Animals

On biocyclic vegan farms, the keeping of livestock for slaughter and all kinds of commercial use, as well as the use of fertilisers and preparations based on slaughterhouse waste is prohibited in respect of the dignity of the animal. In addition, biocyclic vegan farmland not only provides ideal living conditions for billions of microorganisms in the soil, but also for many other wild animals such as birds and rare insects. This leads to a natural state of equilibrium above and below ground.

... Global Food Security

By systematically improving soil fertility, increasing productivity through the introduction of nature-like cultivation methods and a more efficient land use through the exclusive production of plant foods for human consumption (not for animal feed), biocyclic vegan agriculture can make a sustainable contribution to global food safety.

... Health

Owing to the absence of animal husbandry for commercial use and slaughter, the risk of contamination by drug residues from livestock farming (e.g. antibiotics) and by pathogenic, partly multi-resistant germs from liquid slurry and slaughter waste is significantly reduced in biocyclic vegan agriculture. Healthy soils contribute to human health through robust, vital plants rich in nutrients, according to the motto "from a healthy soil to healthy plants and healthy human beings".



*Grow vegan
and organic!*

BIOCYCLIC VEGAN AGRICULTURE

Biocyclic vegan agriculture means purely plant-based organic farming. This form of cultivation excludes all commercial live-stock farming and slaughtering of animals and does not use any inputs of animal origin. Special emphasis is placed on the promotion of biodiversity, healthy soil life, the closure of organic cycles and on systematic humus build-up.

The Biocyclic Vegan Standard

The Biocyclic Vegan Standard is based on the fundamental insights gained by the German pioneer of organic farming Adolf Hoops (1932-1999) regarding cultivation techniques and social-ecological matters. In the 1950s already, he laid the foundation for a future-oriented, plant-based and live-stock-free agriculture on his organic operation “Bio-Modell Walsrode” in northern Germany. In the 1990s, Dr. agr. Johannes Eisenbach transferred the underlying “biocyclic idea” to the conditions of Mediterranean agriculture in Greece and Cyprus and scientifically substantiated their joint experiences. In cooperation with Arne Hoops, son of Adolf Hoops and long-time spokesman of the board of the German Bioland farmers’ association, he developed the “Biocyclic Guidelines” which systematically summarised the results of the work done so far with regard to cultivation, advice and distribution.

In a consultation process with the vegan organic community in Germany, the basically vegan approach of the Biocyclic Guidelines became more clearly elaborated, which led to the publication of the “Biocyclic Vegan Standard” in 2017. Since November 2017, this standard has been applicable worldwide as a standard for vegan organic farming accredited by IFOAM.



Biocyclic Vegan Quality Label

A professional certification system and the quality label “BIOCYCLIC VEGAN AGRICULTURE” offers consumers full transparency at all levels of the supply chain and gives them the assurance that the products labelled in this way have been grown not only organically but also according to vegan principles.



THE INTERNATIONAL BIOCYCLIC VEGAN NETWORK

The International Biocyclic Vegan Network is a broad network of associations, private individuals, companies and institutions involved in agriculture, processing, trade and science, as well as organizations whose mission is to promote animal rights and a vegan way of life. Through its member associations in various countries, the network advises growers on the conversion to biocyclic vegan farming and raises public awareness of the benefits of this form of cultivation. In addition, it participates in research projects on humus accumulation and sustainable soil fertility increase through the use of biocyclic humus soil on a purely plant-based basis.

The activities of the International Biocyclic Vegan Network are coordinated by the Berlin based not-for-profit Adolf-Hoops-Gesellschaft mbH.

Operations interested in conversion can have themselves inspected and certified according to the Biocyclic Vegan Standard that has been incorporated into the “IFOAM Family of Standards”. By this means and thanks to the Biocyclic Vegan Quality Label, their products can be identified as being “vegan from the field”.



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