

Hanawa Peterson, H., Barkley, A., Chacón-Cascante, A. and Kastens, T. “The Motivation for Organic Grain Farming in the United States: Profits, Lifestyle, or the Environment?” *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*. Forthcoming.

Abstract

The objective of this research is to identify and quantify the motivations for organic grain farming in the United States. Survey data of US organic grain producers were used in regression models to find the statistical determinants of three motivations for organic grain production, including profit maximization, environmental stewardship, and an organic lifestyle. Results provide evidence that many organic grain producers had more than a single motivation, and that younger farmers are more likely to be motivated by environmental and lifestyle goals than older farmers. Organic grain producers exhibited a diversity of motivations, including profit and stewardship.

Key Words: bootstrapping, logistic regression, organic farming, profit maximization, environmental stewardship.

JEL Classifications: Q01, Q12, Q15.