

DEFINING WHAT ORGANIC MEANS

POSITIVES \

Gardens with a great variety of wildlife and biodiversity in a balanced system
Love – more substantial growth and substance
Using biological controls e.g. nematodes / encarsia wasps
Increased biological activity – lots of microbes! (through addition of organic fertilisers)
Woodash / Cardboard (corrugated)
Liming – to protect the plants from heavy metals
Friendly to other life-forms – birds, insects, etc
Techniques to keep soil water and run-off 'clean' , healthy, life-pure
Harmony with nature
Systems that are cyclic – e.g. grow stuff in one place / time that provides resources that have been depleted in another place / time
Food that tastes better and is more nutritious
Eating seasonal veg.

AND NEGATIVES N

Hydroponics
Food grown for profit will never be the best
Food allergies
Newspapers
Management techniques heavy on non-renewable resources
Mono-cropping in the same site year after year
Don't want 'pests', even if they're 'natural'
Monoculture on vast areas that destroys all / most other wildlife / biodiversity
Substances / techniques that do or may upset the balance of nature or disturb the local/global eco-system
Substances that will stay in the soil for a long time and have a negative effect on natural systems and get into water tables, streams, rivers.
Heavy metals in too great a concentration