

Organic Cotton Production up 15 Percent Despite Recession in 2009-10

Bolstered by continued strong manufacturer demand even during the recessionary times, organic cotton continued its steady growth in 2009-2010, according to a the fifth annual Organic Farm and Fiber report by Textile Exchange, the leading global organic cotton and sustainable textiles non-profit organization formerly known as Organic Exchange.

According to the Exchange's Organic Cotton Farm and Fiber Report, production of organic cotton rose 15 percent from 209,950 metric tons (MT) in 2008-09 to 241,276 MT (1.1 million bales) grown on 461,000 hectares (1.14 million acres) in 2009-2010. Organic cotton now represents 1.1 percent of global cotton production. Global organic cotton has witnessed a veritable explosion (539 percent increase) in production in the last five years since 2005-06, when only 37,000 MT were produced. The organization anticipates similar strong growth in this year.

With the addition of Tajikistan, organic cotton was grown by approximately 274,000 farmers in 23 countries in 2009-2010 versus 22 countries in 2008-09. India remained the top producing nation in 2009-10 for the third straight year, growing over 80 percent of the organic cotton produced globally and increasing its production of the fiber by 37 percent over 2009-2010. Syria moves from third into second place, and Turkey fell from second to third place. The remaining countries in descending order are: China, United States, Tanzania, Uganda, Peru, Egypt, Mali, Pakistan, Burkina Faso, Israel, Benin, Paraguay, Greece, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Senegal, Nicaragua, South Africa, Brazil, and Zambia.

According to Textile Exchange senior director, manufacturers, retailers and consumers, and most importantly, farmers, all signaled their continued interest in supporting organic cotton production and the risks that came with it despite the recession. In addition, the strong growth is an indication of the work Textile Exchange is doing with brands and retailers that have strong strategic plans and engagement all the way to the farm.

According to Textile Exchange farm engagement director and the report's lead author, notes that the organic sector cannot rest on its laurels despite the rapid growth in organic cotton production. As organic cotton grows in volume, we must continue to strengthen integrity in production, certification, and processing, it is stated.

All 2008-2009 stocks of organic cotton have been purchased as has most of this current year's crop. As such, brands interested in nailing down their supply need to build organic cotton supply security into their planning strategies now, preferably by implementing forward contracts, it was stressed.

According to the organization's Organic Cotton Market Report 2010, global retail sales of organic cotton and home textile products topped 4.3 billion U.S. dollars in 2009. Data from the 2010 market will be available this spring.

Organic production is based on a system of farming that maintains and replenishes soil fertility without the use of toxic and persistent pesticides and fertilizers or genetically-modifies seeds. (Source: Textile Exchange)

Government Plans to Set Up Yarn Bank - Report

A report quoting the Textile Commissioner states that the Government is planning to set up yarn banks in all powerloom centres and clusters so that weavers will have ready access to yarn in adequate quantities and at reasonable prices. This would also help weavers to plan their production programmes in advance, it is claimed.

Each yarn bank is estimated to cost Rs. 2 crore. The Government would contribute 50 per cent as seed money and the remaining 50 per cent would have to be borne by the powerloom clusters. The increased cost of raw materials in the case of both cotton and synthetic yarns has led to higher cost of yarn in all varieties and the sharp fluctuation in prices has prevented powerloom owners from planning their production. Setting up of yarn banks which is a proposal under consideration, is expected to provide yarn to buyers at stable prices.

Under the proposed system, producers would sell yarn to the banks and buyers can approach the banks when they need the same. The scheme envisages the appointment of a nodal agency for managing the bank. The agency will have to make arrangement with warehouses to store the yarn sold by producers. The bank is expected to safeguard the interest of yarn manufacturers and buyers in case of sharp fall in prices. Banks are expected to work for bringing balance between the interests of sellers and users of yarn.

Powerloom sector is by far the leading supplier of cloth in the country contributing 80 per cent of the total. Overall, there are around 2.25 million powerlooms all over India with more than 50 per cent concentrated in Maharashtra. The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has considerably helped in the modernisation of powerlooms with the result that the quality of fabrics produced by them has improved.

(Source: Financial Express - 10.02.2011)

	Production of Spun Yarn (SSI & Non- SSI)										
MONTH/	(In Mn. Kgs) PRODUCTION OF YARN										
YEAR	COTTON	BLENDED	100% N.C.	G. TOTAL							
2000-01	2266.87	645.80	247.55	3160.22							
2001-02	2211.88	609.03	280.15	3101.06							
2002-03	2177.16	584.61	319.61	3081.37							
2002-00	2120.71	589.33	341.76	3051.80							
2004-05	2272.26	584.97	366.29	3223.52							
2005-06	2520.87	588.11	349.31	3458.29							
2006-07	2823.59	635.10	354.60	3813.39							
2007-08	2948.36	677.11	377.75	4003.22							
2008-09 (P)	2896.15	654.89	360.95	3911.99							
2009-10 (P)	3078.97	707.31	407.15	4193.43							
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April-10	271.95	63.51	33.36	368.82							
May-10	281.87	64.37	33.20	379.44							
June-10	282.94	61.72	31.30	375.96							
July-10	295.70	63.67	33.55	392.92							
August-10	293.83	62.46	33.95	390.24							
September-10	291.95	67.14	33.80	392.89							
October-10	293.52	69.90	36.36	399.78							
November-10	279.70	64.01	34.68	378.39							
December-10	297.04	64.06	35.55	396.65							
January-11	290.64	67.36	36.67	394.67							



Garment Exports Grow About 24 Percent in February

India's apparel exports grew by about 24 per cent to USD 1.1 billion in February 2011 — the highest in this fiscal — year-on-year, due to a strong demand from the US and European markets.

The exports stood at USD 938 million in 2009-10, according to the data provided by the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC).

"There is a good demand for our exports in the US. There is an improvement in the European market as well," AEPC Chairman Premal Udani said. The US and Europe together account for about 65 per cent of India's total garment exports.

However, the apparel exports in the April-January period grew merely by 2.04 per cent to USD 9.8 billion against the same period last year.

Exports started growing in August 2010 after witnessing deceleration in the initial months of the current fiscal.

Source: Financial Express - 1.4.2011

Renewal of Subscription of Publication (Fortnightly) for April 2011-March 2012

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We solicit your co-operation.

			UPCO	UNTR	Y S	POT	RATE	S			(Rs./Qtl)	
Official quotations for standard descriptions with basic grade and staple in Millimetres based on Upper						SPOT RATES (UPCOUNTRY) 2009-10 CROP March - April 2011						
	0	-	By-law 66 (A)		ber	26^{th}	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st	1^{st}	
04.	ICS-103	23mm	Jayadhar	4.0-5	19	Η	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	
2010-11 CROP												
01.	ICS-101	Below 22mm	Bengal Deshi (RG)	5.0-7.0	15		14341 (51000)	14482 (51500)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	14622 (52000)	
02.	ICS-201	Below 22mm	Bengal Deshi (SG)	5.0-7.0	15	0	14622 (52000)	14763 (52500)	14904 (53000)	14904 (53000)	14904 (53000)	
03.	ICS-102	22mm	V-797	4.5-5.9	19		12935 (46000)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	13076 (46500)	
05.	ICS-104	24mm	Y-1	4.0-5.5	20	L	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	15466 (55000)	
06.	ICS-202	25mm	J-34	3.5-4.9	23		17153 (61000)	17434 (62000)	17575 (62500)	17575 (62500)	17575 (62500)	
07.	ICS-105	25mm	NHH-44	3.5-4.9	22	Ι	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	
08.	ICS-105	27mm	LRA-5166	3.5-4.9	24		16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)	16028 (57000)	
09.	ICS-105	28mm	H-4/ MECH-1	3.5-4.9	25	D	16788 (59700)	16788 (59700)	16788 (59700)	16788 (59700)	16788 (59700)	
10.	ICS-105	29mm	S-6	3.5-4.9	26		17294 (61500)	17294 (61500)	17350 (61700)	17294 (61500)	17294 (61500)	
11.	ICS-105	31mm	Bunny/ Brahma	3.5-4.9	27	А	17856 (63500)	17856 (63500)	17856 (63500)	17856 (63500)	17856 (63500)	
12.	ICS-106	33mm	MCU-5/	3.3-4.5	28		18278 (65000)	18278 (65000)	18278 (65000)	18278 (65000)	18278 (65000)	
13.	ICS-107	35mm	DCH-32	2.8-3.6	31	Y	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)	23340 (83000)	
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Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./candy