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Cotton Statistics And News

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New Initiative Helps Cotton Growers to Raise Yield, Cut Cost - Report

According to a press report, farmers in the country are veering towards growing cotton in a way that would cut fertiliser and water usage, besides minimising the impact of plant protection measures such as pesticides. Called the "Better Cotton Initiative" (BCI), the cultivation aims at increasing yield while ensuring efficient use of water, lower pesticide and fertiliser consumption. At the same time, it also targets raising farmers' income. The sponsors behind this move are reported to have claimed that the BCI has helped improve the yield by 20 percent during 2010-11, while pesticide usage was cut by 60 percent.

This new system of farming is said to be catching up in various parts of the country, mainly Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh and appears to have drawn support from some leading retailers. In this system of farming, growers are stated to continue cultivating transgenic cotton and it is claimed to be a step before farmers can be made aware of the advantage of growing organic cotton and encouraged to grow it.

The press report claims that according to the International Advisory Committee (ICAC), India topped in the number of growers who took to the new initiative. Some 70,000 growers are stated to have practised this cultivation covering 1.12 lakh hectares during 2011-12 when the total area under cotton was a record 120 lakh hectares. BCI is quoted to have mentioned on its website that about 35,000 licensed farmers produced 1.88 lakh bales during 2011-12 as against 12,500 farmers producing nearly 59,000 bales in the previous year.

Another view being held appears to be that farmers are turning to better cotton initiative more out of compulsions. Prices of fertilisers and pesticides have increased forcing farmers to look at ways of cutting costs. For them, the BCI seemed to be a better

alternative. Fertiliser prices especially for non-urea are stated to have gone up by over 30 percent in the last one year.

Some of the private firms are also reportedly involved in BCI through contract farming. One such firm is claimed to be paying farmers 10 percent the moment they join the initiative. This firm is said to be planning to bring 1500 hectares under organic farming through the BCI. They are also reported to have formed farmer groups with one of them being made leader to educate other farmers in the group on various scientific farming techniques.

(Source: Business Line - 11.04.2013)

IMD Expects Normal Monsoon

The India Meteorological Department is expecting a normal south-west monsoon this year which augurs well for the country's agriculture sector and economy as a whole, Agriculture Minister Shri Sharad Pawar stated. But it (IMD) prefers to wait till the first week of May for the correct picture, Shri Pawar said after a meeting with the IMD officials. He also stated that all four different weather models from different countries show normal monsoon for India.

Sufficient rainfall is required in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat and Rajasthan this year as these states are reeling under drought. The situation is alarming especially in Maharashtra, where drinking water and fodder availability is insufficient. Monsoon rains are crucial for the agriculture sector, which contributes about 15 percent to the country's GDP, as only 40 percent of the total cultivable area is under irrigation.

(Source: Financial Express - 19.04.2013)

Egypt's Cotton Exports Decline 40.6% in Sep-Nov 2012

The exports of cotton from Egypt declined by 40.6 percent in the first quarter of the current cotton season, i.e. September-November 2012, the Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMAS) has announced.

During the three-month period, Egypt exported 1.374 million quintals of cotton, compared to earlier 2.313 million quintals of cotton exported during the corresponding period of the previous season.

CAPMAS attributed the decline in exports to the rise in global price of cotton.

The agency said domestic textile companies purchased 4.158 million quintals of cotton during the three-month period, a sharp 326 percent increase compared to the volume of cotton purchased by the local firms during the same quarter of previous season.

Egyptian cotton is counted among the world's finest, but the country's cotton industry has witnessed a decline during the past two decades.

Recently, Mr. Ahmed Ayyad, who heads the cotton division of the Chamber of Commerce, stated that the Government is making efforts to boost cotton production in the country. He also said the

Government has entered into an agreement to export Egyptian cotton to over 50 countries.

(Source: fibre2fashion - 20.04.2013)

Soon, 'smart' clothes that change colour when you move

Scientists have taken a quantum leap in textile design by developing computerised fabrics that change their colour and shape in response to movement of the human body. Joanna Berzowska, professor and chair of the Department of Design and Computation Arts at Concordia University, Canada has developed interactive electronic fabrics that harness power directly from the human body, store that energy, and then use it to change the garments' visual properties.

The major innovation of this research project is the ability to embed these electronic or computer functions within the fibre itself: rather than being attached to the textile, the electronic components are woven into these new composite fibres.

The fibres consist of multiple layers of polymers, which, when stretched and drawn out to a small diameter, begin to interact with each other. The fabric, produced in collaboration with the Ecole Polytechnique's Maksim Skorobogatiy, represent a significant advance in the development of 'smart textiles'.

(Source: Tecoya Trend - 19.04.2013)



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Sir Purshottamdas Thakurdas Annual Cricket Tournament 2013

The Association organised the Annual Cricket Tournament 2013 in the memory of illustrious Past President beloved late Sir Purshottamdas Thakurdas on Saturday, the 13th April 2013 at P.J. Hindu Gymkhana Ground, Marine Lines. Several members were present to cheer the players.

Four teams representing Buyers, Sellers, Brokers and Ready Brokers were formed.

Shri Pankaj Kotak, Chairman of CAI's Events Committee ably assisted by Shri B.S. Bangdiwala, Shri Kiran Bheda and Shri Kishore Chheda put things together for the event.

The matches began with great enthusiasm and fanfare. In the first round, Ready Brokers team lost to Sellers and Buyers team lost to Brokers team in the second match.

The stage was set for an exciting final between Sellers team headed by Shri Nayan C. Mirani and Brokers team headed by Shri Rishit S. Dholakia.

Both the teams made valiant efforts and finally, Brokers Team clinched the Sir Purshottamdas Thakurdas Memorial Cricket Trophy.



The winners in other categories were –
Man of the Match
(First Semi Final) : Shri Paresh Tawde

Man of the Match
(Second Semi Final) : Shri Prashant Balu Londhe

Man of the Match
(Final) : Shri Punit K. Shah

Man of the Series : Shri Punit K. Shah

Best Batsman : Shri Kiran A. Bhadra

Best Bowler : Shri Prashant Balu Londhe

Shri Pankaj Kotak and his team deserve to be congratulated for organising the event successfully.



UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES (Rs./Qtl)												
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [By law 66 (A) (a) (4)]							Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2012-13 Crop April 2013					
Sr. No.	Growth Standard	Grade /GPT	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Strength	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15	9617 (34200)	9476 (33700)	9476 (33700)	9476 (33700)	H	9476 (33700)
2	P/H/R	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15	9870 (35100)	9729 (34600)	9729 (34600)	9729 (34600)		9729 (34600)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	20	7958 (28300)	7874 (28000)	7874 (28000)	7789 (27700)	O	7789 (27700)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 – 5.5	21	8998 (32000)	8914 (31700)	8914 (31700)	8914 (31700)		8914 (31700)
5	M/M	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 – 5.5	23	9729 (34600)	9561 (34000)	9561 (34000)	9561 (34000)		9476 (33700)
6	P/H/R	ICS-202	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	10432 (37100)	10236 (36400)	10236 (36400)	10264 (36500)	L	10264 (36500)
7	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 – 3.4	25	10095 (35900)	9870 (35100)	9870 (35100)	9870 (35100)		9870 (35100)
8	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	25	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.		N.Q.
9	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	10461 (37200)	10376 (36900)	10376 (36900)	10404 (37000)	I	10404 (37000)
10	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	26	10208 (36300)	9983 (35500)	9983 (35500)	9983 (35500)		9983 (35500)
11	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	10376 (36900)	10151 (36100)	10151 (36100)	10151 (36100)	D	10151 (36100)
12	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	10686 (38000)	10461 (37200)	10489 (37300)	10517 (37400)		10517 (37400)
13	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	10714 (38100)	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)	10489 (37300)		10404 (37000)
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	10714 (38100)	10517 (37400)	10517 (37400)	10573 (37600)	A	10489 (37300)
15	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	10770 (38300)	10545 (37500)	10545 (37500)	10545 (37500)		10489 (37300)
16	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	10798 (38400)	10601 (37700)	10601 (37700)	10657 (37900)	Y	10573 (37600)
17	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.5 – 4.9	29	10995 (39100)	10798 (38400)	10798 (38400)	10798 (38400)		10742 (38200)
18	M/M/A/K/T/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.5 – 4.9	30	11220 (39900)	11023 (39200)	11023 (39200)	11023 (39200)		10939 (38900)
19	K/A/T/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	31	11473 (40800)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)	11276 (40100)		11192 (39800)
20	M(P)/K/T	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	33	13891 (49400)	13498 (48000)	13498 (48000)	13498 (48000)		13357 (47500)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)N.Q. = Not Quoted