

# Sustainable Agriculture for Benefitting Environment, Economy and Industry

Popularly known as "COTTONGURU", Shri Manish Daga is 4th generation from COTTONGURU® Group which has been in the cotton business since the last 115 years. He is the one and only registered "Chartered Cotton Valuer" in India. Shri. Daga has

been a Speaker in more than 25 International and Domestic Textile Conferences across five countries. He is an expert

advisor and trainer for farmers, ginners and mills for marketing of Indian cotton. He has organised



Shri. Manish Daga Managing Director, COTTONGURU

20,000 cotton farmers. Shri. Daga is the promoter of "Swachha Cotton Abhiyan (Clean Cotton Mission)" and has created many "Pradarshan Khet (evidence-demonstration

over 40 farmer training workshops,

visiting more than 600 villages

and personally meeting more than

(evidence-demonstration farm)" projects with the aim of doubling farmers' income and ensuring uninterrupted supply of contamination free

cotton for the textile industry. He is also a prolific writer. He is currently a Director of CAI.

### Organic Cotton: Golden opportunity for India

Would you believe if I said, "There is shortage of cotton in India?" You would immediately retort back with a curt reply, "You must be kidding". You will most certainly corroborate your response with logical facts like

- India is the largest producer of cotton
- India is amongst top three exporter of cotton
- Since last many years, India has remained a 'Cotton surplus' top consumer of cotton
- India is most likely to have its highest carry over stock this year

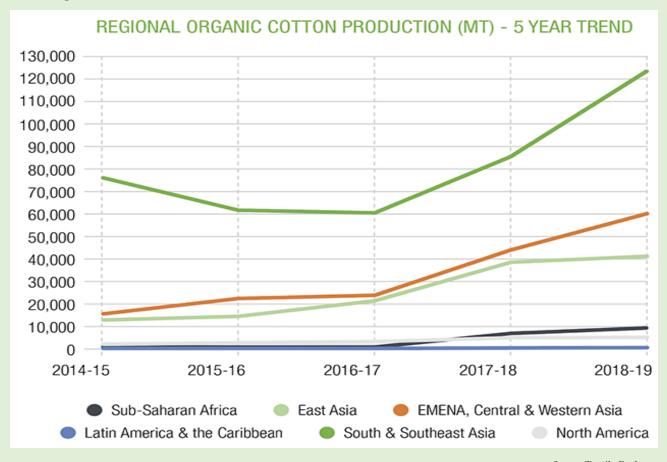
While all of these is true, we fail to realise "What does India's Textile Industry actually need?" The fact remains that India is facing acute shortage of two types of cotton

- 1. Organic cotton
- 2. ELS cotton

Your obvious argument will be that India is the world's largest supplier of organic cotton in the world. Close to 240,000 metric tons of global organic cotton were produced in 2019 and out of this India holds a 51% share. The second position is occupied by China with a distant 17%, followed by Kyrgyzstan and Turkey at 10% each.

2 • 11th May, 2021 COTTON STATISTICS & NEWS

#### **Growing Demand**



-Source Textile Exchange

Data shows that the demand for organic cotton has seen exponential growth over the years. According to the Organic Trade Association, there has been 31% growth in the organic cotton industry in the past one year and it is expected to see a rise of 10% during 2021. The whole world is witnessing the remarkable benefits of the production of organic cotton, be it clothing demand or employment opportunities. Pre-COVID estimates showed that global organic cotton production will grow by a further 10 % by 2020-21. But things have changed drastically in 2020.

#### **Shrinking Supply**

Most of the countries were struggling to increase their market share in Organic cotton. The world started depending on India for sourcing Organic cotton. Till 2019-20, India 'used to' grow about 5-6 million bales of Organic cotton. 50% of this was exported and the rest 50% was converted in value added products such as yarn and garments which were majorly exported. Both India and the world were comfortable with this arrangement till a tsunami in the form of

decertification by the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) hit the textile industry last year.

## Decision by GOTS Hits the Organic Cotton Industry

An investigation by the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) identified 20,000 metric tonnes of cotton that was wrongly certified as organic. GOTS has since instructed its approved bodies to cancel all upstream transactions certificates based on these wrongly issued documents in order to prevent affected goods being sold with the GOTS label.

#### **Effects of This Decision**

The effect was drastic and dramatic. Shipped/ unshipped cotton was under scrutiny hampering the supply chain, supply was choked, contracts were either cancelled or unhonoured, there was uncertainty and extraordinary delay in transaction certificates. In short, there was complete chaos amongst the stake holders. As a result, the premium of Organic certified cotton in India sky-rocketed by about 20%.





#### **After Effects of This Decision**

Most of the organic supply chains stand fractured and fragile following scrutiny and decertification. There will remain an element of doubt for all suppliers of cotton and value-added products till they provide fool-proof documents and certificates.

#### Solution

We need to build a robust and traceable supply chain for organic cotton. This in fact, is an opportunity in disguise for stake holders to build their "very own Organic cotton supply chain".

We at Cottonguru®, assist many such textile corporates and brands to build robust, sustainable, traceable, and profitable supply chains. We also undertake projects for Organic, BCI and conventional cotton and contamination-controlled cotton for customers based on professional turnkey basis backed by our expertise and experience of over 100 years.

Cottonguru's inherent strength lies in its strong network of over 100,000 cotton farmers across India. With the 'trust relationship' built over years of association, training and handholding, it organises the farmers into clusters as per the need of the project.

#### **Three-Way Benefit of Organic Projects:**

1. Textile Industry: Projects undertaken by us have immensely benefitted our customers in sourcing cotton of their choice with increase in productivity and profits. These projects have also been useful in reducing carbon footprint and capturing the huge space

in "genuinely certified Organic product' marketing segment.

- 2. Farmers: These projects have helped in increasing employment, decreasing the cost and improving the income of farmers.
- 3. Environment: We all know that organic cotton is non-genetically engineered cotton grown without using hazardous chemicals like pesticides and fertilizers. Increase in organic production is directly proportional to the reduction of carbon emission in the atmosphere. Thus, it is obvious that cultivation of organic cotton can help mitigate climate change.

While many see these as a disadvantage, Cottonguru® utilises the following factors of Indian agriculture as an asset in Organic cotton projects with complete focus on the challenges of retention and sustainability:

- 1. Small holder farmers
- 2. Rainfed agriculture
- 3. Availability of land
- 4. Minimum use of pesticide (simply because many farmers cannot afford it)
- 5. Climate change

Organic agriculture has the potential to help reduce carbon emissions, enhance soil fertility and improve climate resilience. Government can successfully promote sustainable agriculture only by creating policies that integrate social, environmental, and economic interests of all stake holders. Therefore, we strongly recommend to the Government that:

- 1. Organic agriculture must be declared as an effective strategy to reduce greenhouse gases and carbon emission.
- 2. Establishing a National Mission on Organic Agriculture with research and extension services specific to organic production for climate resilient agriculture.
- 3. Special MSP for Organic cotton. This is most important to retain and encourage farmers into continuing with organic cotton production.

Sustainable agriculture, management of natural resources and building robust supply chains, is the key to prosperity for all stake holders of cotton textile industry.



### About the organisation (Cottonguru®)

Cottonguru® is the leader in agriculture and textile advisory services across the country. It has strived hard to reach this leading position. It has vast experience of working with the smallest of farmers and topmost consumers. Its DNA of technical and marketing expertise and impeccable brand image has given it a clear edge in the market place. Cottonguru® wishes to and will continue to contribute to the value addition of cotton and agriculture in every possible manner.

Change is the only thing that is constant in the world. Cottonguru® Group has survived for over 100 years uninterrupted by overcoming all challenges, mainly because of deep rooted ethical values and ability to adapt to the changes. With a unique blend of tradition and technology, we have reached

the coveted stage of "Think Cotton – Think Cottonguru $^{\text{@}''}$ 

#### **Core Purpose and Mission**

The company runs on a clear mission to assist farmers in improving yield and quality. It strives to help cotton users in locating regular sources of sustainable and contamination-free cotton at nominal prices. It aims to prevent the arbitrary use of plastic and paper objects and replace it with cotton-based products which are 'natural, eco-friendly renewable resource' (E. g. cotton handkerchief v/s tissue paper, cotton bags v/s plastic or paper bags) thereby helping save the environment.

#### Vision

Unlocking the socio-economic potential of agriculture for global prosperity.

(The views expressed in this column are of the author and not that of Cotton Association of India)

## **COTTON WEBINAR:** LEARN TO IDENTIFY TRENDS, TOPS & BOTTOMS

### **COTTON PRICE FORECASTING SUCCESSFULLY USING** TECHNICAL & FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS & MARKET PSYCHOLOGY

CONDUCTED BY THE MOST SUCCESSFUL TRADING MINDS & PIONEERS IN COMMODITY TRADING USING FUNDAMENTAL & TECHNICAL ANALYSIS



Mr. Gnanasekar Thiagaraian Formerly a Trader with Bank of Nova Scotia

- \* 20 YEARS TRADING EXPERIENCE
- \* COMMODITY COLUMNIST, WEEKLY TECHNICAL ANALYSIS ON ON ICE COTTON FOR THE HINDU BUSINESS LINE
- HE WRITES AND HAS BEEN WRITING A MONTHLY IMM IN THE COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA WEEKLY EWSLETTER FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS EXTENSIVELY READ AND APPRECIATED BY ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE COTTON INDUSTRY
- HE WORKS WITH CORPORATES AND INDUSTRY HELPING
  THEM MANAGE THE VOLATILE PRICE MOVEMENTS
  THROUGH HEDGING & OTHER INSTRUMENTS



Mr. G Chandrashekha Formerly Commodities Editor The Hindu Business Line

- \* POLICY COMMENTATOR TO THE GOVT. OF INDIA THROUGH HIS COLUMNS IN THE HINDU BUSINESS LINE
- \* HE'S CURRENTLY THE ECONOMIC ADVISOR, IMC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MUMBAI
- \* HE'S A REGULAR SPEAKER AT ALL COTTON EVENTS BOTH IN INDIA AND OVERSEAS WHERE HE OPINES ON COTTON MARKET SUPPLY, DEMAND & HIS FUNDAMENTAL PRICE OUTLOO \* HE'S ALSO A MEMBER, SEBI COMMODITY DERIVATIVES ADVISORY COMMITEE & CONSULTANT UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE, GENEVA



Mr. Yeshwant Rao erly Head of Treasury - Currency & Cotton Trading for Arvind Mills Ltd.



- \* 30 YEARS TRADING EXPERIENCE IN COMMODITIES
- MERLY HEAD OF TRADING STRATEGIES, RELIANCE INDUSTRIES (PETROLEUM BUSINESS)
- \* HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN DESIGNING AND SETTING UP OF THE HEDGING DESK FOR ARAVIND MILLS LTD.

A VETERAN IN THE CREATION OF MECHANICAL TRADING SYSTEMS

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[Limited Seats Available]



#### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

#### TWO DAY PROGRAM

(14/5/21 - 10 am - 5 pm) (15/5/21 - 10 am - 1 pm)

NON - CAI MEMBERS - 16,900 + GST (Rs 3402) - 19,942 CAI MEMBERS - 13,900 + GST (Rs 2502) - 16,402 **OVERSEAS PARTICIPANTS - US \$245** 

**ENABLES DECISION MAKING** FOR PHYSICAL TRADERS AND **FUTURES TRADERS** 

DYNAMIC IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNICAL & FUNDAMENTAL ANALYSIS FOR **COTTON TRADING** 

REAL TIME COTTON TRADING WITH SIMPLE STRATEGIES

LEARN HOW TO APPLY CONCEPTS TO HELP IN TIMING COTTON PURCHASES

UNDERSTAND TO CRUNCH SUPPLY DEMAND NUMBERS FOR COTTON

NUANCES OF SHORT, MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM TRADING SHALL BE CLARIFIED

PROPER METHODOLOGY FOR COMBINING FUNDAMENTAL, TECHNICAL & MARKET PSYCHOLOGY TO FORECAST COTTON PRICES SUCCESSFULLY

SUPPORT WEBINARS ONCE EVERY QUARTER TO HELP BEGINNERS RESOLVE THEIR DOUBTS

RETAKES OF SESSIONS MISSED/NOT UNDERSTOOD SUBJECT TO SEAT AVAILABILITY

GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR DOUBTS/QUERIES

#### WHAT'S COVERED



COTTON

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

MASTER THE PSYCHOLOGY OF COTTON TRADING

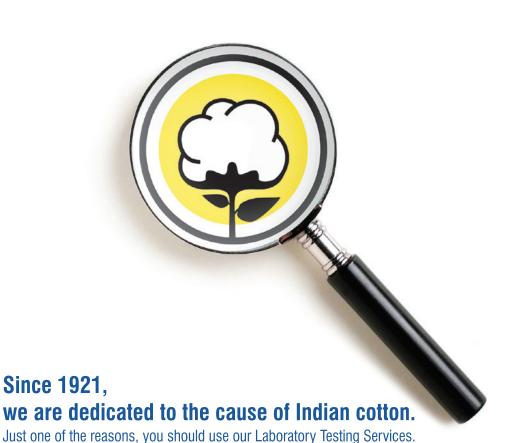
ANALYSIS USING DIFFERENT TECHNICAL TRADE SETUPS

FINE TUNE YOUR APPROACH TO COTTON TRADING USING MANY **ANALYSIS TOOLS** 

READING MARKET TRENDS FOR CONSISTENT PROFITS

REGISTER AT THE EARLIEST FOR MORE DETAILS [LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE]

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The Cotton Association of India (CAI) is respected as the chief trade body in the hierarchy of the Indian cotton economy. Since its origin in 1921, CAI's contribution has been unparalleled in the

development of cotton across India.

The CAI is setting benchmarks across

The CAI is setting benchmarks across a wide spectrum of services targeting the entire cotton value chain. These range from research and development at the grass root level to education, providing an arbitration mechanism, maintaining Indian cotton grade standards, issuing Certificates of Origin to collecting and disseminating statistics and information. Moreover, CAI is an autonomous organization portraying professionalism and reliability in cotton testing.

The CAI's network of independent cotton testing & research laboratories are strategically spread across major cotton centres in India and are equipped with:

- State-of-the-art technology & world-class Premier and MAG cotton testing machines
- HVI test mode with trash% tested gravimetrically

#### **LABORATORY LOCATIONS**

Current locations: • Maharashtra: Mumbai; Yavatmal; Aurangabad; Jalgaon • Gujarat: Rajkot; Ahmedabad • Andhra Pradesh: Adoni • Madhya Pradesh: Khargone • Karnataka: Hubli • Punjab: Bathinda • Telangana: Warangal, Adilabad



#### **COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA**

Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Opposite Cotton Green Railway Station, Cotton Green (East), Mumbai - 400 033, Maharashtra, INDIA Tel.: +91 22-2370 4401/02/03/04 • E-mail:cai@caionline.in • www.caionline.in

ISO 9001:2015

# Revision in Testing Charges at CAI Laboratories

The following are the charges for cotton testing in the laboratories of the Cotton Association of India with effect from 1st October 2020.

Particulars	Per Sample Testing Fees in Rs.						
	Testing Fees	GST	Total				
HVI Test	145	26	171				
Micronaire Test	85	15	100				
Colour Grade on HVI	85	15	100				
Gravimetric Trash Test on HVI	85	15	100				
Moisture	85	15	100				
Grading (Manual Classing)	235	42	277				

#### **VOLUME BASED DISCOUNTS**

Particulars	Per Sample Testing Fees in Rs.						
	Testing Fees	GST	Total				
For 250 samples and above but less than 500 samples	140	25	165				
For 500 samples and above but less than 750 samples	135	24	159				
For 750 samples and above but less than 1000 samples	130	23	153				
For 1000 samples and above but less than 2000 samples	125	23	148				
For 2000 samples and above but less than 5000 samples	120	22	142				
For 5000 samples and above but less than 10,000 samples	115	21	136				
For 10,000 samples and above	100	18	118				

The fees under the above volume based discount scheme is payable within 15 days from the receipt of the invoices to be raised on monthly basis.

We would also like to inform that the parties can avail the benefit of testing of cotton at multiple laboratories of the Associations against the CAI Credits made by them.

We earnestly request you to avail the facility of testing at the Association's laboratories.



#### Cotton Association of India

Cotton Exchange Building, 2nd Floor, Opp. Cotton Green Rly. Station, Cotton Green, Mumbai - 400 033.

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8 • 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 COTTON STATISTICS & NEWS

				Į.	UPCOUI	NTRY SP	OT RAT	ΓES				(R	s./Qtl)
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [ By law 66 (A) (a) (4) ]							Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2020-21 Crop May 2021						
Sr. No	. Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	4%	15	10854 (38600)	10826 (38500)	10826 (38500)	10826 (38500)	10826 (38500)	10826 (38500)
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4.5%	15	10995 (39100)		10967 (39000)	10967 (39000)	10967 (39000)	
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 - 6.0	13%	20	8295 (29500)	8239 (29300)	8155 (29000)	8211 (29200)	8239 (29300)	8267 (29400)
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 - 5.5	4.5%	21	9420 (33500)	9336 (33200)	9280 (33000)	9336 (33200)	9364 (33300)	9392 (33400)
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 - 5.5	4%	23	10686 (38000)	10629 (37800)	10629 (37800)	10686 (38000)	10742 (38200)	10770 (38300)
6	P/H/R (U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	4.5%	26	11726 (41700)	11726 (41700)		11810 (42000)	11923 (42400)	11951 (42500)
	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine		3.0 - 3.4	4%	25		(38200)		(38000)		
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine		3.5 – 4.9	4%	26		(42200)		(42500)		
9	M/M(P)/ SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine		3.0 - 3.4	4%	25	(39500)	(39300)		(39100)		
	M/M(P)/ SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine		3.5 - 4.9	3.5%	26	(41300)	(41300)		(41300)	(41500)	
	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine		3.5 - 4.9	4%	27		(42900)	(42900)	12120 (43100)	(43500)	(43700)
	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27		(44100)		(44400)		`
	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	27	12401 (44100) 12457		(44200)	12513 (44500) 12541		
	GUJ P(I)	ICS-105 ICS-105	Fine		3.7 - 4.5	3%	27		12485 (44400) 12373	(44400)	(44600) 12429	12598 (44800) 12485	12598 (44800) 12513
	R(L) M/M(P)	ICS-105				3.5%	28	(44000)	(44000)	(44000)	(44200) 12851	(44400)	(44500)
		ICS-105				3%	28	(45500)	(45400)	(45400)	(45700) 12879	(46000)	(46000)
	GUJ	ICS-105				3%	28	(45600)	(45500)	(45500)	(45800) 12879	(46100)	(46100)
	M/M(P)	ICS-105			3.7 - 4.5	3.5%	29	(45600)	(45600)	(45600)	(45800) 13498	(46000)	(46000)
		ICS-105				3%	29	(47800)	(47800)	(47800)	(48000) 13526	(48000)	(48000)
		ICS-105				3%	30	(47900)	(47900)	(47900)	(48100) 13638	(48100)	(48100)
	. , ,	ICS-105				3%	30			,	(48500) 13666		
23	K / TN/O SA/TL/K/	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 - 4.2	3%	31	13779	13779	13779	(48600) 13779	13779	13779
24	TN/O M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	4%	33	21090	21090	21090	(49000) 21090	21090	21090
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	3.5%	34	21652	21652	21652	(75000) 21652	21652	21652
0.7.7	: Figures in brack	1: .		. D /C	1 )			(77000)	(77000)	(77000)	(77000)	(77000)	(77000)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)