

CICR Develops Highest Fibre Strength Cotton

A scientist at the Central Institute for Cotton Research (CICR) has developed a cotton type which has the highest known fibre strength of American cotton in the country and also probably in the world.

The CICR cotton type has been obtained after many years of work by crossing wild sources of cotton with cultivated species. A few years down the line, after it becomes a variety and is crossed with other good cotton varieties, this cotton type can revolutionize the spinning and the textile industries. Cotton mills generally use cotton having fibre strength over 17 G/Tex (unit used to measure fibre strength). Highest fibre strength is needed for high speed ginning machines in textile industry. The new cotton type has been tested for strength at Ginning Training Centre in city.

Excited by the results, CICR Director Dr. Keshav Kranthi stated that the highest known strength of fibre in the known germ plasm - 10,000 at CICR, including 7600 exotic and 2800 desi - in the country was 26 G/Tex. The CICR cotton type has strength of 29 G/Tex, the highest known so far in American cotton. Even among the best of Indian cotton, Suraj - a CICR variety, the highest strength is 25, Dr. Kranti said.

The scientist is in the process of stabilizing the new characteristic. It is the F4 or fourth generation crop. It will be another three years before the cotton type is converted into a variety and put to multi-locational trials. It is maintained that a 'wild species garden' of cotton at CICR uses some of these for crossing with cultivated ones. Earlier they have developed four different types of cotton using this method. The new cotton type is also a result of introgressive crossing (cross between two extremely different parents). This experiment was a part of a larger project on improvement of cultivated species using wild sources.

The scientish have crossed a Hirsutum (American) cultivar and a race of cultivated species named Palmeri using conventional crossing or hybridization technique and also a technique called as 'single plant selection' method. It means that the seeds of the best plant in the entire field are used to grow the next crop.

The fibre quality should remain stable for three consecutive years to be added as a new genetic stock in the existing cottons. It will then go for double quality check through cotton breeders. In fact, it can be used to cross with other varieties to improve their quality. The scientist, however, yet to work on the yield aspect of the new cotton type.

(Source: CICR, Nagpur- 23.01.2013)

India's Cotton Yarn Exports to Hit New High

Indian cotton yarn exports are likely to reach an all time high in the current fiscal year due to the increasing cotton yarn imports by China.

For the last fiscal year, India exported 827.68 million kg of cotton yarn compared to estimated exports of 920 million kg.

China is expecting more cotton yarn from India and it accounts for around 30 percent of Indian cotton yarn exports. The cotton price in China is US\$ 1.4/ pound while the price in India is 85 cents/pound.

India's cotton yarn exports stood at 758 million kg in the April-December 2012 period, up 20 percent compared to yarn exports in the same period in 2011. Similarly, in the April-November 2012 period, India produced 2,317 million kg of cotton yarn, which is 14 percent higher compared to the yarn production in the same period in 2011.

India Asks Bangladesh to Notify it as Supplier Country for Textiles

India has asked Bangladesh to list it as a textile raw material sourcing country so that Bangladeshi garment exporters buying yarn from India continue to get benefits under the European Union's duty exemption scheme.

Commerce and Industry Minister Mr. Anand Sharma, in his bilateral meeting with his Bangladeshi counterpart Mr. Ghulam Muhammed Quader, pointed out that India should be notified as a supplier of inputs to ensure that Bangladeshi garment exporters to EU do not hesitate to source yarn and other raw materials from the country.

The EU gives duty preference to garments and other textile items from Bangladesh under the Generalised System of Preferences scheme subject to some sourcing conditions. The scheme was relaxed some time back to allow exporters benefiting from the scheme from countries that are notified as sourcing countries by the Government.

Once India is notified as a sourcing country, Bangladeshi exporters to the EU can happily source raw materials from India as they would not get disqualified under the GSP scheme, a Commerce Department official informed.

The Bangladeshi Minister assured Mr. Sharma that the country would consider the request positively, the official added. The two ministers met at the CII Agra Summit recently.

Bangladesh, on its part, asked India to allow electronics and motorcycles to be exported to the country through border points in North-East India. Our industry has been getting orders for motorcycles and electronic items including televisions. However, because these are allowed only from two points into India, it is not cost-effective. Borders across North-Eastern India need to be opened for these goods, Mr. Quader informed.

The two sides also discussed ways to increase bilateral trade. Bangladesh urged India to identify ways in which the huge trade imbalance between the two countries is set-off to some extent.

India exported goods worth \$3.7 billion to Bangladesh in 2011-12 and imported goods worth \$584 million.

(Source: Business Line - 29.01.2013)

To Halt Growth Slump, RBI Cuts CRR, Repo Rate by 25 bps

The Reserve Bank of India cut its key policy rates — repo rate and the cash reserve ratio — by 25 basis points each.

Justifying the softening of its monetary policy stance, the RBI said it is critical now to arrest the loss of growth momentum without endangering external stability.

While the 25 basis points cut in repo rate (the interest rate at which the central bank lends overnight funds to banks to tide over temporary liquidity deficit) was along expected lines, the cut in cash reserve ratio (CRR) was a bit of a surprise.

The repo rate has been reduced from 8 per cent to 7.75 per cent with immediate effect.

The CRR (the slice of deposits that banks have to park with the RBI) cut from 4.25 per cent to 4 per cent, historically the lowest level, will free up Rs 18,000 crore for banks to lend.

These cuts set the stage for banks to cut their minimum lending rate, making loans to retail,

micro, small and medium enterprises, and large corporate segments a tad cheaper.

Depending on their liquidity position, banks may also cut deposit rates with a lag.

IDBI Bank was first off the block and cut its base rate as well as its benchmark prime lending rate by 25 basis points each to 10.25 per cent (from 10.50 per cent) and 14.75 per cent (from 15 per cent), respectively. The public sector bank also cut retail term deposit rates in select buckets by 25 basis points.

India's largest bank, State Bank of India, is expected to take a call on lending and deposit rate cuts at its asset-liability committee meeting.

RBI Governor Mr. D. Subbarao said, "We are in relentless pursuit of higher growth and lower inflation." He said that if inflation and current account deficit moderate further there will be more room for monetary policy easing. However, if they go along the currently expected lines the space for monetary policy easing is quite limited.

Source: Business Line - 29.01.2013)

SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF COTTON										
January 02, 2013										
Seasons begin on August 1			Million Metric Tons							
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14				
				Est.	Proj.	Proj.				
BEGINNING STOCKS										
WORLD TOTAL	12.257	11.942	8.676	9.602	14.044	16.48				
China (Mainland)	3.321	3.585	2.688	2.087	6.181	7.07				
USA	2.188	1.380	0.642	0.566	0.729	1.24				
PRODUCTION*										
WORLD TOTAL	23.403	22.247	25.365	27.439	25.979	23.07				
China (Mainland)	8.025	6.925	6.400	7.400	6.860	6.09				
India	4.930	5.185	5.865	6.001	5.642	5.57				
USA	2.790	2.654	3.942	3.391	3.757	2.82				
Brazil	1.214	1.194	1.960	1.877	1.468	1.41				
Pakistan	1.926	2.070	1.907	2.294	2.146	1.95				
Uzbekistan	1.000	0.850	0.910	0.880	1.000	0.87				
Others	3.617	3.369	4.381	5.596	5.106	4.36				
CONSUMPTION*										
WORLD TOTAL	23.862	25.520	24.502	22.783	23.539	24.25				
China (Mainland)	9.265	10.192	9.580	8.635	8.549	8.38				
India	3.872	4.300	4.509	4.358	4.707	5.18				
Pakistan	2.519	2.393	2.100	2.163	2.336	2.55				
East Asia & Australia	1.714	1.892	1.796	1.646	1.829	1.89				
Europe & Turkey	1.458	1.600	1.549	1.495	1.506	1.54				
Brazil	1.000	1.024	0.958	0.888	0.897	0.91				
USA	0.771	0.773	0.849	0.718	0.740	0.74				
CIS	0.596	0.60	0.577	0.576	0.602	0.62				
Others ENDING STOCKS	2.666	2.743	2.583	2.303	2.373	2.45				
WORLD TOTAL	11.942	8,676	9.602	14.044	16.484	15,31				
	3.585	2.688	2.087	6.181	7.072	6.90				
China (Mainland) USA	1.380	0.642	0.566	0.729	1.240	0.90				
ENDING STOCKS/MILL USE		0.042	0.500	0.729	1.240	0.92				
WORLD-LESS-CHINA(M) 3/ 57 39 50 56 63 53										
				72						
						02				
CHINA (MAINLAND) 4/ Cotlook A Index 5/	39 61.20	26 77.54	22 164.26	72 100.01	83 83*	82				

^{3/}World-less-China's ending stocks divided by World-less-China's mill use, multiplied by 100.

(Source: ICAC Monthly April 2012)

Deals for Cotton Exports Shrunk in 2012-13

According to a report, deals for cotton export from the country have shrunk in 2012-13. Cotton traders are stated to have firmed up deals to ship out 30 lakh blaes this year, which are 70 per cent lower than a year earlier. The main reason for the fall is said to be the slump in purchases by China, the biggest importer of Indian cotton. India exported nearly 129 lakh bales, or 37 per cent of its production in 2011-12, as the world cotton prices touched record levels consequent to large purchases by China. However, China, it is stated, may cut down its imports by more than half in 2012-13.

Merchandise Exports Dropped Almost Two Per cent in December

India's merchandise exports dropped almost two per cent to 24.9 billion dollars in December, contracting for the eighth straight month, says a report. The main factor for the fall is attributed to the weak demand from US and Europe. Along with the fall in exports, the imports are stated to have risen 6.3 per cent to 42.5 billion dollars, widening the trade deficit to 17.7 billion dollars. However, Government is stated to believe that the pace of contraction will be slowing down in December, raising hopes of a rebound during the last quarter of the current financial year.

^{4/} China's ending stocks divided by China's mill use, multiplied by 100.

^{5/}U.S. Cents per pound

^{*} Average for the first five months of 2012/13 (August to December 2012).

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 January 2013						
	Growth Standard	Grade /GPT	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Strength	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15	9729 (34600)	9617 (34200)	9476 (33700)	9392 (33400)	9476 (33700)	
2	P/H/R	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	15	9870 (35100)	9758 (34700)	9617 (34200)	9533 (33900)	9617 (34200)	Н
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	20	7508 (26700)	7508 (26700)	7508 (26700)	7508 (26700)	7508 (26700)	
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 – 5.5	21	8183 (29100)	8183 (29100)	8183 (29100)	8183 (29100)	8267 (29400)	
5	M/M	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 – 5.5	23	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	0
6	P/H/R	ICS-202	Fine	26mm	3.5 – 4.9	26	9195 (32700)	9167 (32600)	9223 (32800)	9223 (32800)	9308 (33100)	
7	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 - 3.4	25	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	
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	9308 (33100)	9251 (32900)	9308 (33100)	9280 (33000)	9336 (33200)	L
10	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 - 3.4	26	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	
11	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	26	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	N.Q.	
12	P/H/R	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	9476 (33700)	9420 (33500)	9420 (33500)	9392 (33400)	9420 (33500)	I
13	M/M/A	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	9223 (32800)	9223 (32800)	9223 (32800)	9223 (32800)	9336 (33200)	
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	27	9392 (33400)	9364 (33300)	9364 (33300)	9364 (33300)	9420 (33500)	
15	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	9336 (33200)	9336 (33200)	9336 (33200)	9336 (33200)	9448 (33600)	D
16	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.5 – 4.9	28	9476 (33700)	9448 (33600)	9448 (33600)	9448 (33600)	9533 (33900)	
17	M/M/A/K	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.5 – 4.9	29	9448 (33600)	9448 (33600)	9448 (33600)	9448 (33600)	9533 (33900)	
18	M/M/A/K/T/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.5 – 4.9	30	9589 (34100)	9589 (34100)	9589 (34100)	9589 (34100)	9673 (34400)	A
19	K/A/T/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.9	31	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9842 (35000)	9926 (35300)	
20	M(P)/K/T	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	33	12654 (45000)	12654 (45000)	12654 (45000)	12654 (45000)	12654 (45000)	Y
(Note:Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)N.Q. = Not Quoted												