

TECHNICAL TUESDAYS

TOPIC: **Organic Cotton Textiles**

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What is Organic Cotton?

Organic cotton is generally understood as cotton grown without the use of any synthetic agricultural chemicals such as fertilizers or pesticides. Its production promotes and enhances biodiversity and biological cycles.

Cultivation Area of Organic Cotton:

Organic cotton is currently grown in many countries. The largest producers of organic cotton are Turkey, India and China. In Africa, it is grown in at least 8 countries and the earliest producer was the SEKEM organization in Egypt. Many farmers joined the organic revolution in Egyptian cotton growing and successfully convinced the Egyptian government to convert 400,000 hectares of conventional cotton production to integrated methods, achieving a 90% reduction in the use of synthetic pesticides, thereby increasing the productivity (yields) by 30%.

Few Textile Retailers Focusing on Organic Cotton:

H&M, Nike, Wal-mart

Advantages of Using Organic Cotton Textiles:

- No chemical pesticides are used
- Organic cotton farming produces far less CO₂ emissions - 1.5 tonnes of CO₂ per acre per year are removed from the atmosphere
- Organic cotton farming uses up to 60% less water as compared to conventional farming methods
- Pesticide or herbicide residues do not accidentally enter the environment
- Humans and animals are not exposed to chemical pesticides or herbicides
- When the fabric is discarded, pesticides or the herbicides do not enter the soil or enter into any recycling process
- One of the many advantages of using organic cotton is that it is comfortable to wear
- People with sensitive skin may not suffer from any allergic reactions owing to the use of this fabric
- It is easy on all types of skin. Highly recommended especially for children as their skin is comparatively delicate



The environment friendly cotton absorbs moisture from the body when worn and maintains the body temperature in extreme weather conditions.

Wishing you a great week ahead!

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