Prospects and Challenges of Organic Cotton in Bangladesh

Dr. Md. Fakhre Alam Ibne Tabib
Deputy Director
Cotton Development Board

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Cotton Development Board at a glance

- Established in 1972
- Line Ministry- Ministry of Agriculture
- CDB operates in
  - Extension programs
    - 4 region
    - 13 zones
    - 190 unit offices
  - Research programs
    - 5 research center
    - 3 sub-center
- Contact
  Executive Director, Cotton Development Board,
  Khamarbari 3rd building, 4th floor, Farmgate, Dhaka
  Telephone- + 880-2-9134778, 9118907
  Cell: +88-01711020798
  E-mail: ed@cdb.gov.bd, mfaridcdb@gmail.com
  Website: https://www.cdb.gov.bd
Major Activities of CDB

- Conduct research on cotton
- Provide extension services to the farmers
- Ensure distribution of quality cotton seeds
- Facilitates marketing and ginning activities
- Provide small credit to the farmers
- Human resources development on cotton
Cotton Production Status in BD

• Cotton species grown in BD-
  – *Gossypium hirsutum* (American upland)
  – *Gossypium arboreum* (Hill cotton)

• Cotton growing areas
  – 36 districts out of 64 districts

• Production potential
  – 2.0 million bales

• Current production
  – 0.16 million bales

• Priority areas
  – Saline prone areas
  – Drought prone areas
  – Charland areas
  – Hilly areas
  – Agroforestry areas

• Private ginning involve in cotton marketing - 20 nos
• Oil refinery - 1 no.
• Seed companies involve in cotton seed marketing-3 nos.
UPLAND COTTON-used for spinning
COMILLA COTTON/HILL COTTON
American upland Cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) growing area

Hill Cotton (*Gossypium arboreum*) Growing area

Cotton growing areas in Bangladesh
Why Organic Cotton

- Fibre for fabric, oil for human consumption and oil cake for dairy & fisharies
- Cotton crop alone consumes 25% of pesticide consumption in the world
- About 8000 chemicals involved in cotton farm to fabric (pesticide, insecticide, processing chemicals, dyes, auxiliaries)
- Pollutes environment (soil, water and air and harm to the stakeholders (health risk to farmers, producers and consumers, killing animals and plants)
Prospects and Potentials for Organic Cotton Production in BD

- Huge local demand
- Cotton varieties developed by CDB have potential for growing organic cultivation system
- Naturally colored cotton variety (khaki cotton)
- Availability of organic and bio fertilizer, botanic and biological pest management and other management practices-IPM, ICM, INMS
- Cotton growing areas are marginal and less chemical pollution-hilly areas, charland and barind areas
Cotton Cultivation in Barind Tracts
Cotton Cultivation in Charland areas
Cotton Cultivation in Hilly areas
Cotton Cultivation in Saline prone areas
Cotton Cultivation in Agroforestry
Government Policies to match Organic Production

• National Agricultural Policy focused on-
  • ensure sustainable and profitable agriculture
  • enhance Good Agricultural Practice
  • invention and development of Integrated Pest Management and Organic pesticides
  • encourage use of IPM and ICM in crop production to preserve ecology and natural resources

• National Agriculture Extension Policy concentrated to-
  • emphasis should given in organic agricultural production
  • extension of Good Agricultural Practices
  • expansion of organic pest management practices
  • production of safe food and agricultural products following IPM, ICM, IPNS
Government Policies to match Organic Production

• National IPM policy emphasise on-
  • enable farmers to grow healthy crops in a sustainable basis
  • improving environment and community health

• Seventh Five Year Plan includes-
  • promote use of environment friendly green technologies (IPM, INMS, AWD etc.) and climate smart resilient technologies
Good Agricultural Practice

- address environmental, economic and social sustainability for on-farm processes
- safe and quality food and non-food agricultural products
- four pillars of GAP includes-
  - economic viability,
  - environmental sustainability,
  - social acceptability and
  - food safety and quality
COTTON FIELD USING PHEROMONE TRAP AND PEARCING
COTTON FIELD USING MOLASSES TRAP
USING TRAP CROP FOR INSECT CONTROL IN COTTON FIELD
BENEFICIAL INSECTS
Challenges in Organic Cotton Production

• Low yield potential in organically grown cotton
• Land scarcity and Govt. attention for food production
• Unstable world market
• Lack of effective market communication and costly OC certification
• Lack of regular training, motivation, supports from promoters
COTTON GINNING & MARKETING
LOCAL SPINNING IN CHT USING G. arboreum COTTON
LOCAL HANDLOOM IN CHT USING G. arboreum COTTON
OIL EXTRACTION AND REFINERY
THANK YOU