# Verified from farm to product



## Organic by nature: certified by experts

OEKO-TEX® ORGANIC COTTON is a comprehensive, independent and objective testing and certification system for textile products made of organic cotton throughout the whole production chain. The certification offers verification from farm to product. Products bearing this label have been manufactured without the use of GMOs and tested for pesticides and other harmful substances. This greatly supports sustainability, soil health and regenerative farming as well as biodiversity.

#### The ORGANIC COTTON certification includes:



Qualitative and quantitative GMO (genetically modified organisms) testing



Product safety ensured through testing for pesticides and harmful substances



Reassurance through a verified chain of custody from farm to product

## What advantages does OEKO-TEX® ORGANIC COTTON offer?

#### ✓ Compliance:

OEKO-TEX® ORGANIC COTTON satisfies several global regulations, including the EU REACH directive, US CPSIA (lead) and the EU POP.

#### ✓ Consumer trust:

Benefit from a trusted and known brand with over 30 years market experience. Using the OEKO-TEX® Label Check, the certification can be verified at any time.

#### ✓ Modular System:

The testing costs for the finished product are waived if all the components have already been successfully tested according to ORGANIC COTTON. If OEKO-TEX® ECO PASSPORT certified chemicals are used, the test effort and therefore the costs can be reduced. In addition, ORGANIC COTTON creates a basis for OEKO-TEX® MADE IN GREEN. By certifying the relevant facilities according to OEKO-TEX® STEP, environmental and social criteria are covered.

#### ✓ Quality assurance:

All components of a product bearing the label have been laboratory tested against a list of over 1,000 harmful substances and fall within strict limit values. With our scientific method, a quantitative GMO test can differentiate deliberate contamination from mixing with conventional cotton or fibre fly.

#### ✓ Credibility:

The OEKO-TEX® ORGANIC COTTON certification starts at farm level, where the cotton is certified as organic according to one of the IFOAM Family of Standards. The organic cotton is then tracked throughout the supply chain until the ready-made textile article by a chain of custody mechanism. Thanks to the organizational structure of our association all our testing institutes share a centralized database for transactions. This centralized approach contributes to increased trust and prevents fraud.

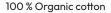
# ORGANIC COTTON Requirements

- Farms are certified according to one of the IFOAM Family of Standards
- The full chain of custody must be traceable with OEKO-TEX® transaction certificates
- Successful quality audit in your company by an OEKO-TEX® institute every year
- Mixtures of organic and conventional cotton are not accepted

All components of the article to be certified must comply with the conditions, test criteria and limit values of the standard.

Two types of certification are available depending on the percentage of organic cotton:







Minimum 70 % Organic cotton

Mixtures of organic and conventional cotton are forbidden.

## For effective protection: 4 product classes

The OEKO-TEX® ORGANIC COTTON laboratory tests for harmful substances are based on the intended use of the textiles and materials. Stricter human ecology requirements must be met, the more intensive the skin contact and the more sensitive the skin is.

#### **Product Class 1**

This includes products for babies and children up to 3 years such as diapers and has the strictest requirements and limit values.

#### **Product Class 2**

This includes products with direct skin contact such as bed linen.

#### **Product Class 3**

This includes products without direct skin contact such as jackets.

#### **Product Class 4**

This includes home textiles and other decoration materials such as tablecloths.



#### Get certified



#### 1. Application

Complete the application form and submit a material sample



#### 5. Results

Evaluation of results and transaction certificate



#### 2. Verification

The application and the material sample get verified



#### 6. On-site visit

Inspection and assessment of your facility



#### 3. Chain of custody verification

Transaction certificate and supply chain analysis



#### 7. Certificate

Issue of certificate for one year



#### 4. Definition & analytics

Definition of test and measurement criteria, development of an individual measurement plan, testing of the material sample

### Official OEKO-TEX® ORGANIC COTTON labels can include the following elements:



## Questions?

Learn more about all our OEKO-TEX® products at oeko-tex.com



www.oeko-tex.com



