



Factsheet

Organic cotton in OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100

Testing of organic cotton products for genetically modified organisms (GMO)

OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 certification includes a GMO check for cotton and cotton products. We not only offer a qualitative test with a yes/no answer about the presence of genetically modified cotton, but also a quantitative test, where we have a limit value of 5% which allows us to distinguish between contamination and fraud.

Product description

The GMO test in OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100 is mandatory if you want “Organic Cotton” to be included in the scope of your STANDARD 100 certificate. Organic cotton must be certified separately from other cotton. The GMO test is optional for all other certifications in accordance with OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100. The test is performed in two steps:

1. The sample is shredded and the cotton fibers are mechanically and enzymatically digested. The genetic material (DNA) is isolated from the fiber and purified in a multi-stage process.
2. If the DNA contains specific marker genes, it is classified as a genetic modification. These genes can be identified on a molecular biological level. Control reactions are used to prove that the cotton DNA is unmodified and exclude false-negative results.

The compelling benefits

- Molecular-biological verification systems have been specially optimized for cotton products.
- Reliable GMO testing results help you to minimize the various risks along your supply chain, including:
 - Mixing of conventional and organic seeds
 - Contamination from neighbouring cultivation areas
 - Contamination from internal processing methods
 - Incomplete traceability of the organic cotton
 - With the quantitative test, it is now possible to distinguish between contamination and intentional use of GMO.



Your path to GMO-tested cotton products

1. Register for STANDARD 100 at www.oeko-tex.com to receive access to the myOEKO-TEX® platform.
2. Send a representative sample of the material and all required documents to your OEKO-TEX® institute.
3. The institute will examine your products and review all documents.
4. After successful laboratory tests and provision of all necessary documents, you will receive the certificate and a detailed test report.

Validity

The STANDARD 100 certificate is valid for 1 year.