

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## **Pakistan**

### **Cotton and Products Update**

### **Cotton and Products Update 2018**

**Approved By:**

Casey Bean

**Prepared By:**

FAS Islamabad staff

**Report Highlights:**

Based on current market arrivals, Pakistan's 2018/19 cotton production is estimated at 7.8 million 480 lb bales, down eight percent from the previous estimate and five percent from the last year's production level mainly due to area reductions. Uncertain conditions in domestic and international markets, coupled with pest infestations, also affected cotton production. The shortfall in domestic supplies will be bridged through imports, with 2018/19 imports forecast at 3 million 480 lb bales.

**Post:**  
Islamabad

**Cotton Production Expected Lower:**

MY 2018/19 (Aug/Jul) cotton production is now expected to be 7.8 million 480 lb bales, down 8 percent from the previous estimate and 5 percent from the last year’s production level. This production estimate is derived from the 75 percent of the cotton crop already harvested and delivered to ginneries. The shortfall in production is mainly due to an 11 percent reduction in area compared with last year’s cultivation. Shortages in irrigation supplies during the cotton-planting season, especially in Sindh province, adversely affected cotton plantings. The industry also dealt with pest infestations from Cotton Leaf Curl Virus (CLCV) and pink bollworms not effectively controlled by pesticides. Uncertain conditions in the international and domestic markets also affected farmer investment decisions on agronomic and pest control measures. The Cotton Crop Assessment Committee (CCAC), on September 12, 2018, assessed cotton production at 10.8 million 170 kg bales (8.4 million 480 lb bales), but there is strong industry consensus that the final production estimate will be lower given the pace of arrivals recorded by the Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association (PCGA). The PCGA, in its November 18 report, showed arrivals at 8.67 million bales of 155 kg (equivalent to 6.2 million bales of 480 lb bales), down seven percent from the corresponding period of the previous year.

**Significant Quantity of Cotton Imports Will Continue:**

MY 2017/18 imports are estimated at 3.3 million 480 lb bales based on official Pakistani import data and export data from major suppliers. During MY 2018/19 shortages in domestic supplies will be augmented through imports expected at 3 million 480 lb bales. Pakistan will continue to import better grades of cotton from the United States and other reliable sources to produce quality products for the export markets.

**Table 1: Production, Supply and Demand Data Statistics:**

Cotton Market Begin Year	2016/2017		2017/2018		2018/2019	
	Aug 2016		Aug 2017		Aug 2018	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Pakistan						
Area Planted	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area Harvested	2500	2400	2700	2600	2400	2400
Beginning Stocks	2615	2615	2315	2265	2830	2770
Production	7700	7700	8200	8200	8000	7800
Imports	2450	2400	3300	3300	2600	3000
MY Imports from U.S.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply	12765	12715	13815	13765	13430	13570
Exports	125	125	160	170	150	150

<b>Use</b>	10300	10300	10800	10800	10800	10850
<b>Loss</b>	25	25	25	25	25	25
<b>Total Dom. Cons.</b>	10325	10325	10825	10825	10825	10875
<b>Ending Stocks</b>	2315	2265	2830	2770	2455	2545
<b>Total Distribution</b>	12765	12715	13815	13765	13430	13570
<b>Stock to Use %</b>	22.21	21.73	25.82	25.25	22.42	23.14
<b>Yield</b>	671	699	661	687	726	708
(1000 HA) ,1000 480 lb. Bales ,(PERCENT) ,(KG/HA)						