



Sudan has planted insect resistant Bt cotton since 2012; and rate of adoption in 2017 remained high at 98%.

The introduction of Bt cotton in Sudan enhanced cotton productivity and restored cotton as a main cash crop and a major contributor to the country's economy.

Sudan's first biotech crop is the insect resistant (IR) Bt cotton, a single variety under the trade name Seeni1. Continuous research over the last five years resulted in approval of two new IR hybrids in 2015.



In 2017, Sudan planted a total of 192,000 hectares of IR cotton in 2017, an impressive 59% increase from the 2016 area equivalent to 71,400 hectares increase.

In just six years, Sudan has recorded a 98% adoption rate of IR cotton; few farmers grow non-IR cotton.

Two hybrids from India - Hindi 1 released for the irrigated region and Hindi 2 for rainfed areas - have recorded an impressive yield 2-3 times that of local varieties.

In Sudan, seeds are provided by the public and private sectors. The technology comes from two companies: the Chinese Center and JK Agri-Genetics of India through the local company Elaeena. Seeds are produced annually in irrigated schemes for open pollinated varieties, while Elaeena distributes hybrid seeds required by farmers and different companies.

A change has been implemented in the cotton financing policy in Sudan. The Government has

transferred the task more to the private sector, resulting in the emergence of local markets and local companies introducing ginneries and cotton seed oil extraction factories.

SOURCE

ISAAA. 2017. Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops in 2017: Biotech Crop Adoption Surges as Economic Benefits Accumulate in 22 Years. *ISAAA Brief* No. 53. ISAAA: Ithaca, New York.

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