



BIOTECH CROP ANNUAL UPDATES

Cotton

The area planted to biotech in 2015 was 24 million hectares, down from the 25.1 million hectares grown in 2014.

Based on a global hectareage of 32 million hectares, 75% or 24 million hectares were biotech cotton, and grown in 15 countries of the 28 biotech crop countries worldwide.

Four of the 15 countries that grew biotech cotton in 2015 planted more than 1 million hectares. They are, in descending order of hectareage: India (11.6 million hectares), China (3.6 million hectares), USA (3.4 million hectares), and Pakistan (2.9 million hectares).

Another 11 countries grew biotech cotton in 2015, including Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Myanmar, Paraguay, South Africa, and Sudan.

India planted the largest area to biotech cotton at 11.6 million hectares due to significant gains in production, economic,



environmental, health, and social benefits.

Burkina Faso which grew 454,124 hectares in 2014, decreased its planting to 350,000 hectares in 2015.

Australia planted 214,000 hectares of biotech cotton in 2015 after a peak hectareage of almost 600,000 hectares in 2011.

BENEFITS FROM BIOTECH COTTON

The increase in income benefits for farmers growing biotech cotton during the 19-year period 1996 to 2014 was US\$46.5 billion, and US\$4.1 billion for 2014 alone.

SOURCES

James, Clive. 2015. 20th Anniversary (1996 to 2015) of the Global Commercialization of Biotech Crops and Biotech Crop Highlights in 2015. ISAAA Brief No. 51. ISAAA: Ithaca, New York. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. <http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/>
The World Bank. <http://www.worldbank.org/>

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