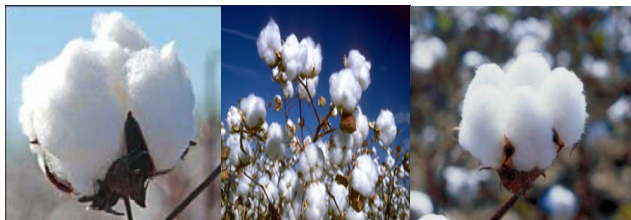




VENTURA COMMODITIES PVT. LTD.

COTTON – THE WHITE GOLD



INTRODUCTION

Cotton is an important fibre yielding crop of global importance, which is grown in tropical and subtropical regions of more than 80 countries the world over. Cotton refers to those species of the genus *Gossypium* which bear spinnable seed coat fibres whereas raw cotton is referred to as kapas. Cotton seed bears two types of fibres viz, long fibres known as lint which can be separated from the seed by the process of ginning; and short fibres known as fuzz or linters which remain on the seed even after ginning. The lint is used for spinning purpose. Thus those species of *Gossypium* which possess lint that can be spun into fine yarn are referred to as cotton.

CULTIVATION, PLANTING & HARVESTING

Based on **cotton cultivation**, India is divided into three major zones viz. north zone (Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan), central zone (Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat) and south zone (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu). These zones differ from each other in soil type, topography, irrigation facilities, species cultivated etc.



- In irrigated areas of Northern zone cotton plantings is from mid-April till last week of May.
- In Central zone and Southern zones planting is taken up in June-July depending on onset of monsoon and continue till August.
- In Tamil Nadu (Southern zone) planting for summer crop is taken up in Jan/Feb and for winter in June-July.

Harvesting period is mainly from October to February. However, zone-wise harvesting period is as per details given below:

- Northern zone : September-December,
- Central zone : October to February,
- Southern zone : October to February
- Summer crop in Tamil Nadu & Karnataka : May to July