

Tradition and Innovation

The production of top quality fine-count combed cotton yarns is a specialty of Hermann Bühler AG since several generations. Our customers are very fond of product quality and service.

The innovative product „SwissCotton Organic®“, a combed cotton yarn made from organic Supima®-cotton, meets very high standards with respect to yarn quality and product ecology.

Organically grown cotton

The main target of organic agriculture is to maintain a fertile soil and to prevent the contamination of ground, water, air and the ready made textile with agro-chemicals. To reach this goal, the cotton used in our product is grown according to the guidelines about organic agriculture from the European Community (EU regulation (EEC) no 2092/91). The compliance with these standards is controlled by an independent organization (*Skal International*).

According to the abovementioned guidelines, no chemical fertilizers are used. The soil fertility is supported by manure and compost, but also cover crops are seeded in crop rotation with cotton. To prevent pests and other plant diseases, only resistant cotton seeds are planted. In addition, beneficial bugs are used for pest control. As agro-chemicals are not used, the growth of these natural anti-pest bugs is supported. Weeds are controlled by mechanical procedures.

Other than the above mentioned pest- and weed control measures are only allowed if necessary. But the list of permitted aids is very restrictive and these aids have to meet the standards of organic agriculture.

The usage of chemical substances for defoliation is not permitted. Early frosts in the growing areas support the defoliation which is necessary for mechanical harvesting.

Genetically modified seeds may not be used in organic agriculture.

Web-links to *Control Union World Group*, the parent organization of *Skal International* and a download of the EC-regulations on organic production can be found at www.buhler yarn.com in section *Products/SwissCotton Organic*.

Quality and Ecology are guaranteed

In order to guarantee an environmentally sound production method, the spinning-mill and the raw cotton used are strictly controlled by *Skal International* and the approved yarns are to bear the EKO quality label. This label is registered and the buyer has the proof, that the raw cotton used is grown according to the requirements of the European Community regarding organic production methods. The production process meets the *Skal* criteria for environment-friendly textile production.

Despite an environment-friendly production, the yarn quality meets the highest quality standards, which result in best yarn performance in weaving, knitting and warp-knitting. Low numbers of imperfections, evenness and hairiness enable the production of high class fabrics. Our foreign fiber clearers reduce the risk of foreign fiber contamination and second quality fabrics further.

Ecology and Economy

The requirements for environment-friendly produced products are well known: Guaranteed organic production methods are as important as fashionable design and fabric quality.

With “SwissCotton Organic®”, these requirements can be met:

- ***The EKO quality label guarantees sustainability in cotton cultivation and spinning process.***
- ***Long-term contracts with our farmers guarantee that the farmland can be cultivated organically on a continuous basis.***
- ***As no agro-chemicals are used, the finished products do not contain any dangerous chemical residues.***
- ***As no fossil fuels are used, Hermann Bühler AG’s production is CO²-neutral to a large extent. Some electricity is produced in Bühler’s own small hydroelectric power plants.
The spinning mill is certified according to Oeko-Tex Standard 1000.***
- ***Best yarn performance in fabric production stands for efficient and low-cost production.***
- ***Exclusive Supima®-cotton allows top yarn quality and the production of excellent fabrics, made from fine-count yarns (Ne 30 up to Ne 95).***