



## Organic Cotton Circular 3/06

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Dear readers,

the Organic Cotton Circular's third edition as usual addresses the issue of organic cotton. Bulk consumers play an important role to further strengthen the organic cotton market. Switzerland once again presents itself as a precursor and supports the development of courses of action through a conference. But also for final consumers, the service how to find organic cotton clothing has been improved. The newsletter likewise will provide background information for experts of the textile chain, such as a current study on the situation of cotton production in West-Africa, as well as a organic cotton workbook up to the opportunity to present one's company or organisation in a compendium.

In this email you'll find summaries of the articles of this newsletter issue. Follow the "more" to the full texts. We hope you appreciate the content of the newsletter as interesting and useful.

Yours sincerely,

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In this email you find the summaries. Follow the "more" to the full texts. This issue is available as pdf-file in [English](#), [German](#) and [French](#). If you do NOT wish to receive the Organic Cotton Circular any more, you may [unsubscribe](#) here.

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## News in details

### 1. Organic cotton uniforms – Zurich’s city police as innovative precursor

Since recently, private and public bulk buyers have been in the focus of efforts that promote sustainable produced textiles. The city police of Zurich, in cooperation with Helvetas and representatives from the textile supply chain, appears as an innovative pioneer by successfully initiating a pilot project to purchase organic cotton police shirts. The project has exemplary character for further initiatives ready to embark.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=431>

### 2. Living with poisons – new PAN UK report released

PAN UK recently presented a new report titled “Living with Poison – Problems of endosulfan in West African cotton”. The authors investigate the impacts of the insecticide endosulfan for West African cotton farmers. In Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali and Senegal poisoning surveys were conducted and based on the results of these surveys, a picture of the living conditions of small-scale farmers is drawn. Conclusions and recommendations are calling for governmental support of alternatives to pesticide use.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=432>

### **3. Organic Exchange is offering a online organic cotton workbook**

The international organisation Organic Exchange is offering a new workbook titled "Sowing the Seeds of Change: Weaving Innovation and Integrity into Organic Agriculture". The workbook is the first of a continuous series and it is available at the Organic Exchange webpage.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=433>

### **4. Certification process for Global Organic Textile Standard started**

Since beginning of October, the Institute for Marketecology (IMO) is officially approved as first certification body by the International Working Group on Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and offers certification according to this standard.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=434>

### **5. Swiss Award for Business Ethics for Remei AG and Coop Switzerland**

End of October 2006, Remei AG and Coop Switzerland were honoured by the TQM Forum Switzerland (Total Quality Management Forum), which the second time presented the Swiss Award for Business Ethics to companies and organisations with high performance in social and ecological quality and ethical business practices.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=435>

### **6. Your chance to participate in the TEX Compendium**

The publishing company Agrimedia together with Katharina Schaus are compiling a high quality guide book about the sustainable textile industry. Titel of the guide book is "TEX Compendium - Actors, Facts and Innovation in the Sustainable Textile Industry".

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=436>

### **7. Find organic cotton the easy way - new online directory for British consumers**

PAN UK is offering a new service for British consumers looking for clothing made with organic cotton. At PAN UK's cotton project webpage [www.WearOrganic.org](http://www.WearOrganic.org) there is a new online directory which helps to find organic cotton the easy way.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=437>

### **8. Conference about textiles in public purchase - Take off for sustainable textile products?**

Besides private consumers there are also other target groups for fostering the market share of organic cotton textiles. Public purchase and large-scale consumers have recently come into the focus of Swiss organic cotton actors. Together with several other organizations Helvetas is organising a first conference titled "Ökologische und soziale Textilienbeschaffung - Grossverbraucher setzen Akzente" on November, 30 in Zurich.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=438>

### **9. Farmers and fashion - from harvest to high street: PAN UK Rachel Carson Memorial Lecture 2006**

Dr. Camilla Toulmin, director of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) will give a lecture on how British consumers can support African cotton farmers on 5 December at the Royal Society of the Arts in London.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=439>

## 10. Organic Exchange Annual Meeting in the Netherlands

More than 350 participants from 47 countries attended the fourth Organic Exchange annual conference which took place in September in Utrecht, the Netherlands.

<http://pan-germany.org/newsletter/deu/news.html?id=440>

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