

# Condition and Prospects of Development Of Ginning Industry of Uzbekistan

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Successfulness of economic reforms in Uzbekistan at a great extent depends on efficient development of agricultural sector of economy, where traditionally the priority role belongs to cotton-growing, production of which forms significant share of the Republic's export. It is generally known that the Republic of Uzbekistan has a significant position in the world regarding both cotton fiber production and its export.

The important element, which provide efficiency for cotton-growing is ginning branch of industry, which consists of gin network, store-up centers with corresponding infrastructure.

Basic functions of ginning branch enterprises are take-over of raw cotton from cotton seeding enterprises, mainly from farms, its proper storage, qualitative processing of raw material, production of cotton goods meeting the requirement of cotton market and shipment of them to consumers through cotton terminals, as well as preparation of qualitative seed fund of cotton.

Technology of raw cotton store-up applied in the Republic significantly differs from analogous technologies in other countries and consists in that cotton from farmers is accepted to specialized store-up points of gins and is stored on special grounds in the form of bundles with the volume of 350 – 400 tons each, in which cotton is stored until processing.

In this process all handling operations with cotton are mechanized.

To provide safety of cotton the method of bundle ventilation is actively used and the system of permanent control of raw cotton condition is applied by gin's laboratory.

Technology of raw cotton processing is mainly analogous to those used in other cotton - producing countries and consists of processes of its drying, decontamination, ginning and cleaning of cotton fiber with its pressing into bales of 210 – 220 kg weight, then stocking in storage places until realization (gins, cotton terminal).

It is noticeable that all technological and auxiliary equipment (excluding presses) – dryers, raw cotton cleaners, gins, fiber cleaners, linters, ventilators, cyclones and others are manufactured by domestic machine building plants («Uzpahtamash» public corporation, «Toshmetall» public corporation and others).

In accordance with the Republic's course on further demonopolization and privatization of the branch, starting from 2001 basic functions on store-up, processing of raw cotton, realization of cotton products and conduct of mutual settlements with cotton producers (shirkats (agricultural unions) and farmers) are delivered to «Hlopkoprom» regional joint-stock unions and to gins being their members.

Gins, in their turn, are also joint-stock companies, control packets of which are delivered to regional joint-stock unions to be administered.

For all that, the role of Association established by regional unions means to provide practical assistance to branch enterprises in technical and technological re-equipment, introduction of new techniques and technologies, monitoring of their activity efficiency on

all phases of technological process starting from raw cotton store-up and cotton fiber production to its shipment to consumers as well as professional training.

With the purpose of maintaining of high rating of Uzbek cotton and strengthening of its positions in the world, purposeful work on improvement of classification system of raw cotton and cotton products was performed in the sector jointly with «Sifat» Uzbek Center and «Pahta tozalash» sectoral scientific and research association, with the revision of all acting standards considering requirements of cotton market.

For recent years at the enterprises' own expenses and through banking loans more than 50 enterprises are reconstructed, 17 gins are relocated outside urban area and moved to raw material base near area, which allowed to improve ecological conditions in towns, to reduce transportation costs for carriage of raw cotton and production price.

At the same time, basic emphasis was done for introduction of flexible technological processes providing «sparing» processing of raw cotton considering its original characteristics, with minimal losses of raw materials and energy consumption.

Replacement of old 80 – saw gins for 130 – saw ones with automatic protection of electric motors from overcharge was on. Also new conveyor lines of raw cotton cleaning were set, with increased cleansing effect, modernized linters and up-to-date hydro pumps for press shops.

New highly efficient thermo generators for raw cotton dryers are being introduced, as well as automotive systems for cotton products (fiber, seeds) weighing during technological process.

In accordance with the Program of the branch modernization for 2005 – 2010 period it is stipulated to continue reconstruction of at least 40 enterprises with relocation of some of them outside urban area in Kashkadaria, Surkhandaria, Ferghana, Samarkand and Navoi provinces.

As a result of the Program realization it will be possible, considering reduction of raw material losses and more efficient cotton cleaning, to increase fiber output for 0,5 – 1,0 %, its quality for 1 – 2 grades and to reduce production price for at least 10 – 20 %.

Significant contribution to increase of Uzbek cotton rating and improvement of environment for and providing of goods to buyers and, first of all, to foreign companies was the introduction of certification system with per-bale assessment of fiber quality in regional laboratories of «Sifat» Uzbek Center as well as organization in the Republic a network of cotton terminals under the authority of the Agency for Foreign Economic Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

As a result of creation of cotton terminal the mechanism of cotton fiber shipment was significantly simplified, access of buyers and its sale were facilitated, first of all, for export, as all concerned institutions are represented on terminals, («Sifat» Uzbek Center, customs, quarantine service, railway) and there are opportunities to solve operatively all arising problems.

As a result it could be possible to reduce significantly period of production selling and minimize disagreements regarding quality and quantity, which would be settled on the spot.

Besides, more favorable conditions are created for selling of cotton fiber to intra-republic customers, who purchase it through Uzbek Commodity Exchange.

In current year it is stipulated to sell certain volumes of cotton fiber to exportation through the exchange monetary area for creation of competitive environment.

Important role in cotton market penetration belongs to correct assortment of high rating selection grades of cotton and to the quality of preparation of seed fund.

Ministry of Agriculture and Water Supply of the Republic jointly with selectionists, processors, «Sifat» Uzbek Center and other concerned organizations performs systematic work on creation of new selection grades and removing from zoning of underproductive and reduction of quantity of similar grades. Along with it there is a limit for quantity of grades being planted in the region (not more than 2) and in cotton seeding enterprises (not more than 1).

Significant impulse in development of cotton seed-farming was the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated 23.12.2004, № 604, considering provisions of which the Program of modernization of seeding material preparation plants of specialized gins was elaborated for 2005 – 2006 period.

According to the Program, preparation of cotton seeding fund will be centered in corresponding plants in 31 gins being equipped by modern grading-calibrating equipment and by complexes for sowing seeds treatment, which protects crops from diseases and plant pests during initial period of their growth.

To increase efficiency of sowing seeds preparation it is stipulated to purchase part of equipment for the plants through import, and for this purpose tender was held, results of which are now being assessed by corresponding commission.

Location of the said plant has already defined, project works and manufacturing of domestic technological equipment have been commenced.

Setting into operation of first plants is stipulated starting from October of current year.

Centralization of seed fund preparation using up-to-date equipment will allow to organize effective and proper control over its quality and to provide output of seed material of the highest conditions, with germinating capacity of more than 95 % while observing all ecological requirements to their production.

Realization in the near future of the whole complex of works on modernization of ginning sector, including sphere of cotton seed fund preparation, certification of production will allow to meet totally the requirements of buyers of cotton fiber and significantly increase contribution of cotton complex into economy of the Republic.