



Overcoming Challenges for Development of Organic Cotton

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What Does it take to be Organic

- ▶ Organic production involves usage of:
 - Resistant varieties against both abiotic and biotic factors
 - Organic manure
 - Crop rotation including legumes
 - Crop traps
 - Pheromones
 - Bio-pesticides including botanicals
 - Bio-fertilizers
 - Natural dyes



Why Go Organic

- ▶ Assured market
- ▶ Premium price
- ▶ Well elaborate provision of extension service
- ▶ Creates a natural environment that supports numerous plants and animal life
- ▶ Uses less water as usage of organic manure improves soil water retention capacity
- ▶ 46% fewer greenhouse gas emission
- ▶ Water quality is improved as major pollutants are not in use
- ▶ Improved air quality hence reduce respiratory problems



Challenges facing Organic Cotton Production

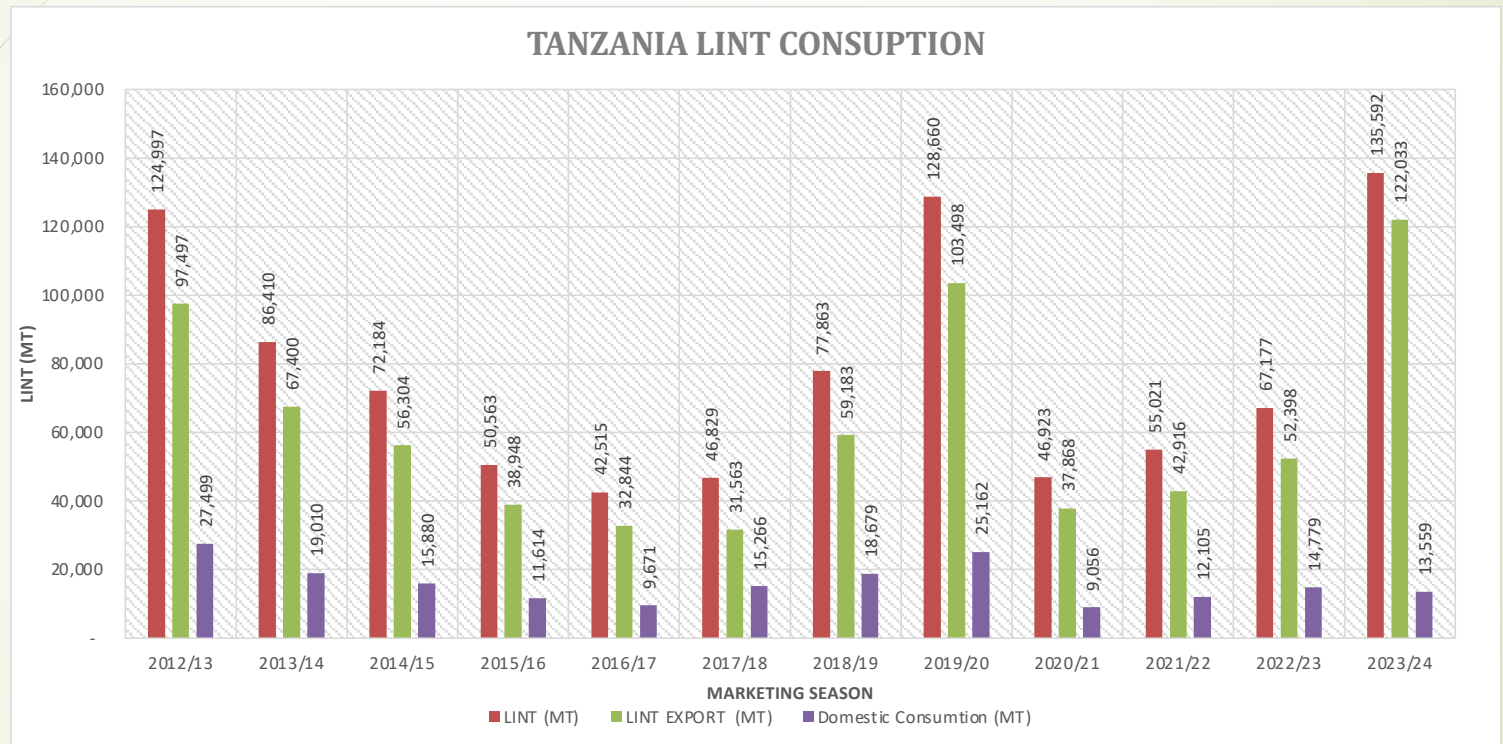
- ▶ Low yields
- ▶ Higher costs including certification
- ▶ Availability of organic cotton seeds in some countries
- ▶ Limited Knowledge on the Organic Doctrine and principals by Extension Officers and Farmers
- ▶ Inadequate research on bio-pesticides efficacy to diversify their supply
- ▶ Limited availability in the market (1% of world market production)
- ▶ Historical unstable organic market



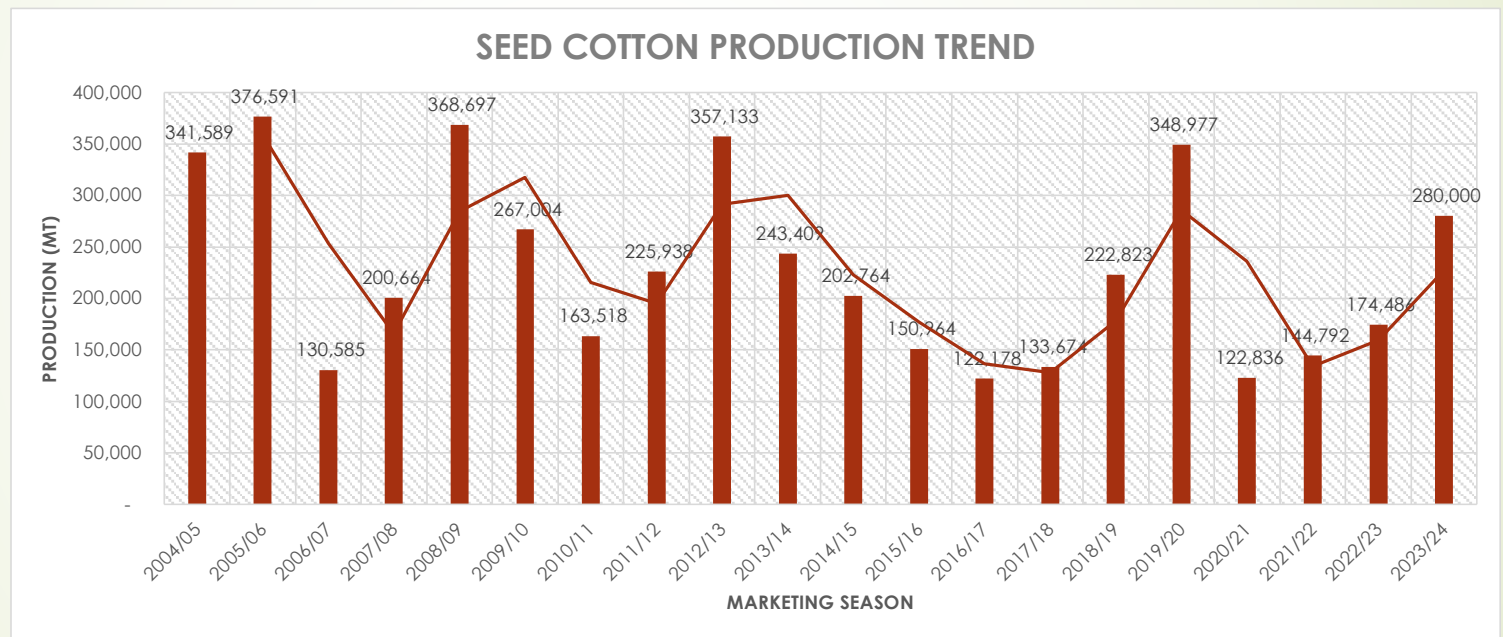
Cotton Production in Tanzania

- ▶ Cotton in Tanzania is a lifeline of over 600,000 smallholder farmers. The crop is grown in 17 regions out of 26 of Tanzania mainland. A total of 400,000 hectares are put under cotton every year. The acreage fluctuate depending on: price paid to farmers the preceding year, supply of inputs and weather pattern. Farm size ranges between 0.5 and 5 hectares. The crop is 100 percent rainfed.
- ▶ Tanzania has an over ginning capacity where 45 ginneries are operational out of 88. 1.2 million tons can be ginned within a period of 6 months. 30 companies are involved in cotton business.

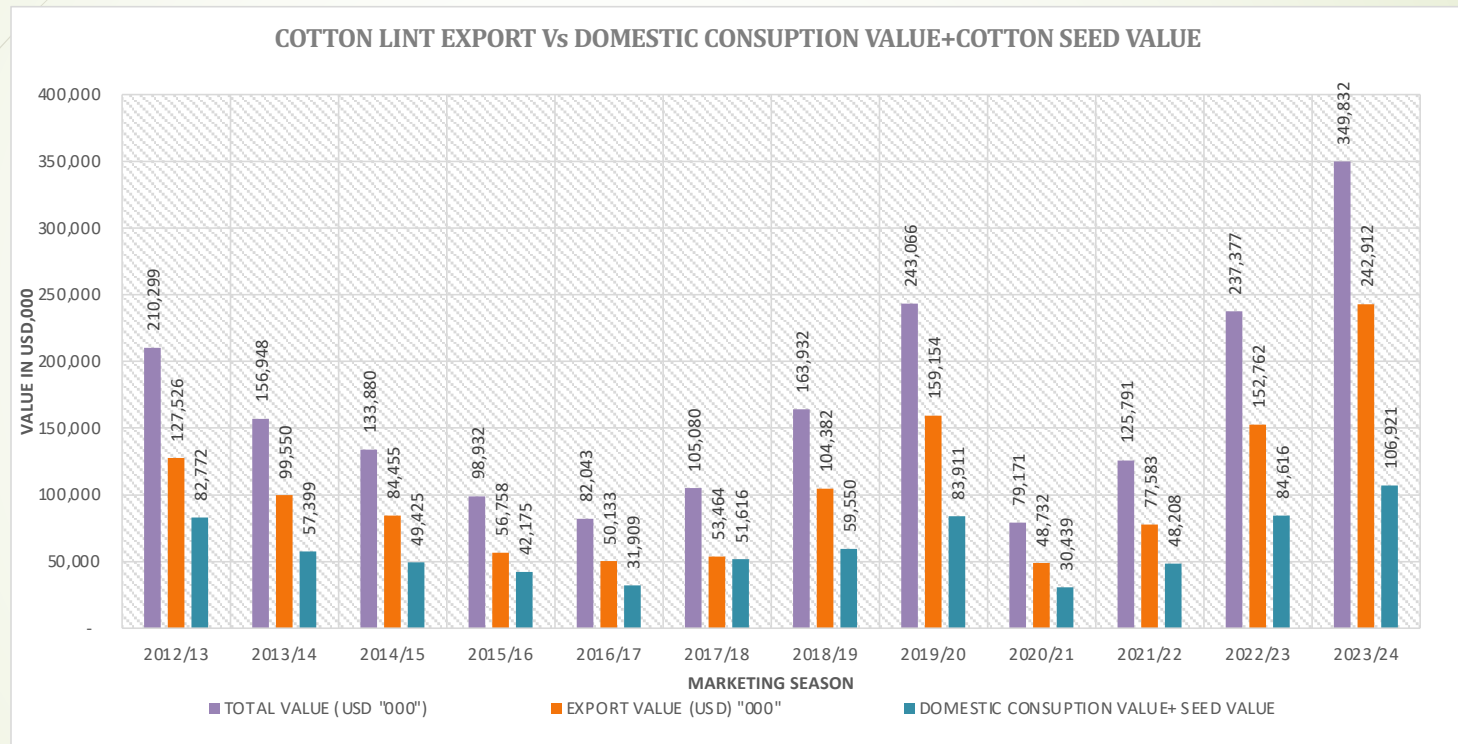
Cotton Internal Consumption



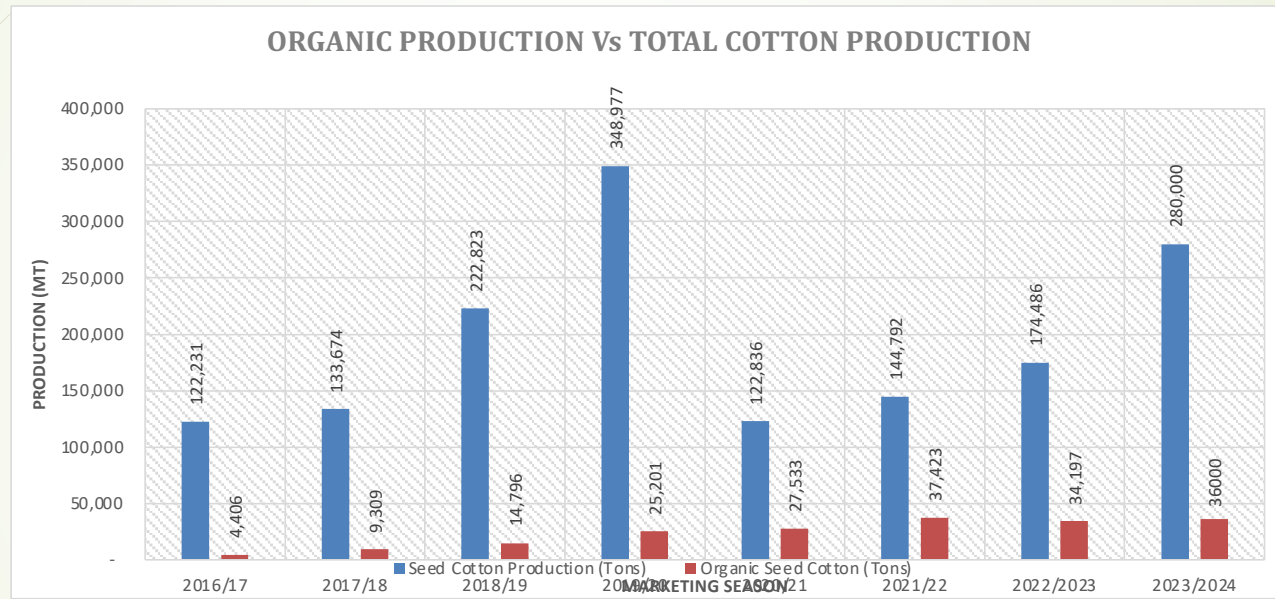
Cotton Production



Cotton Contribution to the Economy



Organic Cotton Production



Organic Cotton...2022/2023...

| COMPANY NAME | NUMBER OF FARMERS REGISTERED | ACREAGE | NUMBER OF EXTENSION OFFICERS EMPLOYED | NUMBER OF LEAD FARMERS ENGAGED | MOTORCYCLES BOUGHT | BYCYCLES BOUGHT AND DISTRIBUTED |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Birchand Oil Mill | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Lugeye Investment Co. Ltd | 4123 | 4800 | 11 | 70 | 11 | 30 |
| S.M Holdings | 5559 | 92905 | 4 | 33 | 4 | 0 |
| 4C Protrade | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Alliance Ginneries Ltd | 10240 | 25538 | 27 | 255 | 26 | 55 |
| Biosustain Tanzania Ltd | 10,696 | 40,246 | 26 | 106 | 21 | 106 |
| Remei Tanzania Ltd | 2222 | 53114 | 39 | 32 | 25 | 32 |
| Afrisian Ginning Ltd | 1226 | 7009 | 12 | 77 | 12 | 49 |
| | 73,830 | 349,457 | 176 | 1,000 | 134 | 488 |

Organic Cotton.....



Organic Cotton...



Organic Cotton....





The Way Forward

- Proper training of farmers will improve soil fertility, water retention and boll retention resulting into higher yields
- The need to intensify research on bio-pesticides aimed at diversifying availability and lowering cost
- Consistent investment in Internal control System. Rigorous control system will ensure traceability and provide assurance to the market.
- The imperative to lower certification cost to facilitate entry of new players
- The need to develop independent research and seed multiplication system for organic
- The imperative for brands and retailers to directly engage with producers where market assurance will in turn attract more farmers to go organic
- The need to continuously engage conscious consumers to stimulate demand