**ORGANIC TEXTILES, PART OF THE SOLUTION**

**Cotton production accounts for:**
- 16.1% of the world’s insecticide use (more than any other crop!) and 5.7% of the world’s pesticides use
- 8.2 million tonnes of chemicals

**Textiles industry accounts for:**
- 3 billion tonnes CO2/year
- 1,000 kg of textiles: 15–35 tonnes CO2
- 6.7% global greenhouse gas emissions
- And harmful impacts on biodiversity, water quality & human health

**Organic cotton, part of the solution**
- Uses no hazardous pesticides & fertilisers
- 40-46% less global warming potential
- 62% less energy
- 70% less acidification
- 90% less water used
- 26% less eutrophication

**Organic cotton: an expanding market**
- 2018-2019
  - 222,213 farmers grew 239,787 tonnes on 418,935 hectares in 19 countries
- 2019-2020
  - 229,280 farmers grew 249,153 tonnes on 588,425 hectares in 21 countries

**Consumers want to act** but false claims and greenwashing can be confusing
- 60% green claims in textile sector are exaggerated, false or deceptive

**EU consumers care** about environmental and labour conditions
- 82% think there is not enough information on environmental impacts
- 86% wants labels on clothes with indications about environmental and labour conditions

**Organic textiles**
- Ensure high environmental and social standards
- Prevent greenwashing
- Give consumers a clear environmental choice
- Protect organic producers

**EU policymakers can help**
- Protect the use of the term “organic” in the same way as it is for the food chain
- Amend the 2011 EU Textile Regulation to recognise already-existing organic standards

Read more & sources:

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