

U.S. COTTON TRUST PROTOCOL

Setting
a new
standard in
sustainable
cotton
production

The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol is the voluntary sustainability program for U.S. cotton growers, and traceability platform for all U.S. Cotton.

The Trust Protocol is the only system that provides quantifiable, verifiable goals and measurement and drives continuous improvement in six key sustainability metrics - land use, soil carbon, water management, soil loss, greenhouse gas emissions, and energy efficiency. The program is the world's first sustainable cotton fiber program to offer article-level supply chain transparency to all members.

It was created where the core values focus on U.S. cotton's legacy of authenticity, innovation and excellence, environmental stewardship, caring of people, and personal and corporate integrity, as well as a Theory of Change that is grounded in science-based measurement and feedback.

The program was built upon three key pillars:



Verified data – measurement in six key sustainability metrics



Article-level supply chain transparency for all members



Continuous improvement remaining central to U.S. cotton production

The Trust Protocol is aligned with the U.S. 2025 National Goals for Continuous Improvement and understands that a focus on innovation and technology is vital.



OUR PROGRESS TO DATE

The Trust Protocol has already welcomed **over 40 companies and their brands** as well as **2,000 mill and manufacturer members**.

Gap Inc.



J.CREW

NEXT

TESCO

Our mill and manufacturer members are from global regions and countries including:

Pakistan

Indonesia

Latin America

Bangladesh

Vietnam

Taiwan

India

Turkey

The United States

China

Korea

Western Europe

Thailand

Japan

Grower participation in the program has increased for the fourth year with 1.7 million planted cotton acres enrolled and continues to see members from **all 17 cotton producing states**.

The program has also been recognized and published in the **ITC Standards Map** and been approved as a standard for sustainable cotton by the **Partnership for Sustainable Textiles** and as an **ISEAL Community Member** all within the first 18 months after launch.

The Trust Protocol is aligned with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals, recognized by Textile Exchange and Forum for the Future, and part of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition and Cotton 2025 Sustainable Cotton Challenge**. It is also aligned with the **G7 Fashion Pact** and **UNFCCC Fashion Industry Charter**.

Learn more at: trustUScotton.org

