BCI External Assessment Reporting Template

2019-20

For use with v2.1 of the Better Cotton P&C

Medium Farms

# Introduction

This reporting template is required for each second party credibility check (2PCC) or third-party verification (3PV) visit carried out on Medium Farm Producer Units. BCI has developed an optional External Assessment Field Checklist which may also be used to help guide the 2PCC/ 3PV process and record notes in the field.

Types of Indicators

This reporting template covers all **Core Indicators** from the Better Cotton P&C v2.1; organized under the 7 Principles.

Advice on navigating this document

Please turn on the ‘Navigation Pane’ (under ‘View’ menu) to allow easy referencing of Indicators under each Principle.

Summary Information

**NOTE: Once you have completed the entire form, please save as a PDF using the Reference Number as the file name.**

## 1. General Information about the External Assessment (2PCC or 3PV)

3PV or 2PCC Reference Number

*(Format: PU code\_Organisation conducting visit\_Month-Year, e.g.* ***TU085\_Cotton-Audit-Inc\_09-2019****)*

Implementing Partner:

Local Partner (if applicable):

PU Code:

2PCC/ 3PV Conducted by: Name 1:       Name 2:

Agency/Institution:       Telephone/ email:

2PCC/3PV Date:       Country:       State:

Names of the 3 farmers visited:

Please explain briefly how these Farmers were selected for visits:

If any advice or consultancy support was provided to the Producer during the assessment, please note it here:

## 2. Summary Outcome of the Visit

Is the Producer Unit **compliant with** **all Core Indicators**?  Yes  No

(Answer **‘No’** if systemic non-conformity was observed)

Have any **incidental non-conformities** been observed?  Yes  No

(Answer **‘Yes’** if incidental non-conformity was observed)

***Please list all non-conformities in the table below***

| **Indicator No.** | **Description of Non-Conformity** | **Non-Conformity Grading** | **Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |
|  |  | Incidental  Systemic |  |

Has the PU submitted BCI Results Indicators for the previous season?  Yes  No  N/A (new PU)

Comments:

**Improvement Recommendations**

Please list any indicators with the grading of 'compliant with observation' and provide any opportunities for improvement that do not directly link to the finding description. This section is optional but is intended to help farmers and IPs identify best practices and areas for continuous improvement.

| **Indicator No.** | **Indicator Description** | **Comments** | **Recommendations for Improvement** |
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## 3. Information collected from external sources *(Required only for third-party verification)*

Please detail contact information for individuals/organizations consulted, and information gathered that relates to the Better Cotton Production Principles and Criteria and/or farmers that have poor or good practices.

Source 1 Name:       Contact Info:       Info gathered:

Source 2 Name:       Contact Info:       Info gathered:

Source 3 Name:       Contact Info:       Info gathered:

# P1: Crop Protection

| **Indicator No.** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence/ Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core**  **1.1.2** An Integrated Pest Management Programme is implemented that includes all the following components:  (i) growing of a healthy crop;  (ii) preventing the build-up of pest populations and of the spread of disease;  (iii) preserving and enhancing populations of beneficial organisms;  (iv) regular field observations of the crop’s health and key pest and beneficial insects;  (v) managing resistance. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.1.4** There is no calendar or random spraying. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.2.1** All pesticides used are registered nationally for the use on cotton. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.2.2** All pesticides used are correctly labelled in at least one *de facto* or *de jure* official national or applicable official regional language. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.3.1** Pesticides listed in: (i) Annex A and B of the Stockholm Convention; or (ii) Annexes of the Montreal Protocol; or (iii) Annex III of the Rotterdam Convention; are not used. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.4.1** The Producer has a plan to phase out by 2021 pesticides listed in category 1 of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); 1a of the World Health Organization classification (WHO). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.4.2** The Producer has a plan to phase out by 2024 pesticides listed in category 2 of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS); 1b of the World Health Organization classification (WHO). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.5.1** The Producer has a plan to phase out Pesticides defined as carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic (CMR) substances according to Categories 1a and 1b of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.6.1** The Producer must ensure that any person who prepares and applies pesticides is: (i) Healthy; (ii) Skilled and trained in the application of pesticides; (iii) 18 or older; (iv) not pregnant or nursing. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **1.7.1** Pesticides are prepared and applied by persons who correctly use appropriate protective and safety equipment. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# P2: Water Stewardship

| **Indicator** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence/ Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core**  **2.1.1** A time-bound Water Stewardship Plan is defined that addresses each of the following components: (i) Mapping and understanding of water resources; (ii) Managing soil moisture; (iii) Applying efficient irrigation practices to optimise water productivity (applicable to irrigation farms only); (iv) Managing water quality; (v) Engaging in collaboration and collective action to promote sustainable water use. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.3** Water resources are identified, mapped and understood. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.4** Soil moisture management practices to reduce soil water evaporation are implemented, as per the Water Stewardship Plan*.* | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.5** Irrigation methods and technologies are implemented towards irrigation efficiency as per the Water Stewardship Plan (applicable to irrigated farms only). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.6** Irrigation timing is planned towards maximisation of water productivity (applicable to irrigated farms only). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.7** Irrigation is not conducted on a rigid predetermined calendar schedule (applicable to irrigated farms only). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.8** Risk to water quality is considered when managing and applying nutrients and pesticides as per the Water Stewardship Plan. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.9** Opportunities for collaboration and collective actions (beyond the Producer’s unit of production) to achieve sustainable water use are identified. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **2.1.10** By March 2022, collaboration and collective actions (beyond the Producer’s unit of production) towards local sustainable use of water are implemented as per opportunities identified in the Water Stewardship Plan. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# P3: Soil Management

| **Indicator** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence/ Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core 3.1.1** A time-bound soil management plan is defined that addresses each of the following components:  (i) Identifying and analysing soil type;  (ii) Maintaining and enhancing soil structure; (iii) Maintaining and enhancing soil fertility;  (iv) Continuously improving nutrient cycling. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core 3.1.4** Soil testing is conducted that includes NPK and pH analysis.  A minimum of 1 soil test per Medium farm on a minimum of 20% of the Medium Farms within a Producer Unit must be conducted each year, and with different Medium Farms each year, so that all Medium Farms are covered over a period of 5 years. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **3.1.6** Soil type is identified and mapped. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# P4: Biodiversity and land use

| **Indicator** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence/ Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core**  **4.1.1** A time-bound Biodiversity Management Plan that addresses each of the five following components, is defined: (i) Identifying and mapping biodiversity resources; (i) Identifying and restoring degraded areas; (iii) Enhancing populations of beneficial insects, as per the Integrated Pest Management plan (Principle 1); (iv) Ensuring crop rotation; (v) Protecting riparian areas. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **4.1.3** Biodiversity resources are identified and mapped. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **4.1.4** Degraded areas on the farm are identified. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **4.1.5** Measures to restore degraded areas are implemented as per the Biodiversity Management Plan. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **4.1.6** Measures are implemented to protect water courses and wetlands in and adjacent to the farm, including maintaining and/or restoring appropriate riparian and other buffer zones, as per the Biodiversity Management Plan. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **4.2.1** In case of any proposed conversion from non-agricultural land to agricultural land, the BCI High Conservation Value (HCV) risk-based simplified approach must be implemented | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# P5: Fibre Quality

| **Indicator** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence/ Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core**  **5.1.1** Good management practices for the harvest and storage of seed cotton are adopted. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# P6: Decent Work

| **Indicator** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence/ Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core**  **6.1.1** There are no workers below the age of 15 (14 in certain specified countries), or below the minimum age for employment defined by local law (whichever is higher). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.1.4** A written child labour policy, specifying under which circumstances and for which tasks children can or cannot work or be employed and why, has been communicated to farmers/workers/employees. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.2.1** Hazardous work is not conducted by workers under 18. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.3.1** All forms of forced or compulsory, including bonded or trafficked labour, are prohibited. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.4.1** All forms of discrimination are prohibited. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.4.2** A system is in place to detect and remediate any incident of discrimination on the basis of age, gender, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, religion, membership of a trade union or other workers’ organisation, or any other characteristics that are not related to merit or the inherent requirements of the job. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.5.1** Equal wages are paid to workers who perform the same job, irrespective of gender. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.11.1** Workers have the right to establish or join organisations of their own choosing. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.11.2** There is no evidence of interference with the establishment and growth of workers’ organisations or their activities. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.11.3** There is no interference with the right of workers to bargain collectively. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.13.1** Farmers in the PU are aware of the legally applicable minimum wage/s (statutory national or regional minimum wage applicable to agriculture, collectively agreed wage, industry minimum). | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.19.1** Use of corporal punishment, mental or physical coercion, sexual harassment or physical or verbal abuse or harassment of any kind, is prohibited. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.20.1** A policy and system for disciplinary measures is available and communicated to workers. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **6.20.2** Any disciplinary actions are proportionate to the conduct in question and the system in place include fair warning principles. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# P7: Management System

| **Indicator** | **Grading** | **Specific Evidence / Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Core**  **7.1.1** A Continuous Improvement Plan is available, implemented and monitored according to the applicable BCI Continuous Improvement planning process, and reviewed annually. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.2.1** A training plan identifying the key sustainability issues to be addressed for the Producer, the name of training provider(s), scheduling and expected participants is available and implemented. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.2.2** Training materials for Better Cotton Initiative farmers and workers are available to cover Better Cotton Initiative Principles and Criteria Core Indicators, with a focus on key sustainability issues in the local context. Best practices (validated locally) related to production are shared with Better Cotton Initiative farmers through appropriate dissemination material in local language. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.2.3** The Producer reports annual data on number of Better Cotton Initiative farmers and workers trained by gender and topic to demonstrate the implementation of the training plan. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.2.4** The Producer operates a system to:  (i) Assess and document the level of adoption of practices promoted through training;   (ii) Identify and address the risks associated with adopting the practices promoted through training;  (iii) Evaluate the training materials continuously to improve their content and delivery. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.3.1** The Producer collects and maintains accurate and complete Producer Unit data in the format required by the Better Cotton Initiative. This will include (but not be limited to) name and contact information of Producer Unit Manager; list of farmers organised into Learning Groups (for smallholder Production Units); age, gender, education, level of farmers; expected seed cotton production per farmer and area under cultivation; geo-location of Producer Units; names of gins. The Producer Unit data is updated annually, at the latest by the end of sowing. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.3.2** The Producer maintains a farm-level record keeping mechanism (e.g. Famer Field Book) for essential production data on inputs and outputs in an accurate manner. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.3.3** The Producer operates a system to collect, compile and report complete and accurate Results Indicator data in accordance with the Results Indicator Reporting template. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.3.4** The Producer creates and maintains a profile of the farm labour force, including estimates of numbers of workers, as per the Better Cotton Initiative defined worker categories and disaggregated by gender. The labour profile is updated annually, at the latest at the end of sowing. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.3.5** The Producer ensures that all farmers within the PU maintain receipts of sales of Better Cotton, including the buyer name, date, and volume, for at least one year and is able to collect and submit these sale records to BCI upon request. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |
| **Core**  **7.4.1** The Producer operates a system to: (i) Identify and address the risks of non-conformity with core indicators;  (ii) Plan and enforce the implementation of Corrective Actions resulting from monitoring activities. | Compliant  Compliant with observation  Incidental NC  Systemic NC |  |

# List of workers Interviewed

Please provide details of workers interviewed – if no worker interviews were carried out, please explain why. Note that worker names can be excluded if necessary due to confidentiality; in this case please provide a description of the worker’s role instead.

Worker name or role       Location of interview       Topics covered/ Comments

Worker name or role       Location of interview       Topics covered/ Comments

Worker name or role       Location of interview       Topics covered/ Comments

Worker name or role       Location of interview       Topics covered/ Comments

Worker name or role       Location of interview       Topics covered/ Comments