# Farmer Results 2017-18 Season

The 2017-18 farmer results provide an overview of the outcomes BCI Farmers are experiencing at field-level by participating in the BCI programme and adhering to the Better Cotton Principles and Criteria (P&C). The Better Cotton P&C provide a global definition of Better Cotton through seven key principles. Adhering to the Better Cotton P&C enables BCI Farmers to produce cotton in a way that is measurably better for people, the environment and farming communities.

## **BCI Farmers vs. Comparison Farmers**

The farmer results presented here compare the country averages of key social, environmental and economic indicators achieved by licensed BCI Farmers to non-BCI Farmers in the same geographic area who are not participating in the BCI Programme. We refer to the latter farmers as Comparison



## **Environmental indicators**

#### **Pesticide Use**

The indicator measures the volume of active pesticide ingredient applied, per hectare of cotton cultivated.

#### **Synthetic Fertiliser Use**

The indicator measures the volume of synthetic fertiliser applied, per hectare of cotton cultivated.

#### **Organic Fertiliser Use**

The indicator measures the frequency of organic fertiliser use.

#### Water Use for Irrigation

The indicator measures the volume of water used for irrigation, per hectare of cotton cultivated. Water use is not recorded for rain-fed cotton cultivation.

## **Economic indicators**

### Yield

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The indicator measures the amount of harvested cotton, per hectare.

#### Profitability

The indicator measures profitability, defined as the net income earned from producing the cotton crop.

In the 2017-18 season, the Better Cotton Standard System was directly implemented in 12 countries. This overview shares results from five of those countries and not the others for the following reasons.

In Israel, Mozambigue and South Africa, Comparison Farmer data was not available because most of the cotton farmers in these countries were already participating in the BCI Programme.

In Kazakhstan, Madagascar and Mali, there was only one licensed Producer Unit (a grouping of BCI Farmers) and BCI's data confidentiality agreements prevent public reporting of a single Producer Unit's results.

In the US, BCI only works with large farms, and Comparison Farmer data is not available because it is considered commercially confidential information.







\*Due to data quality challenges with Comparison Farmers, the profitability indicator for this season has been omitted for Tajikistan.