



BIOTECH COUNTRY FACTS & TRENDS

Burkina Faso

2014 was the seventh year for farmers in Burkina Faso to benefit significantly from Bt cotton (Bollgard II™)

The total cotton planted in Burkina Faso in 2014 was 648,469 hectares, of which 454,124 hectares, or 73.8% is Bt cotton.

Based on average cotton holding of 3.16 hectares, the number of farmers growing Bt cotton in 2014 was approximately 143,710.

An association of women farmers was established in 2014 to encourage more women to take up Bt cotton farming and ensure access to extension services.

Bt cotton adoption in Burkina Faso has therefore taken a gender dimension, as more women farmers will be the future key players in this highly competitive sector.

BENEFITS FROM BIOTECH CROPS

The latest data on benefits from Bt cotton in 2014 includes an average yield increase of almost 20% compared to conventional cotton, pesticide use reduction by about 67%, labor and insecticide savings (2

rather than 6 sprays), while cotton profits was elevated by US\$64 per hectare, which is a 51% increase over current income levels.

It is estimated that Bt cotton has the potential to generate an economic benefit of up to US\$70 million per year for Burkina Faso.

Burkina Faso continues to take the lead within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for its development capabilities in biotechnology with Bt cotton.

The Bt cotton program initiated and expedited by the Government of Burkina Faso is serving as a model for many other developing countries growing cotton.

It is estimated that the economic gains from biotech crops for Burkina

Faso for the period 2008 to 2013 was US\$137 million, and US\$37 million for 2013 alone.

SOURCES

James, Clive. 2014. Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops: 2014. *ISAAA Brief No. 49*. ISAAA: Ithaca, New York.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

<http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/>

The World Bank.

<http://www.worldbank.org/>

For more information, contact:

ISAAA SEAsiaCenter
GS Khush Hall, IRRI
Los Baños, Laguna 4031 Philippines
Telefax: +63 49 5367216
Email: knowledge.center@isaaa.org

www.isaaa.org

COUNTRY PROFILE

Population: 17 million

GDP: US\$10.4 billion

GDP per Capita: US\$1,300

Agriculture as % GDP: 33%

Agricultural GDP: US\$3.4 billion

% employed in agriculture: 90%

Arable Land (AL): 5.7 million hectares

Ratio of AL/Population*: 2.0

Major crops:

- Cotton • Millet • Peanuts • Maize
- Sorghum • Rice • Shea nuts

Commercialized Biotech Crop: Bt Cotton

Total biotech crop area and (%) increase in 2014:

0.454 Million Hectares (+4%)

Increased farm income, 2008-2013: US\$137 million

*Ratio: % global arable land / % global population