



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

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Egypt

Egypt Cotton Tender

1999

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Report Highlights:

First cotton tender since 1995.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Cairo [EG1], EG

Last week, two of the Egyptian Textile Industries Holding Company, (Port Said Cotton Trading company and AL-Kahira Cotton Company) announced a tender for the importation of 18,000 MT of cotton, including 9,000 MT of medium staple cotton and 9,000 MT of long staple cotton out of 1998/99 crop from any origin.

This is the first time that Egypt has announced an intention to buy raw cotton since 1995. The last shipment of U.S. cotton to Egypt was about 20,000 MT of medium staple (ACALLA) from California/Arizona in January 1996. Small shipments of Sudanese cotton were imported during the last two years to be used by mills located outside of the cotton production areas. Industry sources indicate due to depletion of medium and long staple cotton stocks combined with a short cotton crop in 1998/99, the local mills are forced to source their cotton from outside Egypt.

With the current Egyptian plant quarantine fumigation, which requires that cotton shipments to Egypt must be fumigated under vacuum with Methyl Bromide vapor in the country of origin, this could present problem for U.S. exports since the use of Methyl Bromide is being phased out in the U.S.