

The Organic Trade Association (OTA)'s **Fiber Council** successfully works to strengthen and grow the organic fiber and textiles sector. Formed in 2015, the Council aims to create a cohesive voice across fiber categories within the trade association, advance the promotion and protection of the organic brand, and grow the organic fiber sector overall. The Fiber Council includes representatives from companies across the supply chain, from farmers to manufacturers, certifiers, researchers, retailers, and more. Members also include representatives from the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) and Textile Exchange, two leading organizations focusing on organic textiles, allowing continuous interaction and dialogue between the organizations.

**For more information  
check out the Fiber  
Council feature on  
OTA's News Center here**

**ORGANIC  
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**Fiber Council**

- Hosted a popular booth at the Textile Exchange Conference in Pasadena, CA
- Connected stakeholders across the food and fiber supply chain during the Fiber session at OTA's Organic Week conference and educated congressional staff about organic fiber.
- Worked with USDA to gain clarity on its 2011 "Labeling of Textiles that Contain Organic Ingredients" policy memo and how the Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) rule impacts organic fiber
- Supported a Fiber Council member in funding the cutting-edge report "*Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Genetic Modification in Conventional Cotton in the U.S. and Globally*," published by The Organic Center
- Updated **OTA Fiber Council Quick Resources** webpage with the latest market and production information.
- Gathered organic fiber market data for OTA's annual Organic Market Report

We plan to expand Council membership, host a webinar on fiber claims and standards, support OTA in gathering improved fiber market data, assist with promoting organic fiber products in stores through the Organic Market Development Grant (OMDG), and keep the OTA Fiber Council Quick Resources webpage updated with the latest market and standards information on cotton, hemp, flax, and wool. We also intend to host a booth at the 2026 Textile Exchange conference in Canada to keep organic front and center.

Being a Fiber Council member gives those in the fiber sector an opportunity to engage with the full supply chain, from farmers to manufacturers and processors, as well as certification bodies and brands and retailers. The sector comes together to address common issues and concerns, thus affecting greater movements and changes in our sector.

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 ETHICALLY MADE  
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*The Fiber Council is led by Elizabeth Tigan (Oregon Tilth) as Chair, George Mathew (Avocado Green Brands) as Vice Chair, and Sandra Marquardt (On the Mark Consulting) as Secretary. If you are interested in joining the Council, please contact Danielle Cote (DCote@ota.com).*

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