

# 'Cotton output to be 6% lower this year'

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Cotton production during the 2023-2024 cotton season is expected to be 6% lower than the season that ended on September 30.

The Committee on Cotton Production and Consumption estimated cotton production during the current season (October 2023 to September 2024) at 316.57 lakh bales (170 kg each) as against 336.60 lakh bales in 2022-2023.

The total consumption by textile mills is expected at 294 lakh bales (295 lakh bales). Exports are likely to be 25 lakh bales and imports 12 lakh bales.

Production has been affected by pink bollworm



and inadequate monsoon in many parts, said Atul Ganatra, president, Cotton Association of India.

Nishant Asher, Secretary of Indian Cotton Federation, said cotton prices are on a par with the international prices. If the international prices decline, Indian cotton will become expensive. This will impact the domestic textile industry further, he cautioned.