

Global ISO IWA 32:2019 proficiency test initiative 2025

Organic cotton is a claim that genetically modified organisms (GMOs) are not deliberately or knowingly used and that organic producers take far-reaching steps to avoid GMO contamination along the organic cotton value chain¹, from farmers to spinners, to brands. To confirm that such steps have been taken, it is essential that organic cotton stakeholders can reliably test their products for the potential presence of GM cotton.

The ISO IWA 32:2019 protocol was developed to create a common language among laboratories worldwide to screen for the potential presence of GM cotton along the organic cotton value chain. Since its publication, qualitative GMO testing of cotton and textiles is mandatory within the GOTS and OCS supply chain and OCA's Farm programme and is to be performed by appropriately qualified testing laboratories using the ISO IWA 32:2019 protocol.

The [Global Organic Textile Standard](#), the [Organic Cotton Accelerator](#), and [Textile Exchange](#) set out the global proficiency test initiative to bring clarity regarding the laboratories that perform testing against the ISO IWA 32:2019. Please find below the list of laboratories that have been confirmed to have the necessary competence to carry out qualitative GMO testing in greige cotton products as per the ISO IWA 32:2019 worldwide. This list is compiled based on labs' satisfactory performance during the latest round of a proficiency test organized every two years.

The technical process and the performance evaluation of the proficiency test for qualitative cotton screening according to ISO IWA 32:2019 were managed by Wageningen Food Safety Research (WFSR), the organization that acted as a project leader for the development of the ISO IWA 32:2019 and is accredited for performing proficiency tests according to the ISO/IEC 17043:2010 Conformity assessment – General requirements for proficiency testing (not specifically in the field of GMOs).

As the ISO IWA 32:2019 protocol established that GMO screening in cotton and textiles can only be reliably carried out in cottonseed, cotton leaf, cotton fiber, and chemically unprocessed cotton fiber-derived materials up to greige yarn and fabric, GM cotton testing should not be carried out in chemically processed cotton.

¹ Article 4 Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 and Article 5 Regulation (EU) 2018/848, and IFOAM Organics International, Position Paper 'Genetic Engineering and Genetically Modified Organisms', 2016

Overview of laboratories:

Table: List of laboratories that can carry out qualitative GMO testing in greige cotton products as per the ISO IWA 32:2019 according to the global ISO IWA 32:2019 proficiency test initiative organized in 2025.

Country	Laboratory name	Contact details
BULGARIA	Laboratory of SGS Bulgaria	veselka.pashova@sgs.com
CHINA	Intertek Testing Services Ltd., Shanghai, China	will.bian@intertek.com
GERMANY	Eurofins GeneScan GmbH	astridmoebes@eurofins.com
GERMANY	FoodChain ID Testing GmbH	konstantin.rizos@foodchainid.com
GERMANY	GALAB Laboratories GmbH	otten@galab.de
GERMANY	Hohenstein Laboratories GmbH & Co. KG	p.lieberherr@hohenstein.de
INDIA	Accurate Universal Laboratories Private Limited	info@accuratelaboratory.in
INDIA	Bureau veritas India testing services pvt ltd	deepika.p@bureauveritas.com
INDIA	Eco Green Labs India Private Limited	qualityap@ecogreenlabsindia.com
INDIA	Eureka Analytical Services Pvt Ltd	bhemalatha@eurekaserv.com
INDIA	Envirocare Labs Pvt. Ltd.	priti.a@envirocare.co.in
INDIA	FARE Labs Private Limited	compliance@farelabs.com
INDIA	FARE Labs Private Limited	farelabs@farelabs.com
INDIA	Geo-Chem Laboratories Private Limited	laboratory@geochem.net.in
INDIA	Interstellar Testing Centre Private Limited	gamanager.chennai@itclabs.com
INDIA	NAWaL Analytical Labs India Pvt. Ltd.	quality@nawallabs.com
INDIA	National Commodities Management Services Limited, Chennai	4701@ncml.com
INDIA	National Commodities Management Services Limited	sowseelya.l@ncml.com
INDIA	Ohm Laboratory Private Limited	anita.ohmlaboratory@gmail.com
INDIA	Qualitek Labs Limited (before ProComm Laboratory, NBHC Pvt. Ltd.)	chetana.pawar@nbhcindia.com
INDIA	TESTTEX INDIA LABORATORIES PVT.LTD.	labsindia@testtex.com
INDIA	VIRIDIAN TESTING LABORATORIES LLP	venkatesh@viridianlab.com
ITALY	pH Labs TUV SUD group	phlabs.biomolecolare@tuvstd.com
NETHERLANDS	TLR International Laboratory	gclavan@tlr.nl
PAKISTAN	Tti Testing Laboratories (TEXTILE TESTING INTERNATIONAL)	hamad.ahmad@ttilabs.net
PAKISTAN	SGS Pakistan Pvt Ltd	sajjad.khan@sgs.com
PORTUGAL	Instituto Nacional de Investigacao Agraria e Veterinaria (INIAV)	eugenia.andrade@iniav.pt
PORTUGAL	SGS Molecular, S.A.	bruno.almeida@sgs.com

SWITZERLAND	TESTEX AG, Schweizer Textilprufinstitut	dominik.millner@testex.com
TAIWAN	SGS Taiwan Ltd. - Kaohsiung	mandy.yu@sgs.com
TURKEY	Control Union Gozetim ve Belgelendirme Ltd. Sti	dscildir@controlunion.com
TURKEY	Ekoteks Laboratuvar	firuzan_yildirim@ekoteks.com
TURKEY	Nanolab Laboratuvarlar Grubu	kalite@nano-lab.com.tr
UNITED KINGDOM	Shirley Technologies Limited	Cristina.alepuz@shirley.co.uk
UNITED STATES	OMIC USA Inc.	a.hawkins@omicusa.com



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Are you a GM cotton testing laboratory that implemented the ISO IWA 32:2019 reference protocol and are you now interested in joining the next proficiency test round in Q1 2027? Do you have any questions about the global ISO IWA 32:2019 proficiency test initiative 2025? Or do you want to update the organisers about your contact details or your accreditation status against ISO/IEC 17025:2017 for GM cotton screening? Please contact Chenyue Li, OCA's Environmental Impact Officer, with your query: secretariat@organiccottonaccelerator.org

Disclaimer: These proficiency test results have been organized to obtain an up-to-date overview of the laboratories that can currently conduct GMO testing as per the ISO IWA 32:2019 protocol. The participating laboratories have been invited based on direct applications from laboratories as well as existing collaborations with the Global Organic Textile Standard, the Organic Cotton Accelerator, and Textile Exchange and/or that of their partners, to the best of their knowledge. The results have been made publicly available for informational purpose only. No radical business decision should be made from the results of this proficiency test regarding the current or future cooperation with laboratories that did not participate or do not appear in the short-list of laboratories that succeeded in the proficiency test.