



FARNICO®

PLANTING FOR LIFE

Pioneering Organic & Regenerative Cotton in Tajikistan



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About Farnico®



Tajikistan





Founding Farnico®

- Sergej had been visiting Tajikistan since 2014 after meeting his partner (from Tajikistan) while studying together in London.
- He saw an opportunity after several visits when seeing the disparity and poverty among farmers, as well as pollution in the pristine virgin environment.
- By 2020, he had international experience growing markets as a Project Manager at a multinational company, graduated with Distinction from the LSE, and was ready to change the world.
- In September 2020, after opening up the head office in London, Farnico's operating daughter company was founded in Tajikistan, and the work began.
- The *vision* was to organise and revolutionise agriculture in developing countries to benefit farmers and nature by supplying global customers with 100% traceable organic and regenerative cotton, food, and other products.



The Farnico® Team



In three phrases Farnico® is...



FAMILY: Farnico® was founded in 2020 as a private, Norwegian-owned family company.

PURPOSE: To grow and process organic & ethical cotton in Tajikistan to benefit our customers, nature and farmers.

ORGANIC & REGENERATIVE: Farnico® grows traceable, ethical, organic & regenerative cotton through international certification.



OUR MISSION

We provide competent services to farmers in cultivating certified cotton through mutually beneficial cooperation to improve the quality of life and health of future generations and the environment.



Farnico® is a proud member of...



**International
Cotton
Association**





The Challenge: Conventional agriculture

Challenges with conventional agriculture in Tajikistan

- One of the most climate-vulnerable and most affected countries by the climate crisis – despite being least responsible for it.
- **Annually, over 150 natural hazards** (floods, avalanches, earthquakes) (UNICEF, 1997-2017 average)
- Source of 60% of all water in Central Asia, but **only 36% of rural households have access to safe drinking water**, sanitation and hygiene (World Bank, 2019)
- Pollution is responsible for **19.6% of deaths** in Tajikistan (Lancet Commission on Pollution and Health, 2018)
- **Agriculture is the dominant sector of the economy (50% of employment) and the biggest polluter**



Challenges with conventional agriculture in Tajikistan

- Intense use of fertilisers and agrochemicals were used during rapid industrialisation under the Soviet Union
- By 1991, heavy use of mineral fertilizer and agricultural chemicals was a major cause of pollution in the republic



Socio-Economic Challenges Today

- Progressing into a market economy broke up the old collective farms into small farmer households.
- Farmers continue using industrial agrochemicals and pesticides available to them, which are imported into the country, largely uncontrolled, from China and Russia.



Socio-Economic Challenges Today

- Using artificial fertilisers and pesticides leads to smaller and smaller yields as prices of chemicals increase, resulting in:
 - Economic challenges, emigration, resulting in the breakup of the family and farm;
 - Chronic diseases, the spread of carcinogens, and the deterioration of health
 - Loss of biodiversity, corrosion, and an increase in soil salination, decreasing yields;





Farnico[®]'s Solution:
Organic & Regenerative Agriculture

What is Organic Agriculture?

Organic agriculture can be defined as farming that considers the well-being of the natural world and the health and well-being of the people working on the land. It means following internationally recognised standards controlled by a certification body that monitors correctly implemented standards.



What is Regenerative Agriculture?

*Regenerative agriculture is an umbrella term for a suite of practises aiming to **restore and regenerate land and biodiversity**. The most important aspect of regenerative agriculture is soil health in a holistic **agro-ecosystem**. In the end, soil is the most valuable asset of the farm. If you take care of your soil, it will take care of you.*



Organic is inside Regenerative

| IPCC Measure | Conventional agriculture (IPCC, 2019) | Organic agriculture (European Commission) | Regenerative agriculture (ROC, 2019) |
|--|--|--|---|
| Reduced fertilizer use | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Increased crop diversification | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Increasing the use of quality seeds | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Promotion of low energy production systems | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| Avoiding burning of crop residues | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| Promotion of legumes in crop rotations | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| Increasing biodiversity | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| Integrated crop/livestock | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |

Source: EIT-Food Regenerative Agriculture Manual “introduction”

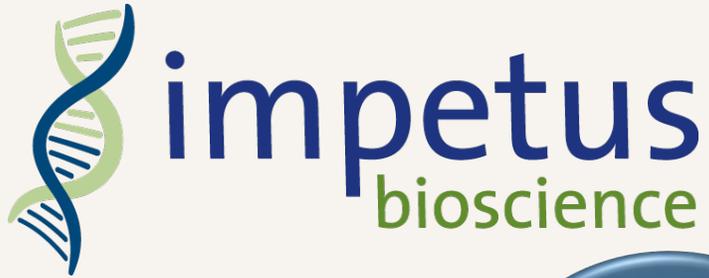




https://youtu.be/472xK_oYTrE

How does Farnico® do it?





GMO & PESTICIDE FREE



A photograph of a farmer standing in a field. The farmer is wearing a light blue button-down shirt, grey trousers, and a straw hat. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. In the background, a green tractor is visible, with another person operating it. The field is filled with young plants, and there are mountains in the distance under a clear sky. A semi-transparent white banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text "Benefits to Farmers and Nature".

Benefits to Farmers and Nature

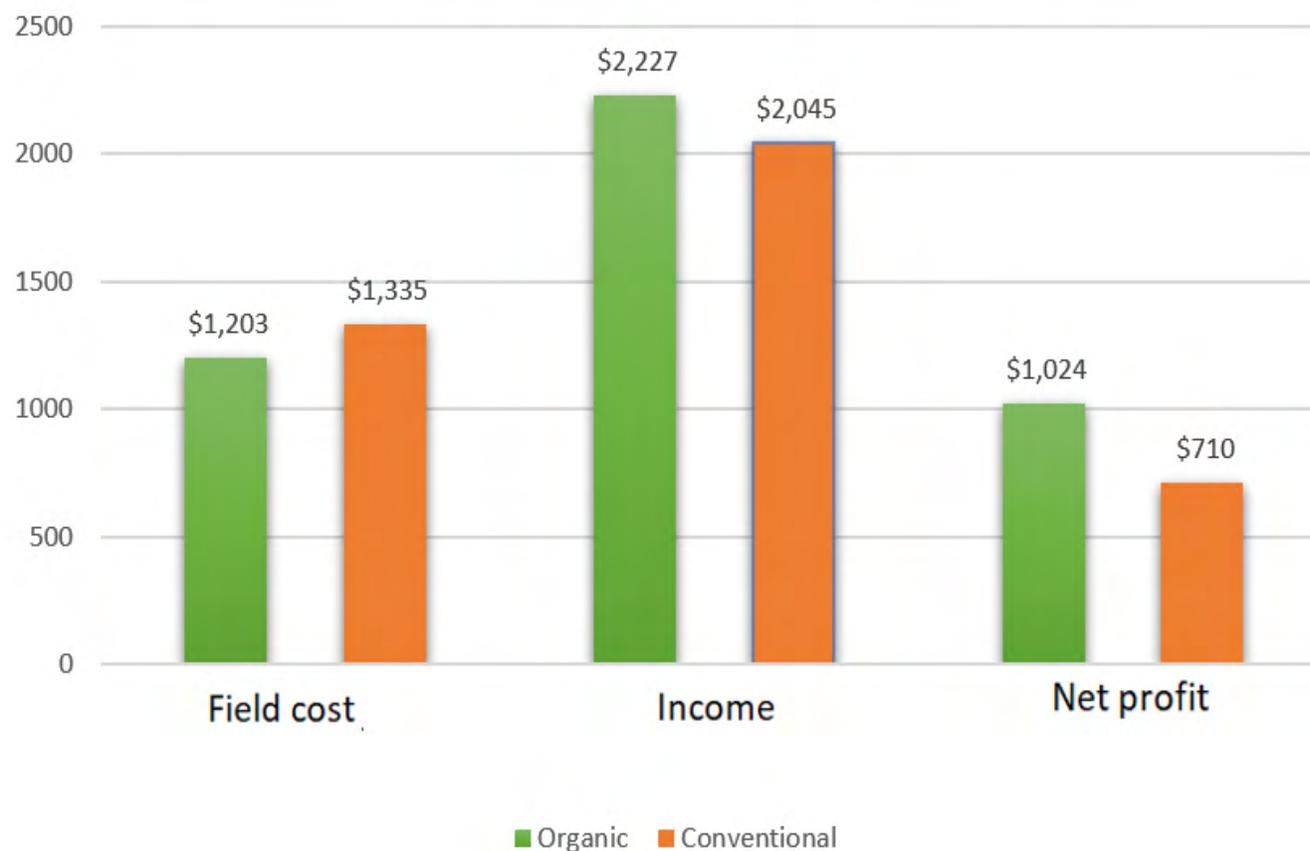
Economic Benefits

Before a farmer thinks about the health and environmental benefits of organic farming, they first must be able to earn a livelihood.

According to our first-year data, farmers' **field costs were 11% down** per one hectare, while the price they sold their cotton for was higher by USD 0.045 (from organic bonus), and their **income soared by 8%** over conventional, considering that the yields were the same.

Finally, the **net profit was 31% higher** than conventional.

The costs and benefits of Organic cotton vs Conventional cotton per hectare



Environmental Benefits

- Biodiversity increase
- Water management
- NO GMO contamination
- Crop diversity
- Soil (and human) health
- Animal welfare



Farmer Health Benefits

HEALTH: Reducing dangerous chemicals in food and around the farms result in a healthier population, reducing carcinogens, skin disease and lung afflictions.



Social Benefits

WOMEN:

- Empowering women farmers by giving them access to free credit;
- Independent from their male counterparts by taking up farmer-group functions and earning money from their fields.

YOUTH:

- Younger generations are incentivised to stay in Tajikistan due to their family plots bringing in a stable income;
- Leading to healthy homes and country development.





Bio

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The Product

Bio
Cotton
Bales



Certification

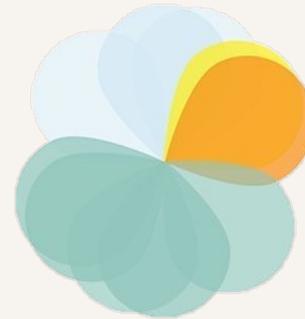
Farming



EU Organic



NOP

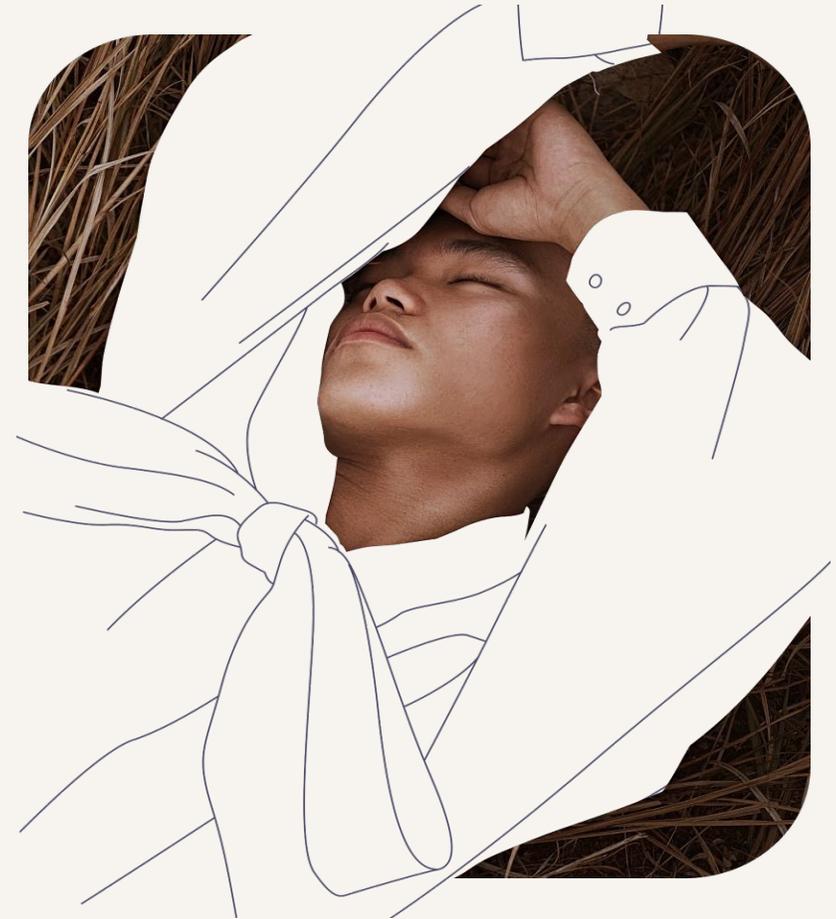


Regeneragri

*Processing
&
Trading*



GOTS



Farnico® customers include...

HUGO BOSS



ECOM

REINHART 1788

Candiani

DENIM

**SOCIETE D'IMPORTATION
& DE COMMISSION**

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Gallery of Activities

Biodiversity – Holistic view around the Farm

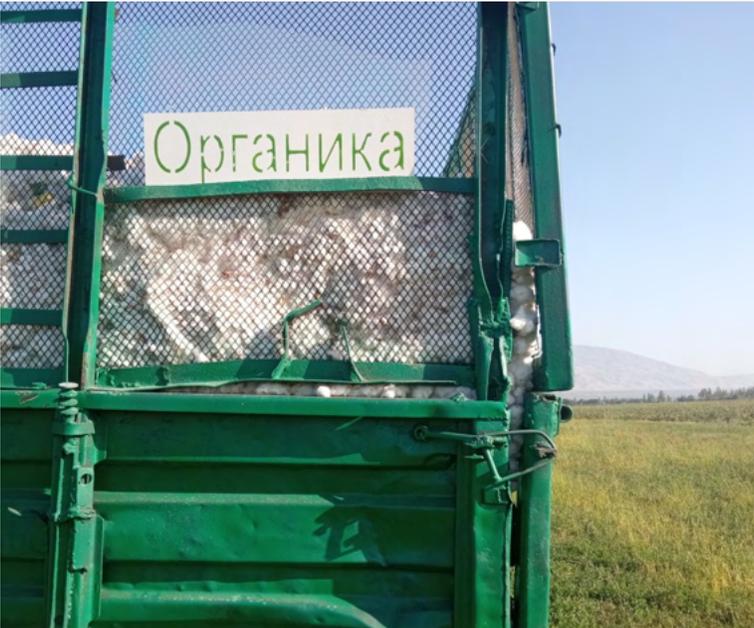


- E.g. **buffer zones** from water source
Protects against nutrient pollution



- E.g. **trees around fields** reduces erosion,
increases bird health and insects

Farming activities



Trainings & Conferences



Certification Audits & Analysis



Harvesting & Processing



Scaling & Building for the Future



Thank you!

The Farnico® team looking forward to our future with you.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

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