

67

metric tons of waste is diverted from being sent to landfills every year due to our cotton waste initiative

12

vitamins and nutriments needed for healthy cattle are found in the bales and briquettes

\$111K

is saved yearly by farmers through having access to free cattle feed

THE COTTON FLOWER GROWTH PROCESS

Farmers seed their fields beginning as early as February each year. About two months after planting, flower buds appear on the cotton plants. In another three weeks, the blossoms open and petals change from creamy white to yellow, then pink and finally, dark red. After three days, they wither and fall, leaving green pods which are called cotton bolls. Inside the boll moist fibers grow and push out from the newly formed seeds. The fibers continue to expand until they split the boll apart and the fluffy cotton emerges.



Nutrition Facts

Whole Cotton Seed

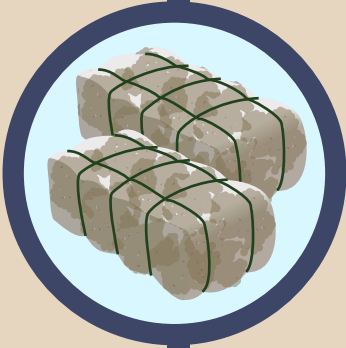
| Amount | % Cotton Seed |
|---------------|---------------|
| Crude Protein | 23 % |
| Phosphorus | 0.75 % |
| Calcium | 0.16 % |
| Potassium | 1.2 % |
| Magnesium | 0.35 % |
| Sulpher | 0.26 % |
| Copper | 54 ppm |
| Iron | 151 ppm |
| Manganese | 10 ppm |
| Sodium | 0.03 ppm |
| Zinc | 37.7 ppm |

RECYCLING COTTON FOR CATTLE

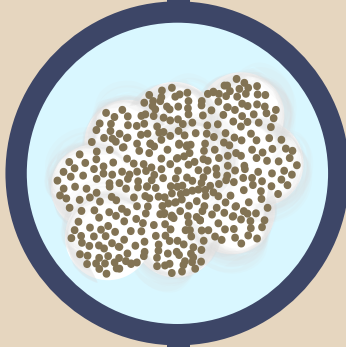
At Gildan, we are always looking to reduce our footprint by finding ways to reduce, recycle or re-purpose our waste in every phase of the manufacturing process. Almost all of the organic waste from our yarn spinning operations is compacted into bales or briquettes used as nutritious and palatable feed stock for local cattle. Here is how they are made:



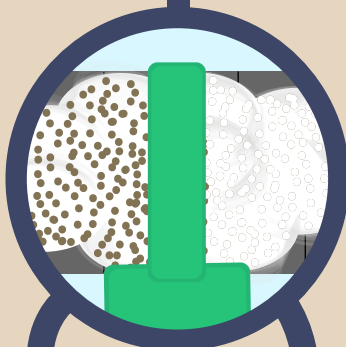
1. Cotton is harvested by U.S. cotton farmers.



2. Harvested cotton is sent to local cotton gins which separate the cotton fibers from their seeds. Almost 100% of these materials are utilized in a variety of end uses, including the production of cottonseed oils and feedstock.



3. Our first step involves taking very small layers from several bales of cotton in an opening process where the fibers are blown through a series of filtering devices. Here coarser foreign materials such as seeds, leaf waste and pepper trash are extracted.



4. During the yarn-spinning processes, the cotton fiber is progressively cleaned further by extracting the finer cotton waste. This waste is compressed to form briquettes.



5. Yearly, 3,117 tons of bales and 1,673 tons of briquettes are sent to U.S. beef and dairy farms to feed their cattle.

