



SUSTAINABLE COTTON PROJECT

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Views From the Field:

[http://centralvalleyfarmscout.
blogspot.com/](http://centralvalleyfarmscout.blogspot.com/)

THE SUSTAINABLE COTTON PROJECT

The Sustainable Cotton Project (SCP) is an internationally recognized program dedicated to working with small- and medium-sized family farmers practicing sustainable agricultural practices. Our participating growers take action to change the way cotton is farmed and marketed, producing a high-quality fiber without the use of the most toxic pesticides and herbicides in agriculture.

Founded in 1996, SCP is a nonprofit that brings together growers, manufacturers and consumers to develop an industry that reduces its toxic chemical use. Through widespread sustainable cotton farming processes and Integrated Pest Management technologies, farmers are successfully growing a Cleaner Cotton™ product that serves as a viable alternative to imported organic cotton and is more affordable for growers and purchasers.

SCP growers are making a difference as environmental stewards, demonstrating biologically based farming practices are effective tools to protect the water, air quality and health of rural communities. Our accomplishments:

- Produced more than 1 million pounds of SCP's trademarked Cleaner Cotton™ since 2004, targeting the burgeoning \$200 billion-a-year "green" consumer market.
- Reduced chlorpyrifos use by up to 76 percent over the average cotton grower in the San Joaquin Valley region.
- Eliminated the use of 13 of the most harmful chemicals used in cotton production.
- Planted annual beneficial hedgerows or strip cut adjacent alfalfa, resulting in an impressive increase in beneficial insects in cotton.
- Organized an annual Cotton Farm Tour that attracts nearly 100 representatives from major textile and apparel retail companies from across the United States.
- Convened an ongoing working group of major retailers led by Gap Inc. and Levi Strauss & Co. to incorporate Cleaner Cotton™ into their apparel lines.
- Produced a nationally acclaimed short documentary about Cleaner Cotton™ growers and SCP's positive impact on their farms, communities and the environment.