

[Continued from page 10](#)

be treated as such in Life Cycle Assessments (LCAs) and Product Environmental Footprints (PEFs). Recognizing this fundamental difference, the European Commission’s March 2024 resolution on the Green Claims Directive, specified that the PEF for Apparel and Footwear must incorporate a microplastic assessment.

Conflicts of interest instead of science

However, the sources tapped by both the French and EU PEFs to evaluate microfiber impact are not scientific organizations, but entities created and funded by vested interests. The conflicts of interest stemming from the involvement of stakeholders deeply tied to the production of plastic apparel undermine the scientific foundations of environmental legislation and impede the effective management of long-term environmental challenges.

Fashion value chain LCAs/PEFs must make it clear that plastic fibers contain hazardous chemicals, and such

fibers may create exposure to the different chemicals used throughout the item’s life cycle.

In their 31-page report on the treatment of microplastics in LCAs and PEF applications, Veronica Bates Kassatly and Terry Townsend recommend that just as packaging for tobacco products must include a health warning, a warning would be appropriate on point-of-sale packaging for all products containing synthetic fibers.

The report is available for download at:



Both authors are available for questions and interviews. The Bremen Cotton Exchange is available to help you get in touch with them.



Foto: Pexels/Catherine Sheila

Eeden: Chemical Recycling of Cotton-Polyester Blends

[How can blended fibres be recycled in the future and returned to the textile cycle as new textile fibres? These are the challenges facing Eeden. In an interview with Fashion United, Co-CEO Steffen Gerlach and Ida Marie Brieger, Business Development at Eeden, reported that the start-up from Münster, Germany, is about to build the first recycling plant for polyester-cotton blends that works on an industrial scale.](#)

The German start-up was founded out of the Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences and has been driving forward the chemical recycling of mixed fibres for several years. Blended fibres made of cotton and polyester make up the largest share of the clothing market, and finding

a recycling solution for this could set an important milestone. The company is about to build an industrial demonstration plant to realise this process on a large scale. For this, Eeden is cooperating with renowned institutes such as Fraunhofer ILM and Hohenstein Innovations GmbH.

Eeden’s technology enables the efficient separation and recycling of cotton and polyester to produce new fibres. Cotton is processed into cellulose pulp, the base material for the production of cellulose fibres such as viscose or lyocell. The polyester is broken down into its monomers, which can then either be repolymerised to produce new fibres or used as a base material for various products in the chemical industry. Despite challenges such as the high costs and the need to process large quantities of

homogeneous material streams, Eeden sees considerable potential in chemical recycling.

Steffen Gerlach emphasises the advantages of Europe, and Germany in particular, as an ideal location for developing and scaling up these innovative recycling technologies. He points to the existing infrastructure in Germany for collecting and sorting textiles, which is often lacking in other regions of the world. However, he also emphasises the need for a global approach, as a significant proportion of textile processing takes place in Asia, where significant progress has also been made in the field of recycling.

Source: [Fashion United](#)



Average Prices CIF Bremen (CASH ON ARRIVAL, MICRONAIRE GRUPPE 5)

Nearby Deliveries - in US-Cents/lb

N = Nominal, n. q. = not quoted

		15.01.2025	22.01.2025
Medium Staple			
West Africa	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	86.75	86.75
	Middling, 1.3/32"	85.25	85.25
East Africa	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	n.q.	n.q.
	Middling, 1.3/32"	n.q.	n.q.
Central Asia	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	88.00	88.00
	Middling, 1.3/32"	86.50	86.50
	Strict Low Middling, 1.1/16"	85.00	85.00
Greece	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	n.q.	n.q.
	Middling, 1.3/32"	86.50	86.50
	Strict Low Middling, 1.3/32"	84.50	84.50
Spain	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	n.q.	n.q.
	Middling, 1.3/32"	84.50 N	84.50 N
	Strict Low Middling, 1.1/16"	83.50 N	83.50 N
Brazil	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	84.50	84.50
	Middling, 1.3/32"	82.50	82.50
	Strict Low Middling, 1.1/16"	80.50	80.50
Argentina	Middling, 1.3/32"	n.q.	n.q.
	Strict Low Middling, 1.1/16"	n.q.	n.q.
USA E/M/O/T	Strict Middling, 1.1/8"	85.50	85.50
	Middling, 1.3/32"	83.50	83.50
	Strict Low Middling, 1.1/16"	81.50	81.50
India	S-6, 1.1/8"	90.75	90.75
	Mech, 1.3/32"	89.75	89.75
Türkiye	Middling, 1.3/32"	84.50 N	84.50 N
	Strict Low Middling, 1.3/32"	81.50	81.50
Long/Extra -Long Staple			
Egypt	Giza 94, G/FG	153.00	152.00
USA Pima	Gr. 2, 1.7/16"	186.00	183.00
Israel Pima	H-1, 1.7/16"	180.00	180.00
Israel Acalpi	H-1, 1.3/8" - 1.7/16"	n.q.	n.q.
Bremen CIF-Index (M 1.3/32")		84.85	84.85



Photo © Israel Cotton Board, Matanya Zuntz

Cotton Classing & Testing Training: Registration open

From 6 to 14 May 2025, ICA Bremen will host its next Cotton Classing & Testing Training Course at Bremen Cotton Exchange, Germany. This seven-day intensive program focuses solely on quality issues in raw cotton and aims to provide participants with in-depth knowledge and hands-on experience.

The training program covers a wide range of topics, offering participants a thorough understanding of cotton classification, high-volume instrument (HVI) testing, and single-fibre-based methods like AFIS. Attendees will also explore examples of yarn testing and benefit from a new, dedicated day on CIRAD methodologies. Other benefits include networking opportunities with global industry professionals and a certificate of completion to underscore their expertise.

ICA Bremen brings together the global reach of the International Cotton Association (ICA), the quality expertise of the Bremen Cotton Exchange (BBB), and the technical knowledge of the Bremen Fibre Institute (FIBRE). This program is ideal for individuals seeking a thorough understanding of cotton classing and testing, particularly those involved in cotton trading, cultivation, and the textile industry.



Jens Wirth, Managing Director BBB – Cotton Quality, Rules & ICA Bremen, explains the standard boxes to the participants of the Cotton Classing & Testing Training 2024

The course fee, €1,300 (+ VAT) for ICA or BBB members and €1,500 (+ VAT) for non-members, includes training materials, refreshments on working days, and a farewell meal. Accommodation and travel costs are not included.

REGISTRATION:

