



### **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS - the natural choice**

#### **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS fabric is fully biodegradable**

Until now, ventilated bee suits have been made from artificial fibres (i.e. fossil fuel-based plastics): The outside is usually Polyester, and the inner mesh EVA<sup>3</sup>. At the end of their lives, these suits end up in a landfill, or in an incinerator, where they can create hazardous fumes.

#### **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS have a low carbon footprint**

From their production to their disposal, artificial fibres cause CO2 emissions, a greenhouse gas that is a main contributor to the warming of the atmosphere. Beekeepers are among those who feel the impact of global warming most directly: Plants flower too early (when there are no bees available for pollination); bees start breeding too early and starve when a late cold spell leaves them without nectar, etc.

<sup>3</sup> Ethylene-vinyl acetate is said to be more environmentally damaging than PVC - which, when burnt, produces the Seveso toxin Dioxin (see e.g. <https://tinyurl.com/y4cemjt5>)

### **The 'No Sweat' choice!**

**DIVERSITY BEE SUITS**, the world's first ventilated bee suits made from certified organic cotton.

**DIVERSITY BEE SUITS** and jackets are available in both straight canvas or various ventilated options, with fencing or round hoods. Organic cotton is extremely comfortable to wear; the cotton mesh ensures natural ventilation, keeping you cool, particularly when things get really hot.

**DIVERSITY BEE SUITS** took two years to develop. Our partner in India is the GOTS certified bee suit maker, J.D. Impex.

We are Diversity Honeys, a London/UK-based start-up, dedicated to promoting biodiversity, one jar of honey and one BEE SUIT at a time.



The Hive, Kew Gardens, London

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All pictures by Dr. Martin Kunz

**BEE SUITS for  
COOL  
Beekeepers**

**THE WORLD'S FIRST  
CERTIFIED ORGANIC  
VENTILATED BEE SUIT**

## Some like it hot – beekeepers don't!

### **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS** are made from certified organic cotton.

This material is cool and comfortable even when you wear it directly your skin. Natural cotton or artificial fibre – it's just no contest. How can we put this politely ...? Bees are sensitive to smell - and in cotton you won't. Ventilation is achieved through a sandwich of three layers of certified organic cotton mesh which keep you cool – and well protected.

### **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS** are 'certified organic':

Organic cotton is grown without the use of pesticides, herbicides or chemical fertilizer. Organic cotton is guaranteed non-GMO. The cotton in our **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS** is certified organic, and the supply chain is Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) certified. Organic cotton is the best choice for the soil, for the planet, for your comfort - and for the bees.



"... bee suit good, I survived last Saturday - 35°, grumpy bees etc. ..."

Richard G., London beekeeper

## Certified organic cotton

No agrochemicals were used in the making of the **DIVERSITY BEE SUITS**. Absolutely none. The organic cotton is certified organic, and the supply chain is Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) certified. And it was grown on small, integrated Indian family farms.

### Organic cotton – farming with nature

Our cotton is produced by SUMINTER India Organics. The company helps farmers to grow healthy crops, improve soil quality and increase yields by helping them to work with nature. Pests can be a problem, but SUMINTER teaches farmers how to make an effective organic pesticide - from cow urine, water, sugar and bitter leaves. This mixture is highly effective. Rule of thumb: Use anything a goat won't eat! Organic pesticides and fertilizers cost little and can be made locally. And with low input costs and a commercial premium for certified organic cotton, farmers are able to feed their families, send their children to school, and even save some money for the future.



## What's wrong with conventionally grown cotton?

**"2.4% of the world's crop land is planted with cotton and yet it accounts for 24% and 11% of the global sales of insecticide and pesticides respectively<sup>1</sup>."**

And that's not all: Most conventional cotton is produced as a monoculture, using GM (genetically modified) seeds. GM cotton can only be grown by using large quantities of chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides, including glyphosate and dicamba<sup>2</sup>: Pesticides don't discriminate, they kill pests as well as beneficial insects, including bees.



<sup>1</sup> <https://www.redplanet.green/growing-cotton-space-crop-production-sustainable-earth>

<sup>2</sup> Since 2016 dicamba has devastated millions of acres of non-GM crops in the US and has forced a professional bee keeper in Arkansas to close down his operation and move some 12,000 hives to the Gulf coast and to the Canadian border.