

THE GLOBAL MARKETS OF NATURAL FIBRES

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THE WORLD NATURAL FIBRE PRODUCTION IN 2022 IS ESTIMATED AT 32.6 MILLION TONNES.

The production reached 33.3 million tonnes in 2021 and 31.6 million tonnes in 2020.

Natural fibres are heavily-traded commodities, and supply chain disruptions during the last two years are causing significant economic losses as freight costs remain high and deliveries are delayed.

An estimated 40 million households (households vary in size from an average of 3 in China to 15 in some countries of Africa) were engaged in natural fibre production during 2019, including some 29 million households producing Cotton. The total employment in the agricultural segments of natural fibre value chains probably reaches about 200 million people per year, or between 2% and 3% of the world's population.

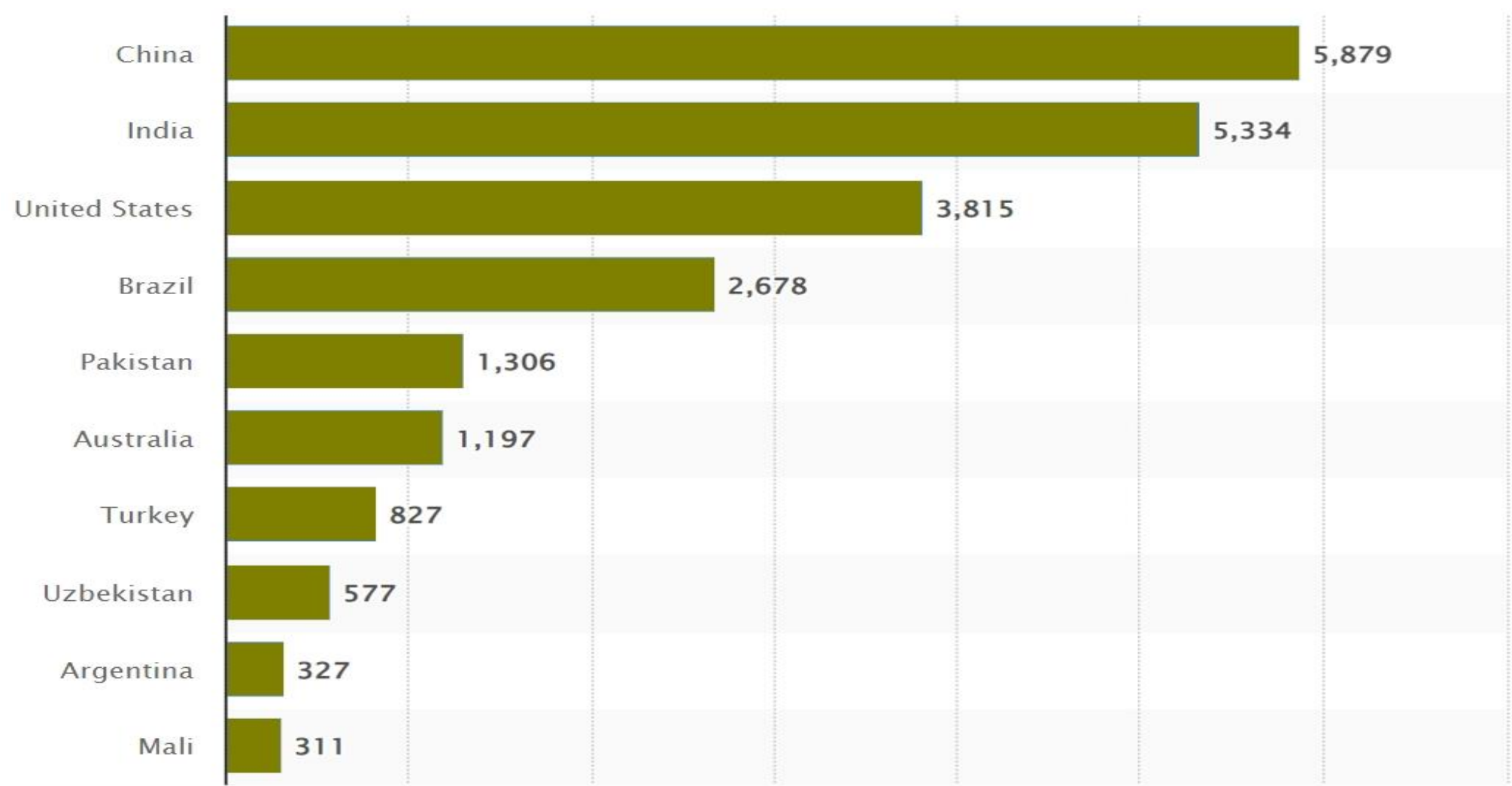
World Natural Fibre Production	2020	2021, Pre. Metric Tonnes	2022, est.
Abaca	75,820	82,000	80,000
Agave Fibres	41,114	41,000	41,000
Bastfibres, other	230,802	229,000	229,000
Coir, without pith	1,101,500	1,120,000	1,119,000
Cotton Lint	24,370,470	25,444,120	24,710,000
Fibre crops not specified elsewhere	270,000	270,000	272,000
Flax fibre and tow, ex scutching mill	976,000	1,028,000	1,006,000
Hemp tow waste	245,271	240,000	247,000
Jute, Kenaf & Allied Fibres	2,618,900	3,164,436	3,200,000
Kapok fibre	89,528	90,000	90,000
Ramie	60,935	59,000	60,000
Sisal, Henequen and similar hard fibers	267,600	260,000	262,000
Silk, raw	173,000	172,000	173,000
Wool, clean	1,031,233	1,033,570	1,089,900
Other animal fibres	27,000	26,460	27,000
Total Natural Fibers	31,579,173	33,259,586	32,600,000

COTTON AND WOOL

Cotton prices were the highest in a decade during 2021/22, and world cotton production is estimated by the International Cotton Advisory Committee at 25.8 million tonnes during the 2022/23 season which began August 1, up from 25.4 million in the season just completed. Extreme drought in Texas, the largest producing state in the United States, is limiting the rise in world production that would otherwise be occurring.

World wool production is forecast up by 5% in 2022 to 1.09 million tonnes (clean), the highest since 2018. Wetter weather in the Southern Hemisphere, following eight years of drought, is allowing farmers to rebuild herds.

COTTON PRODUCING COUNTRIES 2021/22



Source: Statista 2022 - production in 1000 metric tonnes

NATURAL FIBRES ARE

Sustainable and Biodegradable,
Comfortable, Healthy, Responsible,
Renewable, High-tech and Fashionable

DNFI facilitates the exchange of information and experiences and works to advance the common interests of all natural fibres in the face of competition with oil-based and wood-based manmade fibres. Representatives of natural fibre industries as diverse as **Abaca, Alpaca, Angora, Camel, Cashmere, Coir, Cotton, Flax, Hemp, Jute, Mohair, Ramie, Silk, Sisal** and **Wool** participate in DNFI.org

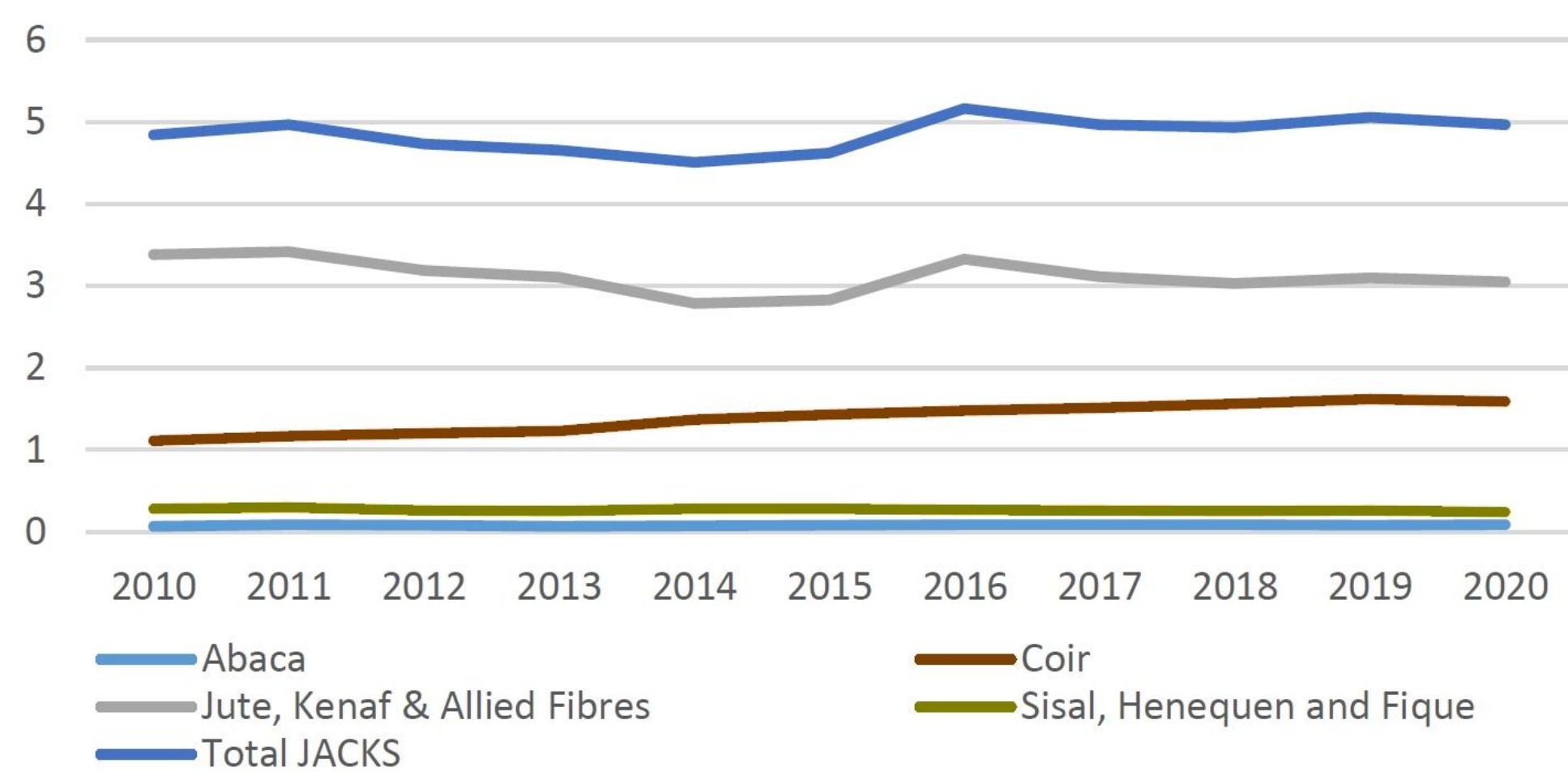
JUTE – COIR – FLAX

World production of jute and allied fibres is estimated unchanged at 3.2 million tonnes in 2022 compared with 2021. High market prices in 2021 motivated farmers to expand planted area in both Bangladesh and India, but dry weather during June and July will limit yields per hectare. Normal monsoon rains resumed in South Asia during August, too late for the 2022 jute crop.

Production of coir fibre rose by an average of 18,000 tonnes per year during the past decade, and production was at a record high of 1.12 million tonnes in 2021. Production is expected to remain high in 2022.

Flax has also been trending upward, rising by an average of 27,000 tonnes per year, and production in 2022 is estimated to remain above one million tonnes.

WORLD FIBRE PRODUCTION (million tonnes)



Source: FAO/EST database

DNFI.org

The General Assembly of the United Nations declared 2009 to be the International Year of Natural Fibres (IYNF) in recognition of the benefits of natural fibre industries to the world economy, the environment, consumers and to producers around the world.

The Discover Natural Fibres Initiative is composed of individuals and organizations from around the world who voluntarily and independently share information about natural fibres. There are no membership dues, DNFI has no offices, no budget and does not conduct projects.

