

**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

## An economic issue in biotechnology- the case of Bt cotton in Tamil Nadu

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**SUMMARY :** A study on the economic analysis of Bt cotton and Non Bt cotton was conducted in Salem and Perambalur districts of Tamil Nadu. The comparative economics of Bt cotton and non Bt cotton showed that that majority of Non Bt farmers (37%) expected yield <10 quintals/acre. But both Bt farmers, (Mahyco Bt farmers) got a yield of >13quintals /acre (49%) and (Rasi Bt farmers yield of >13 quintals/acre (61%). The reason for preferring of Bt cotton by the sample farmers by category wise was found that higher yield and higher productivity was ranked as 1<sup>st</sup> reason. Non Bt farmers reported that higher pest incidence of American bollworms (23.33%) followed by pink bollworm (31.66%) with more number of sprays for pest and diseases resulted in the high cost of cultivation and need more water requirement and susceptibility to pest and diseases were the major problems reported by the Non Bt farmers. Bt cultivated farmers obtained an additional income of Rs. 34,960.77/acre.

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Bt cotton, Non-Bt cotton, Economic analysis

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