



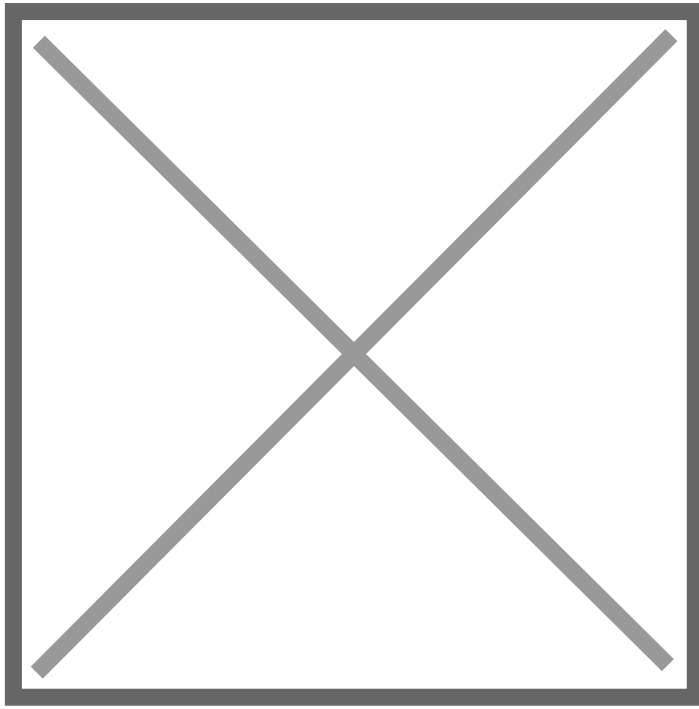
BioSpect

the business of Bt

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Creates Bt cotton sales record

09 June 2011 | News



RANK 11

₹325 crore

Ankur Seeds

MD

Mr MG Shembekar

Business

Agri-business in field crops, vegetables & transgenic crops (cotton)

Start-up Year: 1976

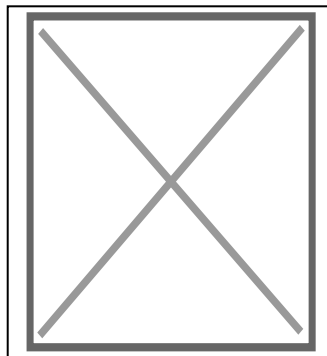
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Website: www.ankurseeds.com

The company sold 15 lakh packets of BG-I and 9.50 lakh packets of BG-II in almost all the cotton growing states of India during the fiscal.



Ankur Seeds Private Limited, a forerunner in marketing of insect resistant cotton hybrids in the country, increased its market share in Bt cotton substantially. The total revenue of Ankur Seeds for FY 2010-11 was ₹325 crore.

The company sold 15 lakh packets of BG-I and 9.50 lakh packets of BG-II in almost all the cotton growing states of India during the fiscal. For distribution of its products, the firm has a well spread marketing network in 16 states of the country, head office in Nagpur, 11 regional offices and six area offices.

The company organizes several regional demonstrations across the country which is attended by 100,000 farmers every year. The company has organized seven regional demonstrations in the previous year and invited over 50,000 farmers to its programs. It started its research activities in cotton, okra, brinjal and chillies and has expanded to more than 15 crops. The R&D of the company is recognized by the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) and the company also received the National Award for excellent R&D achievement from Government of India in 1996.

Ankur Seeds has production and processing facilities spread across the various potential production areas of the country. The company has 11 state-of-the-art processing plants, with production capacity of over 16,000 tons; a dehumidified storage capacity of 5,000 sq m for medium term storage and 10,000 sq m of warehouses. Its products like Akka-Bt, Jai-Bt in cotton; Sonam & Rupali in paddy; Ankur 40 in okra; Ankur 32 in chilly; tomato 1001; Ajay, Kirti, Utkarsh in brinjal; Latika in ridge gourd; Shreya and Karishma in bitter gourd have become extremely popular with the farmers.

In the year 2010-11, Ankur Seeds applied for registration of 14 varieties in PPV and FRA and it also released more than 20 varieties of commercial crops.

Ankur Seeds has invested significantly in marker-assisted breeding projects for developing drought and disease resistant varieties in vegetable and rice. To achieve this it has collaborated with national and international institutes.

Screening of drought resistant cotton transgenics is under process as per the guidelines of DBT and will also apply for the event selection trials for Bt brinjal that has been developed by the company.

In brinjal, the company has successfully developed cytoplasmic genetic male sterility, which will have long term benefits in hybrid seed production technology in brinjal.

The company has also procured a gene for insect resistance from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in 2009, work on which is presently underway.

Ankur Seeds also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the International Centre for Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology to work on a research project on development of virus resistance in okra.