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Cotton output at 39.7 million bales

Mumbai: Total cotton production is estimated at 39.7 million bales for the ongoing crop season, which began on 1 October 2014, due to a decline in productivity in the central region, the Cotton Association of India (CAI) said on Wednesday.

The total cotton production stood at 40.725 million bales (of 170 kg each) during the 2013-14 season, according to CAI data. The total crop in the central region in January is estimated at 21.925 million bales compared to 23.575 million bales last year. The central region includes Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. **PTI**