

L.L.Bean Statement on Chinese Cotton
August 1, 2020

For more than 20 years, L.L.Bean has been actively involved in global initiatives to improve the lives of workers and to end the use of forced labor. These efforts include participation in the Social Responsibility and Labor Committees of both the American Apparel and Footwear Association and the United States Council for International Business, as well as being a member of the U.N.'s BetterWorks program. Our L.L. Bean Supplier Code of Conduct strictly prohibits the use of forced labor of any kind and our global compliance programs and auditors cover every country where a factory makes L.L.Bean-branded product, including China.

The reports coming out of China early this year were extremely troubling and L.L.Bean has made the decision to exit Xinjiang. As such, we will stop all sourcing from textile mills in the region by the end of 2020, and we will be completely out of the cotton production process (farm to factory) in Xinjiang by early 2021. In addition, we will remove all Chinese cotton from our assortment by the end of 2021. As we make this transition, we will continue to actively work with our fellow industry leaders, associations and our partners in the region to ensure that our supply chain standards are being met as we exit the region.