Sub-sector: Agriculture

The agriculture sub-sector consists of end use products used by the agriculture, horticulture and fishing industries. Products include but are not limited to nets, ropes, twine, fabrics, and geotextiles. In addition, protective clothing used by farm workers and transport textiles used in tractors, conveyor belts, hoses, filters, and composite reinforcements are included in this sub-sector. The agriculture sub-sector is driven by the benefits offered by performance textiles in terms of improved productivity, reduced chemicals, and environmentally friendly substitutes.

North Carolina Companies Competing in the Agriculture Sub-sector

**PERFORMANCE TEXTILE SECTORS**

![Map of North Carolina with Agriculture highlighted]

Number of companies: 35
Number of counties: 17
Cluster configuration: Guilford, Mecklenburg, Wake
Sales $ (estimated): $229,012,542
Employees: 1,052
Products (sample): Fish and shrimp nets, Elastic for netting, Fiber Mulch

The agriculture sub-sector in North Carolina has one of the lowest numbers of companies competing in the agriculture sector when compared to the other performance sub-sectors. The sales estimates for the agriculture sub-sector are the second lowest of all other sectors. The lack of companies reported and sales data estimated in the agriculture sub-sector compared to other North Carolina performance sub-sector rankings is most likely due to underreporting of various agriculture product applications by companies. Additionally agricultural applications can also be used in geo-textile applications making it hard for companies to differentiate products and market to the appropriate end user. Growth opportunities in agriculture exist in North Carolina because of the introduction of more modern materials in the sector. Additionally agriculture complements the geotextiles sub-sector, which is vital to today’s global companies focused on sustainability and environmental protection.

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