



The Cocommunity

Monthly Newsletter of the International Coconut Community

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS ...

"The Soul of A Great Leader Never Dies to Motivate Coconut Community"



We are really sad to hear about the sudden demise of Mr. Uron N. Salum, who was the Executive Director of ICC 2014-2020, on 29 April 2022. As a leader, Mr. Salum possesses strong personal core values relating to integrity, hard work, relationships, and peace with all people. He was a man of coconut, always thinking about coconut and working for the welfare of the coconut farmers and sustainability of coconut industry. He is the Executive Director that brought The Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) to an even larger scope of International Organization from 2018 the name has been renewed as the International Coconut Community (ICC).

He made remarkable collaboration of ICC with many significant organizations around the globe that jump-started ICC to build global networking for many years ahead. He is focusing on the massive and rapid development of the Coconut Industry of all Member Countries especially balancing the Country that needed the most of technology transfer, capacity building and knowledge sharing. Prior to his present appointment, he had served the Coconut Industry and the Agriculture Sector in Papua New Guinea since 1983, over 36 years, in strategic roles, senior management responsibilities and leadership, such Kokonas Indastri Koporesen of PNG, also Chairman and Director of PNG Cocoa & Coconut Research Institute Board.

His dream to help coconut farmers and industries that is also reflected in the ICC Vision & Mission will always motivates Coconut Community to march ahead. With this spirit, ICC Secretariat continues to encourage Governments of coconut-growing countries to fully support initiatives undertaken by Communities to sustain the industry. He also always emphasized that effective collaboration amongst coconut stakeholders is essential for the sustainability of the coconut industry. May the soul of this great leader never dies to motivate us.

One of the challenges faced by coconut farmers is the limited availability of coconut seeds to rejuvenate senile and unproductive coconut plants. Micropropagation technology using tissue culture methods is one of the effective solutions. To share expertise and develop skills of researchers working on coconut tissue culture in support of the conservation, germplasm exchange, and mass propagation program among member countries, ICC under the International Coconut Genetic Resources Network (COGENT) organized the first International Tissue Culture Workshop with the theme "Collaborative Initiatives towards Enhancing Tissue Culture R & D", 16-20 May 2022 in India hosted by the ICAR-Central Plantation Crop Research Institute (CPCRI). This is one of the activities of COGENT's International Thematic Action Group (ITAG 4), which serves as the technical team working on in-vitro culture and cryopreservation.

Tissue culture (TC) experts from the different TC laboratories had participated in the workshop, presented their TC research and development, and provided the hand-to-hand skill demonstration to the participants from eight coconut growing countries and the countries hosting the ICGs from Cote d' Ivoire, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam. Representatives from each country also presented the progress and challenges of coconut tissue culture they faced.

To know more about the technological advances and challenges of the coconut industries during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, and to discuss strategies for addressing problems, and to support sustainable development goals (SDG) and gather information for the promotion of coconut development, the ICC team visited some of the coconut machine manufacturing companies and coconut product processing industries in Coimbatore, India on 24-25 May 2022. The companies visited were Essar Engineers, a manufacturer of machinery for coir pith products; Food Protech, a manufacturer of machines for the desiccated coconut powder and virgin coconut oil processing solutions; T&I Global Ltd., a manufacturer of integrated coconut processing solutions. The visit was extremely useful.


DR. JELFINA C. ALOUW
Executive Director

PREVAILING MARKET PRICES OF SELECTED COCONUT PRODUCTS AND OILS

Price of Coconut Crude Oil (CNO) decreased in Philippines, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. Price of Desiccated Coconut (DC) decreased in Philippines, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

COPRA: The price of copra in Indonesia was US\$960/MT in April 2022, which was lower than previous month's price. Compared to the same month of last year the price was US\$ 105/MT higher.

In the domestic market of the Philippines (Manila), the price decreased by US\$ 18/MT from US\$1,221/MT to US\$1,203/MT. The price was US\$287/MT higher compared to the price of US\$916/MT in April 2021.

COCONUT OIL: The average price of coconut oil in Europe (C.I.F. Rotterdam) for April 2022 was US\$2,097/MT which was US\$172/MT lower than price a month earlier. However, this price was higher by 36% as opposed to the price in April 2021 at US\$1,542/MT.

The average local price of coconut oil in the Philippines decreased to US\$2,175/MT in April 2022. Meanwhile, the average local price of coconut oil in Indonesia was US\$1,853/MT in April 2022. The price was US\$492/MT higher compared to the price of US\$1,361/MT in April 2021.

COPRA MEAL: The average domestic price of the commodity in the Philippines was quoted at US\$235/MT. The price was US\$1/MT lower compared to the previous month and was US\$27/MT higher than the last year price for the same month. In Sri Lanka, price of the meal dropped to US\$200/MT from US\$233/MT in the previous month.

The average domestic price of copra meal in Indonesia was US\$324/MT which was higher than previous month price. The price was US\$47/MT higher than last year's price in the same month.

DESICCATED COCONUT: The average price of desiccated coconut (DC) FOB USA in April 2022 was US\$2,690/MT, which was lower than previous month price and US\$162/MT higher than the price of the same month last year.

In Sri Lanka, the domestic price of desiccated coconut in April 2022 was US\$1,720/MT or US\$329/MT lower than in March 2022. Meanwhile, the price of DC in the domestic market of Philippines in April 2022 was US\$2,040/MT, which was higher than March 2022 and higher than the price in April 2021. Indonesian price of DC in April 2022 was US\$95/MT lower than in March 2022, and was lower also compared to last year's price of US\$2,238/MT.

COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL: In Philippines, the average price of the commodity in April 2022 was US\$397/MT which was lower than the price in the preceding month. Meanwhile, Indonesia's charcoal price slightly decreased from US\$593/MT in March 2022 to US\$591/MT in April 2022. Moreover, compared to last year's price, the price was higher by US\$8/MT. Sri Lankan's price in April 2022 was US\$381/MT which was lower than last month's price.

COIR FIBRE: Coir fiber was traded in the domestic market in Sri Lanka at US\$78/MT for mix fiber and US\$420/MT-US\$544/MT for bristle. The Indonesian price for mixed raw fiber was US\$250/MT in April 2022 which was remained the same as the price in March 2022.

Price of Coconut Products and Selected Oils (US\$/MT)

Products/Country	2022 Apr	2022 Mar	2021 Apr (Annual Ave.)	2022
Dehusked Coconut				
Philippines (Domestic)	240	235	256	230
Indonesia (Domestic, Industry Use)	262	243	221	240
Sri Lanka (Domestic, Industry Use)	178	246	n.q.	250
India (Domestic Kerala)	476	491	651	484
Copra				
Philippines (Dom. Manila)	1,203	1,221	916	1,152
Indonesia (Dom. Java)	960	1,061	855	1,023
Sri Lanka (Dom. Colombo)	1,089	1,556	1,738	1,487
India (Dom. Kochi)	1,221	1,278	1,789	1,246
Coconut Oil				
Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	2,097	2,269	1,542	2,138
Philippines (Domestic)	2,175	2,225	1,670	2,093
Indonesia (Domestic)	1,853	1,883	1,361	1,771
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	2,490	3,005	3,251	2,941
India (Domestic, Kerala)	2,042	2,097	2,777	2,089
Desiccated Coconut				
Philippines FOB (US), Seller	2,690	2,704	2,528	2,668
Philippines (Domestic)	2,040	2,039	2,039	2,039
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,720	2,049	2,676	2,196
Indonesia (FOB)	1,880	1,975	2,238	2,074
India (Domestic)	1,785	1,826	2,328	1,829
Copra Meal Exp. Pel.				
Philippines (Domestic)	235	236	208	229
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	200	233	355	261
Indonesia (Domestic)	324	320	277	316
Coconut Shell Charcoal				
Philippines (Domestic), Buyer	397	406	504	404
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	381	438	556	463
Indonesia (Domestic Java), Buyer	591	593	583	592
India (Domestic)	521	531	545	530
Coir Fibre				
Sri Lanka (Mattress/Short Fibre)	78	106	119	110
Sri Lanka (Bristle 1 tie)	420	468	607	511
Sri Lanka (Bristle 2 tie)	544	608	809	671
Indonesia (Mixed Raw Fibre)	250	250	330	243
Other Oil				
Palm Kernel Oil Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.)	2,064	2,441	1,482	2,286
Palm Oil Crude, Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.)	1,683	1,777	1,075	1,582
Soybean Oil (Europe FOB Ex Mill)	1,948	1,957	1,202	1,742

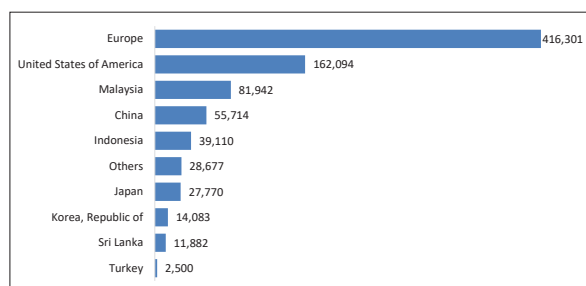
Exchange Rate

Apr 30, '22 1 US\$ = P52.34 or Rp14,486 or India Rs76.53 or SL Rs349.56
 1 Euro = US\$1.05 n.q. = no quote

MARKET REVIEW OF COCONUT OIL

Global trade of coconut oil during the year 2021 faced some challenges especially delays and higher costs of shipments. Amid the challenges facing by industries, Philippines unexpectedly managed to improve their export of the products. Philippine Statistics Authority reported that during the period of January-December 2021, coconut oil exports from Philippines went up to 881,086 metric tons from 840,073 metric tons in January-December 2020. Demand from European countries and USA, the traditional market for coconut oil from Philippines, increased during the period. Export of the oil to European countries went up from 388,317 in 2020 tons to 396,813 tons in 2021. At the same time, export to US market hiked from 152,004 tons to 157,408 tons.

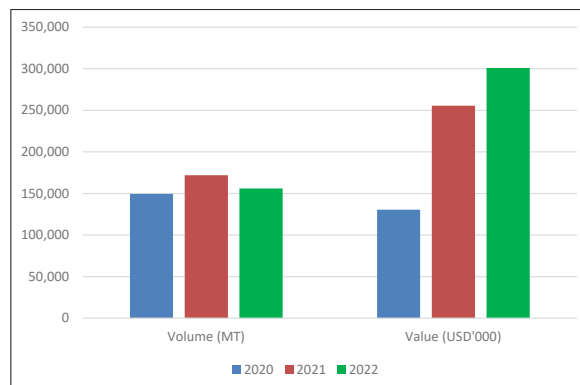
Figure 1. Export Destinations of Philippines' Coconut Oil, January-December 2021



Source: UCAP

At the same time, Indonesia recorded a higher export volume of coconut oil during 2021. During the period January-December 2021, Indonesia shipped 611,448 MT coconut oil to global market. The export was 9.8% higher as

Figure 2. Export of coconut oil from Indonesia, January-March 2020-2022



Source: UCAP

opposed to the previous year's volume. Major markets for Indonesian coconut oil were United States, Malaysia, China, and Netherlands. Export volume to these four countries constituted for more than 70% of the total export. During first quarter of 2022, export of the oil from Indonesia was lessening from 171,886 tons to 155,968 tons. However, in terms of value the export was increasing US\$255.5 million to US\$300.9 million reflecting higher price of the oil.

As the global economic is recovering, demand of lauric oils started to improve during 2021. During January-December 2021, US import of coconut oil was recorded a significant upsurge to level of 468,095 MT meaning an increase of 5% compared to the volume a year earlier. At the same time, import of palm kernel oil slightly leveled up 378,119 MT in 2020 to 381,713 MT during

Table 1. US Imports of Lauric Oils

		Jan-Dec 2020	Jan-Dec 2021	Change (%)	Jan-Mar 2021	Jan-Mar 2022	Change (%)
CNO	Volume (MT)	445,462	468,095	5	135,466	183,301	35
	Value (USD'000)	530,927	830,561	56	224,512	375,773	67
PKO	Volume (MT)	378,119	381,713	1	134,596	107,295	-20
	Value (USD'000)	318,630	496,713	56	146,026	210,213	44

Source: The U. S. Census Bureau Economic Indicators Division

January-December 2021. Hence, total imports of lauric oils by US market hiked to 849,808 tons which was 3.2% higher than the previous year's volume. Furthermore, imports of Lauric oils keep increasing in 2022. During January-April 2022 US imports of the oils increased by 8% from 270,062 MT to 290,597 MT.

Meanwhile, shipments of the oils to European market in the beginning of 2022 showed decreasing trend attributed to the lower imports of palm kernel oil. During period of January-February 2022, imports of lauric oils by European countries was 258,947 which was 10.6% lower than the volume a year earlier. Import of palm kernel oil contributed to the lower import of the oils. Import volume of the oil dropped by 27.3% during the period. Meanwhile, coconut

oil import by European countries rose by 2.8% during the period of January-February 2022. Moreover, demand of lauric oil is expected to hardly recovering in 2022 in European market following political and economic uncertainty in the region.

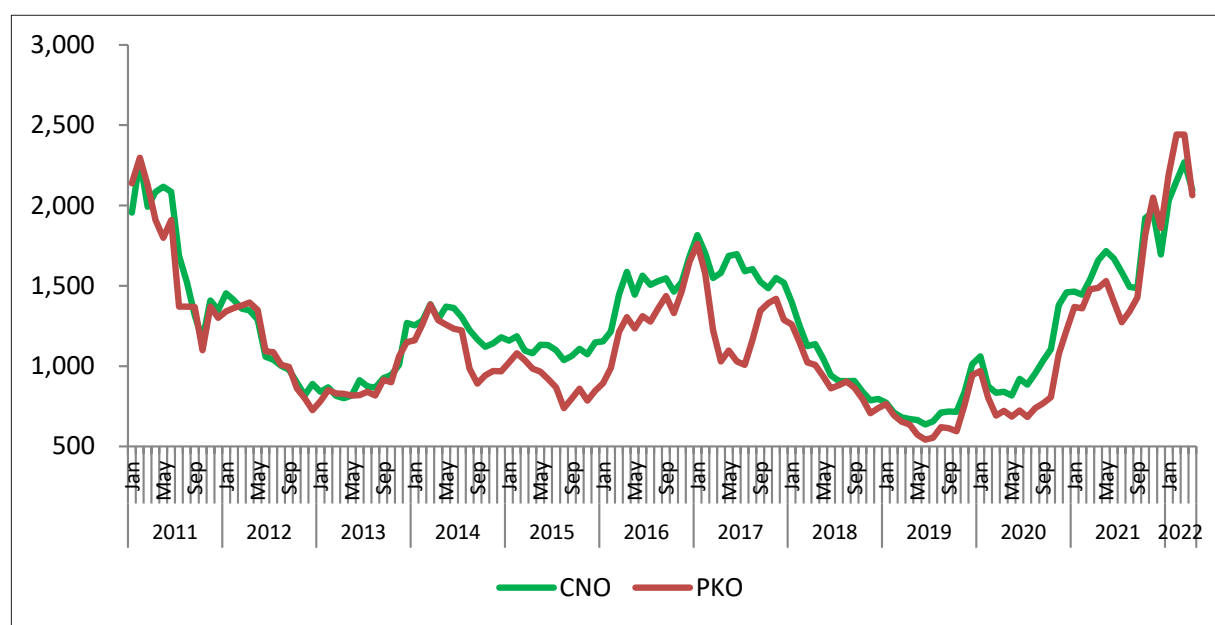
Higher prices of lauric oils were prevailed in the first quarter of 2022. Price of coconut oil appreciated by 34% and price of palm kernel oil jumped by 31% during the January-March 2022. Global shock in vegetable oils supply pushed prices of the oils to a higher level. However, a sharp setback of prices had been seen in the last month. Price of palm kernel oil cut by 15% and price of coconut oil depreciated by 8% from March to April 2022. The lower prices is expected to revive demand of the oils.

Table 2. European Union (EU28) Imports of Lauric Oils, January – February 2021/2022

		Jan-Feb 2021	Jan-Feb 2022	Change (%)
CNO	Volume (MT)	139,613	143,567	2.8
	Value (USD'000)	186,931	265,497	29.6
PKO	Volume (MT)	146,833	115,380	-27.3
	Value (USD'000)	150,287	219,802	31.6
Lauric Oils	Volume (MT)	286,446	258,947	-10.6
	Value (USD'000)	337,218	485,299	30.5

Source: ITC

Figure 3. Price of Lauric Oils, January 2011 – April 2022, (USD/MT)



COMMUNITY NEWS

INTERNATIONAL COCONUT GENE BANK-LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN (ICG-LAC)

The team headed by Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, visited for the appraisal of the International Coconut Genebank-Latin America and Caribbean (ICG-LAC) located in Aracaju, Sergipe in Brazil hosted by the Embrapa Coastal Tablelands, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa). The other members accompanied are Mrs. Erlene C. Manohar, Cogent Coordinator, Ms. Mridula Kottekate, Assistant Director, Mr. Vincent Johnson, Cogent Support and Dr. Niral Vittal, Principal Scientist and Breeder. The activity was one of the program of the International Coconut Genetic Resources Network (COGENT) which is now one of the major programs under ICC. The appraisal conducted was the fourth in series of the five ICGs located in five regions i.e., ICG-SEA-Indonesia, ICG-SAME-India, ICG-SP-PNG, ICG-AIO-Ivory Coast, and ICG-LAC-Brazil. The main objective of conducting the ICG appraisal is to assess the collections' overall capacity and needs, including: i) hosting agreement status; ii) management effectiveness; iii) roles, services and use, and linkages with users and other stakeholders; iv) performance targets and work plans; and v) collection status within the global context.

The appraisal of the ICG-LAC was conducted from 11th to 14th April. A technical session was organised to discuss the programs and activities of ICC and Cogent as well as the research activities of Embrapa. During the session Dr. Marcus A. S. Cruz, General Head Embrapa Coastal tablelands delivered the welcome address and Dr. Marcelo F. Fernandez, Head of Research presented the research activities of Embrapa, Dr. Emiliano Costa, Curator ICG-LAC explained the activities of the ICG and Dr. Ana Leda presented the tissue culture programs of Embrapa. Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, presented the activities and programs of ICC and discussed

the potential collaboration of Embrapa and the government of Brazil to become member of ICC. Dr. Cruz and Dr. Marcelo assured full support and assistance in this regard.

The other researchers of Embrapa attended were Mr. Saulo Coelho Nunes, Communication Officer, Dr. Viviane Talamini, Researcher Phytopathologist, Dr. Edson Patto, Researcher Soil and Conservation and drone specialist, Dr. Adenir Vieira Teodoro, Researcher, Entomologist. The appraisal team visited the germplasm collections both in Itaporanga and Betume experimental gardens. There are 30 accessions (13 tall and 17 dwarf varieties) are maintained in the experimental gardens. Mr. Eriualdo Fonseca Moraes, Technician and supervisor and Mr. Cleversonmatoes, Technician explained the activities of the sites. Dr. Marcelo F. Fernandes, Head Research, Dr. Emilian Costa, Curator and Mr. Saulo Nunes accompanied the team to the sites. The appraisal team also visited one of the private coconut garden planted with Brazilian green dwarf varieties in an area of 160 ha in Neopolies Plateau, mainly used for coconut water and selling in to the market as fresh coconut. The team also visited the tissue culture laboratory, molecular marking laboratory, phytopathology and entomology research division and had interaction with the researchers.

Mrs. Erlene Manohar, COGENT coordinator and Mr. Vincent Johnson Cogent support had Focus Group Discussion with the Embrapa team and discussed on the activities of the economic analysis of the ICGs and helped the team in preparing the action plan on the activities to be carried in ICG. During the discussion session the team members Dr. Niral Vittal, and Dr. Jelfina Alouw, presented their field observation on general maintenance, breeding and plant protection aspects with the members of Embrapa. There was in depth discussion on various aspects related to the maintenance of the ICG and Dr. Jelfina assured full support and technical assistance from ICC in coordinating the activities of ICG with other member countries. (ICC News)

WITHOUT FERTILIZER, THE COCONUT INDUSTRY IN SRI LANKA WILL COLLAPSE

The coconut industry, Sri Lanka's principal traditional export, is on the verge of collapse unless much-needed fertilizer is made available. Sri Lanka will have to import coconuts if this does not materialize by 2025.

According to Deepal Mathew, an Executive Member of the Coconut Growers Association and Emeritus Professor of Bio-Chemistry at Colombo University, next year is the important year for fertilizer delivery. Without it, Sri Lanka's coconut plantations will be deforested, as the coconut plant takes 2-3 years to produce yields following fertilizer application.

The first indicators would appear in 2023, when a crop decline of roughly 50% is projected because fertilizer was not sprayed the previous year, he claimed. The crop will begin to taper in 3-5 years, and there will be no turning back.

The production in 2022 was 3.2 billion nuts, and if fertilizer is not provided soon, the crop is predicted to fail, forcing Sri Lanka to import coconuts even for home consumption by 2025. (*Hortidaily*)

DEVIKULANGARA HOSTS A GROUNDNUT CULTIVATION TRAINING SESSION FOR FFP FARMERS

On April 6, 2022, as part of the Farmer FIRST initiative, a training event on ground nut growing as a suitable intercrop in coconut gardens will be held in three wards of Devikulangaragrama panchayat (FFP). The event was held in the Krishibhavan training hall in Devikulangara. Pathiyoor FFP's ICAR CPCRI FFP and MGNREGS convergence model will be expanded to improve agricultural families' income and nutritional status.

Sri Pavananathan, Devikulangara Grama Panchayat President, was the one who kicked off the event. He enthusiastically endorsed the

project and offered support and assistance in all areas. He highlighted the successes of FFP initiatives at Pathiyoor panchayat as the model village in his illuminating speech. He advised the women's groups who spoke at the conference to pursue farming in conjunction with MGNREGS operations through scientific technology integration for the benefit of the agricultural community as a whole. Ward members discussed the program's execution in 15 acres of coconut gardens as an intercrop and coconut management as recommended by the ICAR CPCRI. Dr. P. Anithakumari, Principal Scientist, led a discussion on FFP implementation and upscaling success models at Devikulangara panchayath, with a focus on millet crops in coconut gardens, as well as collaboration with the Department of Agricultural Development and Farmers Welfare and local self-governments.

Mr. Jithin Shaju, SRF, FFP, ICAR-CPCRI, RS, Kayamkulam, led a session on scientific groundnut farming practices. The program included high-yielding groundnut cultivars, cultivation procedures, nutritional value, and INM and IPDM practices. Because groundnut cultivation is new to women's organizations, there were active interactions, and they confidently stepped forward to accept the challenge. UAS, Dharwad groundnut (G 2-52) was provided to farmer groups.

Mrs. Abi Babu, Agricultural Officer, Devikulangara Panchayath, gave the vote of gratitude and pledged her full support and direction for any future FFP efforts.

The event drew a total of 40 farmers. (*CPCRI News*)

NEERA TAPPING REPORT

On April 13, 2022, as part of the ICAR-CPCRI Research Centre Kidu's golden jubilee year celebrations, an SKCFPCL (South Canara Coconut Farmers Producers Company Limited, Vittal) funded training program on "Value Added Products and Neera Tapping in Coconut" was held at the ICAR-CPCRI Research Centre,

Kidu. Mr. Diwakar, Y., the Centre's Scientist In-Charge, welcomed the dignitaries and all of the training participants, and informed them about the ICAR-CPCRI Research Centre, Kidu. Sh. As a principal guest, Prasad Shetty (President, SKCFPCL, Vittal) launched the program and encouraged participants to make the most of it. He also informed the audience about the farmer-friendly activities that SKCFPCL is involved in. Sh. During the program, Kusum Raj (Vice President, South Canara Coconut Farmers Producers Company Limited, Vittal) was also present as a special guest of honor.

Dr. Hebbar K. B (ICAR-CPCRI Kasaragod Principal Scientist and Head, Division of Physiology, Biochemistry and PHT) presided over the ceremony and informed the audience on the significance of the training program. Dr. K. B Hebbar spoke on coconut value-added goods, neera tapping process, and Kalparasa's future possibilities. Approximately 69 people attended the session, including farmers from both nearby and far away. Mr. Diwakar, Y., the center's Scientist-in-Charge, expressed his gratitude to the sponsors, guests, Director CPCRI, farmer participants, and others who contributed to the program's success. (*CPCRI News*)

A VIRTUAL TRADE EVENT SHOWCASING A WIDE RANGE OF COCONUT ITEMS

From April 26 to 28, the Coconut Development Board, which is part of the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, will collaborate with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for a three-day virtual trade expo on coconut products. The expo will include a wide range of processed items from various sections of the country. According to a press release, the products include food, sweets, beverages, and non-food products.

Potential customers and dealers from all over the world will be able to view the wide range of coconut products at the virtual trade expo. According to the letter, the show will also include

a variety of services for potential producers and merchants.

The trade show will include displays of products, brochures, posters, corporate movies, live interaction with buyers, business inquiry forms, visitor logs to promote offline conversations, and B2B meetings. (*The Hindu*)

THE FIRST EXPORTS OF PT SASA INTI TO BULGARIA

PT Sasa Inti, which is known in Indonesia for its wide range of cooking spices, has officially expanded its market by exporting high-fat desiccated coconut goods to Bulgaria.

The Minister of Trade, Muhammad Lutfi, the Indonesian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Bulgaria, Albania, and North Macedonia, Iwan Bogananta, and the President Director of PT Rodamas Inti Internasional (as representatives of PT Sasa Inti), Hadi Santoso, were present for the first release of desiccated coconut, which was marked by the departure of the container.

The Director General of National Export Trade Didi Sumedi, commissioner of PT Rodamas Inti Internasional Frankie Sibarani, and GAPMMI representative Johan Mulyawan were all present at the release ceremony at the Sasa product processing factory in Cikarang, West Java.

The hard effort of the team, as well as the complete support of Ambassador Extraordinary Iwan Bogananta and the Indonesian Embassy team in Sofia, contributed to the success of the first export of high-fat desiccated coconut to Bulgaria. Hadi Santoso mentioned this in his address, adding that the market growth was not simply to maximize profit, but also as a symbol of cooperation with the government's Spice Up the World campaign.

They have a big vision to increase the popularity of Indonesian food in the world, according to Hadi Santoso, President Director of PT Rodamas

Inti Internasional in his speech, because they believe that Indonesian food is not only made for Indonesians, but also must be appreciated, loved, and enjoyed by the entire world community. They also believe that Indonesian cuisine can compete with that of other countries. PT Sasa Inti uses high-grade coconuts that may compete with other coconuts, such as the Philippine coconut, which is noted for its superior quality. Hadi Santoso added that his team is constantly considering how to compete with global items to carry out long-term collaboration and expand to other nations.

Before his travel to Bulgaria, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia Iwan Bogananta made preparations for market expansion by looking for prospective better Indonesian products that might be produced. Ultimately, the collaboration with P.I.C Co. was given the possibility to export.

The first products to be exported were 600 to 1000 tons of desiccated coconut. It is envisaged that in the future, Bulgaria will be able to send more quality items to Europe.

They plan to develop it in the future, and they feel there are still more great national items to introduce to Bulgaria. So far, this desiccated coconut from Bulgaria has come from Sri Lanka. Currently attempting in Indonesia, with plans to continue from there in the future.

It is understood that PT Sasa Inti will supply the first rendang factory in Bulgaria with desiccated coconut goods as the major ingredient. Furthermore, this dried grated coconut will be used as a raw material in the production of various Bulgarian dishes. Bulgaria is also intended to serve as a distribution center for Sasa products across the European continent. With PT Sasa Inti's achievements, Minister of Trade Muhammad Lutfi expressed his pride, congratulated the ambassador, and thanked him for his hard work. Spice Up the World, Indonesia Spice Up the World is a new unusual commercial breakthrough for Indonesia, allowing us to color the world with Indonesian spices and

flavors. Other Indonesian spices, according to Muhammad Lutfi, have the potential to color the gastronomic world. (*Sindo News*)

SOUTHEAST SULAWESI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS MASS-PRODUCE COCONUT OIL

Thousands of high school students in Southeast Sulawesi Province participated in the mass manufacturing of coconut oil as an alternative to palm oil to alleviate the present scarcity of cooking oil.

"We are afraid that the current cooking oil stocks will not suffice the demand of mothers who will cook for their families during the Ramadan fasting period," Southeast Sulawesi Indonesian National Youth Committee (KNPI) Head Alvin Akawijaya Putra said during the coconut oil production action at Kendari Vocational High School 1.

For the coconut oil production action, Putra said the organization worked with the province's Education and Culture Office.

He said that students from senior and vocational high schools across the province's 17 cities and districts took part in a mass effort to generate coconut oil using traditional methods.

The effort, according to the head of the regional organization, is only an alternative to dealing with the problem of high cooking oil prices at the start of the Ramadan fasting season.

"We believe that this is only an alternative, not a solution," Putra explained, "since the true solution (to address the current situation) is to devise legislation to assist cut the price of cooking oil."

He stated that the mass action is also a chance to expose traditional cooking oil production methods to high school students in Southeast Sulawesi.

Meanwhile, Southeast Sulawesi Education and Culture Office Head Asrun Lio said that Southeast Sulawesi KNPI's move was appropriate because it involved the youth in addressing concerns of cooking oil scarcity.

"(The move) would assist alleviate cooking oil scarcity in Indonesia, particularly in Southeast Sulawesi, where three thousand stoves may currently produce up to 12 thousand liters of coconut oil," Lio said.

Students from senior and vocational high schools in Southeast Sulawesi's 17 cities and districts took part in the protest. The activities in Kendari are centered at the Kendari Vocational High School 1. (*Antara News*)

SRI LANKAN TURMOIL HAS CREATED NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR KERALED COCONUT OIL

The Sri Lankan economic crisis has opened new market opportunities for coconut oil exports from Keraled, Kerala's coconut farmers' cooperative federation.

Keraled's Managing Director, Ashok R, stated that he has had firm inquiries from Europe and Australia for the sale of coconut oil, which Sri Lanka had previously responded to. The island nation's problem is said to have interrupted coconut product exports, and abroad customers are looking for an alternative supplies.

Due to the increasing home market, Keraled, India's largest producer of coconut oil with monthly sales of 1,000 tonnes, is unable to supply the additional export demand. It is seeking to boost its crushing capacity at the Karunagappilli manufacturing facility from 90 to 250 tonnes per day (TPD); the facility is expected to be operational in six months, according to Ashok.

Apart from coconut oil, Germany, Malaysia, and other nations have expressed interest in coconut value-added products such as milk

powder, desiccated coconut powder, and so on. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, offers cheaper production costs.

Keraled plans to resume coconut oil exports to Gulf countries, which were halted in 2016 due to a spike in raw coconut costs. Based on demand, it also wants to introduce value-added products such as virgin coconut oil, infant care oil, hair oil, packed tender coconut water, chips, and so on.

According to Ashok, the company has recently had to reduce coconut oil production due to a lack of packing pouches. The conflict between Russia and Ukraine is affecting the supply of polymer, the raw material used to create the pouches. Prices have risen from 163 to 277 per kilogram. Keraled has floated tenders from enterprises in Pune and Nagpur to tide over the issue because its supply from Hyderabad has been disrupted.

On the financial side, Ashok stated that Keraled has made an operational profit for the past four years, with the figure reaching 13 crores in FY21 on a turnover of 314 crores. The company hopes to reach a revenue of 1,000 crores in the next five years by adding additional coconut value-added products. (*The Hindu Business Line*)

THE PROVINCE OF TRA VINH IS ESTABLISHING LINKS BETWEEN ORGANIC COCONUT PRODUCERS AND BUSINESSES

Authorities in Tra Vinh province are attempting to bring together companies and organic coconut producers for mutual benefit. Companies will have a consistent supply of organic coconuts for processing, and farmers will have outlets and income.

After its neighbor Ben Tre, the Mekong Delta province is the country's second-largest coconut grower. According to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, it has more than 23,600 hectares under coconut and produces 250 million nuts annually. The agency is pushing businesses to partner with farmers to

increase organic coconut growing regions and produce coconut-based products.

Tra Vinh had launched promotional activities to seek investment from coconut enterprises in Ben Tre to promote organic coconut growing and processing, according to Lam Huu Phuc, Deputy Director of the province's Department of Planning and Investment. *(Fresh Plaza)*

AUCTION OF COCONUT-CUM-COPRA

The Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business Department held a regulated market at Vadipatti. At the event, a covert auction for coconut-cum-copra was held.

It is a secret auction since the merchants quote their prices for each lot in a bidding slip within a set time limit; the bidding slips are collected in a ballot box, the officials read out the highest bid alone, and the auction is finished if the farmer agrees.

V. Mercy Jeyarani, the secretary of the Madurai Market Committee, presided over the auction.

At the auction, 13 dealers traded a total of 67,839 coconuts divided into 31 heaps, benefiting 21 farmers, according to the committee's announcement.

Through the auction procedure, the highest price for a coconut was ₹12.10, with a total trading value of ₹5.39 lakh.

Five traders took part in the copra auction, which benefited five farmers. The highest bid for a kilogram of copra at auction was ₹90.10.

According to the statement, a total of 293 kg of copra was auctioned, with a trade value of ₹23,785.

Superintendent, Thirumurugan and Supervisor Seenigurusamy were also present. *(The Hindu)*

FRIENDS OF COCONUT IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT HELPS FARMERS SUPPLEMENT THEIR INCOME

Under the auspices of the Agriculture Research Station, Elumichangiri, and the Coconut Development Board, Chennai, Collector V. Jayachandra Bhanu Reddy distributed coconut tree climbing equipment to 20 people here. At a total cost of ₹80,000, the equipment was distributed to 20 people at a cost of ₹4,000 a piece.

The equipment was distributed as part of a campaign called "Friends of Coconut." The goal was to provide beneficiaries aged 14 to 40 with training on how to operate the equipment. From soil and fertilizer management to value addition, the initiative envisioned offering inputs on optimum farming techniques.

According to the administration, the Agriculture Research Station and the Coconut Development Board have issued 400 pieces of equipment totaling ₹16 lakh so far.

Dr. Reddy urged the beneficiaries, who were mostly young people, to use the equipment to supplement their income. *(The Hindu)*

CHANDIGARH MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION MAY RECEIVE RS 70 LAKH FROM WATERMELON AND COCONUT SELLING LOCATIONS

The Chandigarh Municipal Corporation (MC) is preparing to hold an e-auction of over two dozen sites for the sale of watermelon and coconut water, and is asking for interested bids. The local body authority is targeting annual revenue of roughly Rs 60 lakh to Rs 70 lakh from the auction of sites located in various sectors and areas, which is a substantial of revenue.

In this regard, the civic body has devised a detailed plan. The e-auction procedure for viable sites began on April 25 and will end on

May 9. The bidding will take place on the 18th and 19th of May.

According to the rules and regulations, the sites will be assigned to the highest bidder for one year.

"Because the current sites and sitting watermelon and coconut water sellers' one-year period is coming to an end in June, the process of e-auctioning feasible sites began on April 25, to allocate new sites to eligible and successful bidders for the sale of watermelon and coconut water by June." The authority wants to ensure healthy and fair competition, so an e-auction will be used," a spokesperson said.

According to s, a few sites were discovered to be improper for selling watermelon and coconut water due to a lack of customer visibility. The city council is attempting to identify only acceptable locations. Following site assignment, the MC enforcement department will monitor vendors for compliance with the rules and regulations during the sale.

The sale of watermelon and coconut water generates a large amount of revenue. (*Times of India*)

COCONUT OIL PRODUCERS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE PROPOSED INCREASE IN GST RATES

The alleged proposal to boost GST rates for copra, coconut oil, and cake from the existing 5% has alarmed coconut oil makers and the farming community. They are concerned that any increase will be damaging to the Kerala sector, affecting dealers, manufacturers, and others.

Sibi Thomas, President of the Cochin Oil Merchants Association (COMA), has urged that copra, coconut oil, and oil cake be exempt from the GST Act's taxation. COMA has also requested that the prices be reduced from 5% to 3%, based on the fact that coconut oil is the most important commodity used in Kerala.

It should be noted that the current rate of tax on coconut oil, copra, and oil cake is 5% under the GST, which includes 2.5% GST and 2.5% SGST. Dealers and the farming community have repeatedly requested that these commodities be exempt from the GST net. The exception is important to protect coconut cultivation and the oil sector, which have recently suffered major setbacks due to a variety of causes.

The organization intends to present a memorandum in this respect to the ruling BJP's Karshaka Morcha, which will be convened next week in Kochi. COMA has already requested that the GST Council refrain from raising taxes on copra and coconut oil, according to office bearers.

Prices remain unchanged

Meanwhile, the coconut oil market remained stable, with prices ranging from ₹149 to ₹131 per kg in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, respectively, while copra prices were ₹91 and ₹88. Prices have been steady over the previous week due to low demand, according to traders.

Surplus output in major producing centers, according to Thalath Mahmood, Director, COMA, has kept prices steady and is likely to shift further south. The lack of substantial corporate demand, as well as bulk procurement by corporations when rates are lower, could explain the low demand.

Furthermore, he said that due to greater inflows due to a production glut, coconut oil could not benefit from the price surge for other edible oils (such as sunflower and palm oil) caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Coconut oil prices have been impacted by plentiful supply due to a successful crop season, according to Ubais Ali, CEO of Mezhukkattil Mills. This, combined with people's weaker purchasing power, impacted demand, which is projected to persist. Only when prices fall more will people switch back to coconut oil, he noted. (*The Hindu Business Line*)

THE COCONUT BUSINESS REQUIRES FERTILIZER TO AVOID COLLAPSE

Coconut, Sri Lanka's principal traditional export, is on the verge of collapse if much-needed fertilizer is not made accessible in the next two years to provide the plant with the nutrients it requires. Sri Lanka will have to import coconuts if this does not materialize by 2025.

In an interview with the Business Times, Colombo University Emeritus Professor of Bio-Chemistry Deepal Mathew, who is also an Executive Member of the Coconut Growers Association, said that "next year is the critical year" and that "after that, there is no point in giving fertilizer."

Coconut estates in Sri Lanka will be forested if no fertilizer is applied, as the coconut plant takes 2-3 years to generate yields following fertilizer application.

The first indicators will appear in 2023, when a crop decrease of roughly 50% is projected due to the lack of fertilizer in the previous year, he complained. The crop will begin to taper in 3-5 years, and there will be no turning back.

It will be impossible to recoup once the harvest has declined, he said, adding that estates will have to resort to replanting, which will take seven years.

According to research conducted by the Coconut Research Institute (CRI), when fertilizer is applied to fertile soil, the number of nuts produced is 105, but this number drops to 48 when no fertilizer is provided.

Prof. Mathew explained that there are two seasons to apply fertilizer to coconut trees in a year: the end of April, May, June, October, November, and December.

The coconut industry requires at least 80, 000 MT of fertilizer per year, and with no fertilizer available on the market, growers are facing a

crisis, as the authorities are unwilling to discuss the issue with them.

Furthermore, when fertilizer costs rise, the cost of production is likely to rise as well, resulting in an eventual increase in the price of a nut on the local market, according to Prof. Mathew.

The Rs.13,000 fertilizer bag could rise to Rs.18,000. When the price of a nut is sold at Rs.50, an average tree produces roughly 50 nuts per year, yielding Rs.2500.

Growers are currently considering alternatives, with some selling land for residential properties and cutting down coconut palms, he explained.

He also mentioned that many who rely primarily on coconut palms are having difficulty, thus they are selling the trees.

Prof. Mathew pointed out that the authorities promised to supply them with the requisite fertilizer last year, but it was never delivered to the estates.

"There is no fertilizer this year as well, and we have been trying to arrange an appointment with the Minister for the past five months with no success," he stated.

Agriculture land is fragmented for residential reasons every year, with roughly 60% of coconut lands being taken up, according to Coconut Growers Association President Jayantha Samarakoon.

Approximately 75% of coconut lands with an area of five acres or less are currently distributed among one million growers, the majority of whom are smallholders.

The production in 2022 was 3.2 billion nuts, and if fertilizer is not provided soon, the crop is predicted to fail, forcing Sri Lanka to import coconuts even for home consumption by 2025.

Coconut exports climbed by 30% in 2020, bringing in \$664 million, and by another

30% in 2021, bringing in \$850 million. (*The Sunday Times*)

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE TOMAR WILL LAUNCH A PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN ON COCONUT CULTIVATION

As part of the nationwide campaign "Annadata Devo Bhava-Kisan Bhaghidari Prathmikta Hamari," the Coconut Development Board is holding a nationwide program on "Scientific coconut farming, processing, and value addition".

Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar will inaugurate the program on a virtual platform.

For the benefit of the whole coconut farming community in the country, awareness seminars on the theme of "Scientific coconut cultivation, processing, and value addition" will be organized at the national, state, and district levels, as well as at the level of Farmer Producer Organizations.

Around 20,000 coconut farmers will be involved in the scheme. Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), CPCRI, state agricultural, horticulture, and farmer producer organizations are all involved in the campaign. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, and Goa will host four state-level programs.

The potential coconut farming belts include Kerala, Lakshadweep, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Bihar, West Bengal, Chattisgarh, Odisha, Maharashtra, Assam, Tripura, and Nagaland. Approximately 80 coconut seminars will be given as part of the program.

As part of the program, a Coconut Centre of Excellence and a Farmer Training-Administrative Building will be inaugurated in Dhali, Tamil Nadu, and Hichachara, South Tripura, respectively.

The Centre of Excellence in Coconut in Dhali aims to exhibit better coconut cultivation technologies and serve as a key/supplier of

coconut planting material across the country, in addition to knowledge transfer. The construction of the Coconut Training Centre in Tripura marks a turning point in the development of coconut farming in the northeastern states.

Around 80 seminars on various areas of coconut production, processing, and value-addition will be presented as part of the program.

A three-day virtual trade expo on coconut goods will also be held to demonstrate the wide usage of coconut in food, sweeteners, and beverages, as well as non-food items. It allows potential consumers and traders to tour the many coconut goods available. (*Krishi Jagran*)

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE JOSE ABELARDO MAI SAYS THE COCONUT SECTOR IS A GOOD INVESTMENT THAT MAY HELP FARMERS EARN MORE MONEY

According to Jose Abelardo Mai, Minister of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise, the coconut industry is looking promising because it generates more income for farmers, who are investing in more acreage and a coconut water processing plant in the north.

Minister Mai remarked, "It's a good initiative since we're diversifying our base in the north and across the country."

"Right now, sugar cane is a challenging place to be. People are seeking new ways to make money."

Minister Mai stated that, even though approximately 5,000 acres of coconut cultivation have already been planted in the north, farmers have stated their intention to plant another 2,000 acres. He also mentioned that a private company is planning to build a coconut water processing plant in the north.

Over 17,000 acres of coconuts are grown across the country, with coconut water and coconut oil as the principal products.

Minister Mai remarked in his presentation to the House of Representatives, "Large and small-scale coconut oil production operations are springing up all across Belize."

"Despite the ongoing increase of the local market for coconut water in 2021, Belize was able to ship two containers of coconut oil to Jamaica," the Minister stated.

"We've created special relations with INIFAP Mexico (Mexico's National Institute of Forestry, Agricultural, and Livestock Research) and made an order for 6,000 hybrid nuts from Jamaica to help the coconut business flourish," Minister Mai added.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise (MAFSE) has commissioned a feasibility study to ensure the coconut industry's safe and coordinated expansion.

"Right now, we're waiting for the feasibility study," Minister Mai remarked.

"After reviewing the feasibility study, we'll meet with the farmers to explain things, show them the numbers, and show them where the market is."

"Farmers are looking for two things. They want the market as well as the feasibility study. They'll go for it once they see that they're making money," Mai said.

The Agriculture Minister expressed his confidence, noting that preliminary data suggests that investing in the coconut industry is a good investment that can help farmers earn more money.

According to Mai, the MAFSE will train technicians and farmers on the best available technology for coconut production and will also help farmers obtain financing through the Development Finance Corporation.

The government has abolished import duties on agro-processing gear and equipment, including

packaging and labeling, as an added incentive to farmers and to stimulate agro-processing and value-adding.

However, the Ministry of Agriculture is not solely relying on coconuts as a substitute crop. They are considering many choices.

"Right now, we're also multiplying seeds for pitahaya and expanding the soursop industry." We're also looking at cardamom in the south, as well as the ginger export market and citrus fresh products. Minister Mai stated, "We are looking at several things." (*Breaking Belize News*)

ON 500 ACRES OF LAND IN KUDAT, HYBRID COCONUT WILL BE PLANTED

The Sabah Forestry Development Authority (SAFODA) will plant hybrid coconut on 500 acres of its land in Kudat.

Bahrul Razha Chuprat, the company's general manager, said the initiative was an experiment for Mingxi Plantation Sdn Bhd and the first of its kind in Sabah.

"It is envisaged that this venture would create fresh revenue for SAFODA," he stated.

Mingxi Plantation Sdn Bhd would rent the land from SAFODA for 30 years under the agreement.

The hybrid coconut that will be planted belongs to the Sampoorna genus.

Datuk Wira Richard Lau, Chief Executive Officer of Mingxi Plantation Sdn Bhd (Mingxi), said the company hopes to work closely with SAFODA on the project and hopes to increase the plantation area in the future.

Mingxi will be able to plant 70 trees per acre of land, with each tree blossoming in 24 months and producing 200 nuts, according to those in attendance at a press presentation held recently at the Hyatt Kinabalu hotel near here.

Mingxi also intends to sell coconut water and perform downstream processing on the coconuts produced.

Mingxi hopes to initially meet local demand before exporting to Peninsular Malaysia, depending on acreage.

Keningau Agro-Venture Sdn Bhd (KAVSB) distributed a dividend to its shareholders, the Sabah Land Development Board (SLDB), SAFODA, and the Sabah government, on the same occasion.

Syaheddrul Joddari, the managing director of KAVSB, said the company began operations in 2010 with an oil palm plantation in Keningau.

He stated, "This is the first dividend paid to our shareholders."

He went on to say that KAVSB had planted oil palm on 5,000 of the 8,000 hectares available and that the remaining areas would be planted with commercial plants because they were not suitable for oil palm.

KAVSB paid SAFODA RM1,050,000 in dividends, with SLDB receiving RM1,800,000 and the Sabah government receiving RM150,000. (*The Borneo Post*)

THE TRAINING ON PROCESSING COCONUT BY-PRODUCTS WAS WELL WELCOMED

After successfully completing the week-long 15th Coconut Wholenut Processing training in Ba last week, participants were eager to begin producing their coconut by-products.

Loraini Bula of Togalevu, Ba, said she learned a lot during the course, especially that making coconut milk involves more than just shredding coconuts.

"From coconut plantation to the production of VCO (virgin coconut oil) and soap, I've learned a lot." This will also enable us to do something for

ourselves while also contributing to our families. We all shred coconut and discard the shell, but now we know we can save the shells and reuse them instead," she explained.

Sulochna Wati Sharma of Vaqia, Ba, a farmer and social worker, aims to create yaqona cups, coconut candy, and coconut soap, among other coconut by-products.

"Coconut is a priceless gift that leaves nothing to chance. Everything has been utilized. We learned about coconut kinds including Mua hybrid, Malayan, and others. We also learn how to manufacture, sell, and market our goods. "I learned that I need to keep working on my ideas to make them successful and sell them in the communities, the tourism sector, and even on the side of the road," she added.

Vinesh Kumar, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, commended the more than 30 participants who completed the program successfully.

He stated that the Ministry was committed to restoring the coconut business and promoting the use of coconut for nutrition and health constructively.

"I hope this training has adequately equipped you to investigate industrial avenues that would increase your livelihood and overall income while also creating job prospects." It will also allow you to implement strategies that will improve your output of value-added coconut commodities such as virgin oil, VCO, coconut milk, sugar, and handicrafts," he stated.

He encouraged them to form a network along the coconut value chain to increase the production of their coconut growing operation.

"I hope you will take this knowledge back to your communities and share it."

Mr. Kumar also praised the trainers and facilitators for putting together a well-planned program.

"I'd want to express my gratitude to each member of the staff who has contributed to the success of this course. Thank you, Dr. Rohit Lal, for guiding this team with all those machines, charts, and training. I am quite pleased with the work that has been completed." (*The Fiji Times*)

SULOCHNA WATI APPRECIATES COCONUT TRAINING ASSISTANCE

Sulochna Wati Sharma of Vaqia, Ba, a farmer and social worker, aims to create yaqona cups, coconut candy, and coconut soap, among other coconut by-products.

This follows the successful completion of a week-long program at the 15th Coconut Wholenut Processing Training in Ba by 30 participants.

Ms. Sharma explained that throughout the training, everything in a coconut is used to learn about the many types of coconuts.

She added, "We also learn how to create our product, how to sell it, and how to market it."

"I learned that I need to keep working on my ideas in order to make them effective and sell them in the communities, the tourism business, and even on the side of the road."

Another participant, Loraini Bula of Togalevu, said she learned a lot during the course, particularly that there was more to making coconut milk than merely grating coconuts.

"I've learned a lot," Ms. Bula added, "from coconut planting to creating VCO (virgin coconut oil) and soap."

"At the very least, this allows us to do something for ourselves and give back to our family."

"Before, we just knew how to grate the coconut and discard the shell.

"However, after this training, we will gather the shells and use them to produce other items," she explained.

Permanent Secretary Vinesh Kumar of the Ministry of Agriculture stated that the ministry is committed to restoring the coconut industry and positively promoting the use of coconut for nutrition and wellness.

Mr. Kumar asked the attendees to form a network along the coconut value chain to boost the production of their coconut farming operations.

"I hope this training has adequately prepared you to pursue industrial avenues that will increase your livelihood and overall income while also creating job prospects," he stated.

Mr. Kumar explained that the training will enable you to apply strategies that will boost your output of value-added coconut commodities such as virgin oil, VCO, coconut milk, sugar, and handicrafts. (*Fiji Sun*)

DELTA IS SET TO BECOME NIGERIA'S LEADING COCONUT PRODUCER

Mr. Aneke Ifemeni, the senior special assistant to Governor Ifeanyi Okowa on agriculture, has promised that Delta State will soon become Nigeria's leading coconut grower.

Ifemeni stated this to journalists in Asaba, the state capital, and also assured farmers that the coconut industry was here to stay in Delta.

He claimed Delta has what it needed to become Nigeria's top coconut-producing state in a few years.

Ifemeni, who is also the state program coordinator for the Delta State Coconut Development Programme (DESCODEP), praised the governor for establishing an atmosphere conducive to the growth of the coconut industry.

He urged residents of the state, particularly farmers, to support the government's coconut development project by planting coconut this farming season.

"We should keep in mind that another planting season is approaching, and one crop that everyone should cultivate is coconut.

"It's becoming a worldwide product that's gradually displacing palm oil," he said. (*Daily Trust*)

AGRICULTURE MINISTER TOMAR WILL KICK OUT A CAMPAIGN TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT COCONUT FARMING

Coconut Development Board is sponsoring a statewide program on "Scientific coconut farming, processing, and value addition" for the benefit of coconut farmers as part of the nationwide campaign "Annadata Devo Bhava -Kisan Bhaghidari Prathmikta Hamari."

The program will be launched on a virtual platform by Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar.

In Dhali, Tamil Nadu's Tiruppur district, and Hichachara, South Tripura, respectively, a Centre of Excellence in Coconut and a Farmer Training-cum-Administrative Building are being opened as part of the program.

The Dhali Centre of Excellence in Coconut is aimed at demonstrating better coconut farming technologies and, in addition to knowledge transfer, will serve as a key /supplier of coconut planting material across the country. The construction of the Coconut Training Centre in Tripura represents a watershed moment in the development of coconut farming in the northeastern states.

As part of the program, some 80 seminars on various areas of coconut farming, processing, and value addition will be held.

A three-day virtual trade expo on coconut goods will also be held to highlight the many uses of coconut, which include food, sweeteners, beverages, and non-food items. It allows potential buyers and traders to take a tour of the many coconut products. (*The Hindu Business Line*)

COCONUT KERNELS FROM SRI LANKA ARE BEING PROMOTED IN BELGIUM

To promote the sale of Sri Lankan coconut kernel goods to Belgium, the Sri Lankan Embassy in Brussels held a workshop named "Coconut Wonder - Truly Sri Lankan."

On a virtual platform, the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), Ceylon Chamber of Commerce, and Federation Chamber of Commerce and Industries organized the participation of Sri Lankan coconut exporters at the session.

Ambassador Grace Asirwatham gave an overview of Sri Lanka's coconut industry and discussed why importers of coconut goods in Belgium should consider doing business with Sri Lanka.

Wichy Coconut, Adamjee Lukmanjee & Sons, Senikma Holdings, Cocolanka, E-Silk route ventures, Ceylon Exports and Trading Ltd., Ceylon Coco Green Manufacturing Ltd., Renuka Foods, and Enrich Tea and Food Exports Ltd. all presented product samples and company profiles to the Belgian importers at the event.

Coconut goods have recently gained popularity as a result of rising consumer interest in vegetarian, vegan, and Asian cuisine. The demand for desiccated coconut in Europe is increasing, and Belgium is one of the top importers of coconut products in the EU.

Belgian importers praised the quality of Sri Lankan organic coconut products, as well as the methods and techniques employed in their production, as well as the EU's zero-tariff

concessions for coconut products imported from Sri Lanka under the GSP Plus scheme.

Belgian exporters had virtual discussions with Sri Lankan exporters as well. Because Belgian importers expressed a strong desire to continue working with Sri Lankan exporters, the Embassy committed to set up B2B meetings between the parties soon.

During the session, a cookery film featuring Sri Lankan Coconut goods as ingredients was shown, raising awareness of new and innovative coconut products that may be used in the confectionery, bakery, and chocolate industries, as well as restaurants and hotels.

Despite having a smaller population compared to other top European markets, Belgium imports 5.8 thousand tons of desiccated coconut at the value of Euro 11.7 million. Sri Lanka accounts for about 4% of Belgium's desiccated coconut imports.

The workshop's goal was to expand Sri Lanka's share of the coconut product market in Belgium by diversifying the product portfolio and offering creative and cutting-edge new items in line with changing customer requirements and expectations.

Belgium is home to some large-scale makers of chocolate, pastries, biscuits, and other delicacies that contain desiccated coconut and other coconut products. (*Daily FT*)

THE OBUASI MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY PROVIDES 1,000 COCONUT SEEDLINGS TO FARMERS

This came after the Assembly had already given over 40,000 oil palm and citrus seedlings to local farmers.

The free seedlings were part of the government's Planting for Export and Rural Development (PERD) initiative, which aims to promote rural economic growth by providing certified

improved seedlings, extension services, business support, and regulatory mechanisms to improve rural farmers' household incomes.

The PERD initiative also aims to provide industries with a long-term supply of raw materials.

The Municipal Chief Executive, who handed over the seedlings to the farmers, stated that the Assembly recognizes the value of the PERD program and has dedicated itself to ensuring that Obuasi farmers benefit from it.

"We recognize the value of this initiative, therefore we ensured that the Agric Department was adequately resourced to obtain the coconut, cultivate and distribute the seedlings, and that farmer groups were formed and enlightened on the program's modalities," said Honorable Elijah Adansi-Bonah.

The MCE took use of the opportunity to encourage locals, particularly the youth, to contact the Agriculture Department about starting a coconut farm.

He also remarked that, while Obuasi is well-known for its abundant gold, it also has significant agricultural potential, as seen by Obuasi farmers winning national agriculture awards.

Obuasi Makes Impressive 1D1F Progress

Hon. Elijah Adansi-Bonah also said that the Enable Youth Program of the One District One Factory has finished a citrus processing factory. He stated that the project's contractors will shortly give over the facility for work to commence.

He added that LEAPAP, a firm situated in Obuasi, has been given funding to start an oil palm processing factory. "I encourage investors to set up industries in Obuasi to make use of the abundant raw materials."

The Municipal Director of Food and Agriculture, Mr. Raphael Atta Peprah, stated that this is merely the first round of recipients. More

TRIBUTE TO MR. URON N. SALUM



It is with our deepest grief to learn of the saddening death of Mr. Uron Neil Salum, General Manager of the Coconut Resource Limited, Kokonas Industri Koporesen, Government of Papua New Guinea and Former Executive Director of International Coconut Community.

We greatly appreciate and are extremely grateful for his sincere contribution and dedication as the 6th Executive Director of ICC from 2014 to 2020. Mr. Salum's contributions created a significant milestone and leap in the ICC and coconut industry,

- Mr. Uron brought a great and memorable impression to the ICC Secretariat of strong leadership yet combine with a super sincere attitude.
- Mr. Uron is the Executive Director that brought APCC to an even larger scope of International Organization from 2018 the name has been renewed as International Coconut Community.
- He made remarkable collaboration of ICC with many significant organizations around the globe that jump-started ICC to build global networking for many years ahead.
- He is focusing on the massive and rapid development of the Coconut Industry of all Member Countries especially balancing the Country that needed the most of technology transfer, capacity building and knowledge sharing like Member Countries in the Pacific Region
- Prior to his present appointment, he had served the Coconut Industry and the Agriculture Sector in Papua New Guinea since 1983, over 36 years, in strategic roles, senior management responsibilities and leadership, such Kokonas Industri Koporesen of PNG, also Chairman and Director of PNG Cocoa & Coconut Research Institute Board
- And many other achievements with beneficial effects to ICC and the coconut industry stakeholders.
- Mr. Uron has inspired the Secretariat and next leaders of ICC with all his achievements and progress undertaken by him.

Shall we admire the immense effort of sustainable development of the local and global coconut sector that surely gave a positive impact on the coconut Industry including small farmers.

We hope the attributes and legacy of Mr. Salum could keep inspiring us not only related to the coconut industry but also strong leadership, great personality, and work ethic. We offer our prayers for the comfort of family and loved ones. May, the departed soul of late Mr. Uron Neil Salum, Rest in eternal Peace.



established in order for the program's noble aims to be realized. He also asked farmers to report any pest or disease outbreaks to the Department of Agriculture for proper management.

Mr. Mohammed Appiah, a beneficiary, expressed gratitude to the Assembly for its efforts to help farmers and encouraged his peers to take advantage of the program to improve their livelihoods. (*Modern Ghana*)

TRADE NEWS

INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Prices of tropical oils stayed mostly easier after a firm start but settled in the upside at close as opposed to soybean oil which consistently tracked higher.

In Rotterdam coconut oil market, business was extremely light featuring an only trade earlier during the week at \$1,950/MT CIF, much unlike week-ago that saw a dozen parcels changing hands. This week traded price was at the low-end of last week range at \$1,930-2,020/MT CIF. Market was virtually a one-sided affair with only sellers participating; buyers retreated since midweek. Opening quotes were firm at \$2,060-2,250/MT CIF for positions from April/May through to September/October in step with palm oil and soybean oil markets but thereafter followed an easier course as palm oil weakened. Market, however, took a breather at close to end the week in the upside at \$1,940-2,050/MT CIF.

Palm kernel oil finally saw activity this week after three weeks being untraded. An only business was reported earlier at \$1,970/MT CIF for July/August delivery. After trading, buyers disappeared from the scene just like in the coconut oil market. Opening rates started off mixed with deferred August/September easier as against firmer earlier positions; levels stood at \$1,940-2,050/MT CIF. Prices scaled lower afterwards following other markets but

similarly bounced back at close with levels at \$1,930-2,020/MT CIF.

Coconut oil has maintained price premium over palm kernel oil across the board with average this week at \$47.84/MT increasing from week-ago at \$37.19. This is the fifth straight week that coconut oil has remained premium vis-a-vis rival palm kernel oil. Price premium per position are shown following: April/May \$80.00 (\$64.58 last week); May/June \$38.50 (\$25.00); June/July \$18.75 (\$23.75); July/August \$30.25 (\$30.63); August/September \$48.75 (\$28.13), September/October \$26.50 (\$45.42); October/November \$70.00 (\$40.00); November/December \$70.00 (\$40.00).

At the CBOT soya complex market, soybean futures were firmer but ended the week on negative note due to profit-taking. Soybean oil though rallied during the week. China featured in the market this week with reports of interests for US soybeans and optimistic traders' projections on demand. Rumors had it that China had purchased US soybean stocks. Meanwhile, USDA earlier reported flash sales to unknown destinations which may probably include China.

At the palm oil section, market opened firm influenced by gains in competing soybean oil at CBOT. However, cargo surveyors' report indicating reduced exports from Malaysia for the period April 1-20 reversed the trend; figures showed a reduction by 18% to 610,728 MT from month-ago. Further decline ensued driven by profit-taking but eventually settled at close in the upside, though levels yet were below opening rates, on weaker Malaysian ringgit making the commodity attractive to buyers.

Prices of tropical oils for nearest forward shipment showed lauric oils still parked in the negative territory though drops were much milder than last week. Coconut oil lost \$0.88/MT from week-ago at \$2,029.38 down to \$2,028.50/MT CIF this week. Palm kernel oil fell \$14.38 from \$2,004.38 down to \$1,990.00/MT CIF. On the other hand, palm oil advanced another \$47.50

from \$1,715 to \$1,762.50/MT CIF. As a result, coconut oil price premium over palm kernel oil widened to \$38.50/MT from \$25.00 last week but spread over palm oil further contracted to \$266.00 from \$314.38. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

MARKET ROUND-UP OF COCONUT OIL

In Rotterdam, the coconut oil market was lackluster with reported business down to only one for the week compared to a dozen trades last week. Turnover was reported at \$1,950/MT CIF for May/June. Market opened with firmer offers but after that headed lower influenced by weaker palm oil but managed to close in the positive territory following other oils. Closing offers stood at \$2,050 for April/May; \$1,970 for May/June; \$1,960/MT CIF for June/July; \$1,950 for July/August; and \$1,940/MT CIF for August/September and September/October. Buyers were scarce, keeping the market one-sided since midweek with only sellers present.

The FOB coconut oil market remained closed. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

FUEL PRICE INCREASES HAVE IMPACTED THE SUPPLY OF DWARF COCONUTS

Last week, the supply of dwarf coconuts was briefly disrupted when lorry drivers transporting the product from Kerala refused to carry the stock, citing demand for a higher transportation cost due to rising fuel prices.

Yellow coconuts are exclusively available in a few locations in Hyderabad. "After a 4-5-day break, we acquired new supplies," R explains. Sivaya, a coconut vendor on Ameerpet's Dharam Karam Road. However, the price of a coconut has remained unchanged at ₹50 per piece.

However, prices for coconut water bottles containing one liter or more are expected to rise dramatically. Each bottle costs between ₹100 and ₹200. Because consumers are more likely to drink coconut water during the summer, the

demand is likely to be met with a price rise of ₹10-20 per bottle. (*The Hindu*)

IN THE COCONUT OIL CATEGORY, DABUR TRIUMPHS OVER MARICO

According to statistics from insights and consulting firm Kantar Worldpanel, Dabur, the second-largest player in the coconut oil market, grew its households by 23 percent over the last three years, while the number of households buying Marico's coconut oil increased by 3 percent. The number of households that purchased a brand in a certain period is referred to as absolute households.

"Marico is the leading coconut oil maker in the United States, reaching over half of all households. Marico's absolute households increased by 3% from January 2019 to January 2022. "However, the pace of household population growth was projected at 8.3 percent during the duration, so we can say Marico lost penetration," said K Ramakrishnan, Managing Director - South Asia, Kantar Worldpanel.

"Dabur's penetration is about a tenth of Marico's. However, it was one of the few brands that managed to grow their market share during that time," Ramakrishnan said.

However, given Dabur's smaller base, a 3% increase in Marico's households would be much higher than a 23% increase in Dabur's households, according to the research firm.

In a given population of households, market penetration is the percentage of households that buy a certain brand.

Covid effect

Coconut oil is a versatile oil that may be used in both cooking and hair care. Although brand positioning differs across companies, the general coconut oil market has struggled in recent years, as grooming was one of the industries hardest hit by the Covid epidemic. Coconut oil's market penetration declined from 65 percent in January

2019 on a moving annual total basis to 63 percent in the equivalent time in 2022, the data from Kantar Worldpanel showed.

Dabur has been aggressively striving to boost its share of the coconut oil market, which is dominated by arch-rival Marico, for several years. In various sub-categories, such as hair oil and amla oil, the two corporations are competing against one other. Marico's recent entry into the honey and Chyawanprash area, where Dabur is a big participant, has raised the competitive tension.

Dabur has made a number of steps to increase its footprint in the coconut oil industry. The company has conducted extensive advertising campaigns and launched Dabur Coconut Oil in South India and Dabur Anmol in Eastern India. Dabur Virgin Coconut Oil was recently offered solely on e-commerce by the company.

"In the total hair-oil category, our market share increased by 90 basis points. Even in the sub-segments of scented oil and coconut oil, marketing spending and distribution growth have resulted in significant market share gains. In February, Dabur's CEO Mohit Malhotra stated, "Our coconut oil brand Anmol has secured the number two position in the pure coconut oil category."

Dabur presently controls roughly 8-10% of this product area, according to industry estimates. Despite being the second-largest player, the company trails Marico, which owns brands like Parachute and has a 55-60 percent market share, according to industry estimates.

Another company attempting to break into the market is Bajaj Consumer Care. Analysts, however, believe it has yet to capture a large market share.

A credible opponent

"Many players have attempted to enter this division. However, until Dabur entered the sector, there was no credible number two,"

said Himanshu Nayyar, principal analyst at Yes Securities.

Dabur is gaining "significant market share gains" in the category, according to Nayyar, thanks to its strong distribution muscle in the hair-oil category and a thorough understanding of the product.

"The company has a limited base right now and consequently it will maintain expanding faster than Marico for at least the next two years. The market share gain will not come at the expense of Marico but smaller regional and local players," he noted.

According to industry estimates, around 30% of the coconut oil market is still unorganized. According to analysts, customers transitioning from the unbranded to the branded category will stimulate growth for new companies in the segment. (*Money Control*)

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OTHER VEGE OIL NEWS

AMID THE UKRAINE-RUSSIA CONFLICT, INDIA AND CHINA FOOD FIRMS SHOULD DIVERSIFY VEGE OIL SUPPLY

According to an industry analyst, Indian and Chinese food companies should look for alternative or additional supplies of vegetable oil, as both nations are experiencing significant shortages and price increases as a result of the Ukraine-Russia conflict.

Bruce Dunlop, Senior Analyst of Consumer Research at Fitch Solutions, suggested three strategies for dealing with the effects of the drop in Ukrainian supply and overcoming price hikes: (1) immediately find alternative s of oil, such as ghee or palm oil; (2) re-formulate products; and (3) use 'shrinkflation' (sell in smaller quantities at the same price point).

According to Fitch Solution, 1.19 million tons of total Russian vegetable oil exports travel to China and India combined, citing export statistics. In contrast, Ukraine exports 3 million tons to China and India combined, about three times the quantity to Russia. As a result, Russia is unlikely to make up for the supply gap caused by the crisis in Ukraine. Fitch Solutions also cited various countries' market exposures to Ukraine, with India's at 74.3% and China's at 59%. Malaysia has a 58.1% exposure to Ukraine, Saudi Arabia has a 65.6% exposure, and South Korea has a 56.3% exposure to Ukraine. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

MALAYSIA IS READY TO FULFILL THE NEED FOR SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL TO RELIEVE EDIBLE OIL SHORTAGE - MPOC

The Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) stated that the country is willing to assist and meet the demand for sustainable palm oil to replace sunflower oil, which is in short supply in Iceland supermarkets. " Sustainable palm oil is a viable substitute for sunflower oil. While the war in

Ukraine has an impact on supply and, inevitably, food prices, Malaysia stands ready to help," MPOC Chairman Larry Sng Wei Shien said in a statement.

Due to a severe shortage of sunflower oil, a staple ingredient in various food products, Iceland Foods Ltd. was forced to reverse a ban on palm oil from its products and shelves, according to reports. Due to allegations that palm oil is one of the biggest s of deforestation, Iceland supermarket committed to removing palm oil from all of its own-brand items in 2018. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

THE SOLVENT METHYLOXOLANE IS SAFE FOR VEGETABLE OIL EXTRACTION - EFSA

Following an application to amend Annex I of Directive 2009/32/EC to authorize the use of 2-methyloxolane as an extraction solvent for use in the production of a variety of foodstuffs and food ingredients, the European Commission (EC) asked the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) to provide a scientific opinion on the safety of using 2-methyloxolane as an extraction solvent. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has determined that methyloxolane is safe to use as a solvent for vegetable oil extraction.

Methyloxolane is used in hexane-based procedures, such as extracting lipids from oil-and protein-rich biomass including corn, rapeseed, soyabeans, and sunflower seeds. It's also utilized to extract natural aromas, flavors, antioxidants, and colorants, notably lipophilic ones like annatto, carotenoids, and chlorophylls, which are currently extracted with hexane.

Under the intended conditions of use and the maximum residue limits (MRLs) stated by the application, the EFSA Panel on Food Contact Materials, Enzymes and Processing Aids (CEP) assessed the safety of 2- methyloxolane as an extraction solvent. The greatest probable maximum (95th percentile) food exposure for toddlers was 0.32 mg/kg body weight (bw)/day, according to the Panel.

In sub-chronic oral toxicity research in rats, an oral developmental toxicity study, and an extended one-generation reproductive toxicity study, the panel reported no observable adverse effect levels (NOAELs). The panel found that when used under the intended conditions and at the suggested MRLs in the extracted food or food products, including the fractionation of fat, oil, or butter (with an MRL of 1mg/kg), the extraction solvent 2- methyloxolane poses no safety risk. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

HEALTH NEWS

WHY COCONUT MILK TEA IS THE NEXT BEST THING?

Green tea, black tea, and other types of tea are commonly consumed. Tea prepared with coconut milk is typically overlooked on this list because few people have heard of it. They are not aware of the high nutritional value of this tea when compared to other tea varieties.

Skin protection

Coconut tea is excellent for antioxidants. Eczema, Dermatitis, and Psoriasis are all dry skin disorders that can be treated with coconut milk. Coconut milk is high in lipids and antioxidants, which can aid in the treatment of dry skin.

Immune system booster

Coconut includes Lauric acid, which aids in immune enhancement. Lauric acid contains antibacterial and antifungal effects and can kill many cancer cells. Lauric acid has anti-inflammatory effects as well. Coconut tea should be prioritized for a healthy immune system.

Weight loss assistance

Coconut milk contains medium-chain triglycerides, which are used to treat diarrhea, steatorrhea (fat indigestion), celiac disease, liver disease, and other food absorption difficulties.

MCTs also promote energy generation through a process known as thermogenesis, which helps to reduce body weight and waist circumference. In addition to these advantages, MCTs improve insulin sensitivity. Insulin is a hormone that aids in blood sugar regulation. It aids with weight loss.

A must-have for a healthy heart

According to some research, coconut tea increases "good cholesterol," or high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL), which protects the heart and removes "bad cholesterol," or low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL), from the blood. (*News18*)

COCONUT WATER: EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS NUTRITIOUS SUMMER BEVERAGE & THE RIGHT TIME TO DRINK IT

Coconut water is like honey, and it's one of the greatest drinks for beating the summer heat since it gives you instant energy and helps you keep your electrolyte balance. It's also good for weight watchers because it's low in calories and sugar, unlike traditional nimbu pani or shikanji.

Coconut water is a wonderfully nutritious drink since it contains natural enzymes and minerals like potassium. Here are 5 reasons why you should drink coconut water and when to drink it.

Nutritionally rich

Coconut water includes 10% RDI vitamin C, 15% RDI magnesium, 17% RDI potassium, 11% RDI sodium, and 6% RDI calcium.

Contains antioxidants

Oxidative stress occurs when your body has too many free radicals, which can harm cells and raise your risk of disease.

Coconut water includes antioxidants, which can change free radicals such that they are no longer dangerous, according to animal research.

Another study found that rats with a liver impairment who were given coconut water showed less oxidative stress than rats who were not given any therapy.

Not only that, but coconut water drinking also reduced blood pressure, lipid, and insulin levels in rats.

Diabetes prevention

Coconut water has been demonstrated in studies to lower blood sugar levels, with rats given coconut water having lower levels of hemoglobin A1c, indicating improved long-term blood sugar control.

Other research has found that giving coconut water to diabetic rats lowers blood sugar levels and reduces oxidative stress, but further research is needed to confirm the findings.

Coconut water is high in magnesium, which helps persons with type 2 diabetes and prediabetes improve insulin sensitivity and lower blood sugar levels.

It may aid in the prevention of kidney stones

Drinking enough fluids, including simple water, will help prevent kidney stones, but research suggests that coconut water may be even better.

Calcium, oxalate, and other substances combine in the urine to produce crystals, which can form stones. However, some people are more prone to producing stones than others.

Coconut water prevented crystals from attaching to the kidneys and other sections of the urinary tract in rats with kidney stones, and it also helped reduce the number of crystals generated in the urine.

More research is needed to determine the effect of coconut water on kidney stones.

Can support heart health

Drinking coconut water can lower your risk of heart disease. In one study, rats who drank

coconut water had lower blood cholesterol and triglycerides, as well as lower liver fat.

Humans, on the other hand, may need to drink a lot of coconut water to reap the same benefits.

When is the best time to drink coconut water?

Coconut water, unlike many other drinks, has no ideal time; it can be consumed at any time of the day or night.

Coconut water contains lauric acid, which enhances immunity and aids in metabolism and weight loss. Drinking it first thing in the morning is a good idea.

Coconut water is recommended for pregnant women to avoid dehydration and constipation, as well as morning sickness and heartburn, which are typical during pregnancy.

Coconut water can be consumed before and after a workout to stay hydrated, as well as before bedtime or to cure a hangover. (*Times of India*)

CONSIDER COCONUT AS A SUPERFOOD

People adore coconut in numerous forms, such as coconut chutney, fresh coconut water, seductive coconut chocolate, and so on, and they ingest a superfood consciously or unknowingly.

We've all heard about the beauty benefits of coconut oil, particularly for hair, and almost every Indian household has a bottle of coconut hair oil. We've been told how it protects our hair from damage and acts as a natural conditioner. However, its health benefits are less well known, although many Southern Indian states use it in their daily food.

"Coconut offers numerous health advantages. It boosts heart health, aids weight loss, strengthens the digestive system, and delivers rapid energy, among other benefits. It is high in fiber and other macro and micronutrients,

which maintains you healthy at a young age," explains Shubhlakshmi Tiwari, Director and Co-Founder of Planet Organic India Pvt Ltd.

Coconut oil differs chemically from other edible oils and dietary fats in that it mostly comprises medium chain triglycerides, which have the feature of being fast and easily absorbed. It requires less enzyme action and digestive effort than other big fats produced from a variety of plants and animals. They also burn and release energy faster, which helps to speed up metabolism, making them perfect for people who have a slow metabolism," Tiwari adds.

Coconut goods can be found all over the world, including coconut oil, milk, water, cream, shredded coconut, coconut flour, chips, coconut vinegar, and now even coconut protein. (*Times of India*)

COCONUT RECIPE

PRAWN CURRY

Ingredients

1. ½ kg medium-size prawns, cleaned
2. ½ tsp saffron, pounded
3. 2 tbsp chilli powder, toasted
4. 1 tbsp cumin seeds, pounded
5. 4 tbsp salt water or salt to taste
6. 2 pieces sour fruit (goraka or Garcinia morella), mashed
7. 1 tsp vinegar
8. 2 green chillies, sliced
9. 1 tbsp curry powder
10. 1 piece cinnamon
11. 8 red onions, sliced
12. 3 cups milk from ½ coconut
13. 2 tbsp coconut oil
14. ½ tsp dill seeds
15. A sprig of curry leaf
16. 2 sprigs moringa (*Moringa oleifera*) leaves
17. 1 tsp curry powder, toasted (for the last step)

Instruction

1. Put prawns in saucepan and mix with saffron, chilli powder, cumin seeds, salt water, sour fruit, vinegar, green chillies, 1 tbsp curry powder, cinnamon and half the red onions. Add coconut milk.
2. Heat oil in pan, fry dill seeds, curry leaf and remaining red onions.
3. Add prawn mixture and cook until oil appears on surface. Stir occasionally.
4. When curry is done, add moringa leaves. Stir well and remove from heat. Sprinkle 1 tsp toasted curry powder.
5. Makes 4-6 servings.

(*Coconut Recipes from Around the World*)

STATISTICS

Table 3. Indonesia's Monthly Exports of Coconut Oil (in MT), 2020 - 2022

Month	2020		2021		2022	
	Volume (MT)	Value (FOB) US\$'000	Volume (MT)	Value (FOB) US\$'000	Volume (MT)	Value (FOB) US\$'000
January	56,440	47,671	41,112	58,282	35,566	67,128
February	46,030	41,364	54,471	78,304	48,846	92,391
March	46,854	41,439	42,893	63,982		
April	46,063	39,796	43,675	65,594		
May	35,782	29,483	66,712	105,704		
June	52,717	45,326	48,582	78,866		
July	66,368	56,217	71,449	113,089		
August	35,509	32,054	39,908	62,834		
September	30,193	29,969	47,107	70,877		
October	45,747	46,675	42,489	67,385		
November	44,483	50,805	57,478	95,763		
December	50,872	67,088	55,571	98,543		
Total	557,059	527,887	611,448	959,223	84,412	159,519

Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia

Table 4. Philippines's Monthly Exports of Coconut Oil (in MT), 2018 - 2022

Month	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	83,573	76,557	115,346	52,302	97,008
February	35,743	44,265	59,757	53,704	
March	82,848	122,223	91,762	72,143	
April	69,532	123,057	53,629	58,555	
May	68,968	100,580	61,034	51,927	
June	99,482	135,308	92,625	65,091	
July	46,825	94,690	19,161	78,441	
August	72,360	197,300	85,963	80,111	
September	93,124	75,126	83,382	82,648	
October	80,655	100,758	58,911	93,101	
November	126,627	67,636	63,150	95,115	
December	94,487	101,826	55,353	97,947	
Total	954,224	1,239,326	840,073	881,085	97,008

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Table 5. International Prices of Selected Oils, May 2019 - April 2022, (US\$/MT)

Year	Month	Coconut Phil/Indo (CIF. Rott.)	Soybean Oil Dutch (FOB ex-mill)	Palm Oil Malaysian (CIF. Eur.)	Palm Kernel Oil (CIF. Rott.)	Sunflower Oil EU (Fob. NW. EU)
2019	May	661	743	563	573	722
	June	636	743	552	542	725
	July	657	748	544	555	754
	August	719	793	586	619	776
	September	724	779	580	613	776
	October	720	771	591	594	776
	November	836	775	683	756	776
	December	1,016	821	770	945	805
2020	January	1,062	874	835	955	807
	February	875	800	729	802	823
	March	834	748	635	689	730
	April	840	680	609	721	732
	May	831	684	574	678	738
	June	920	752	652	761	788
	July	886	821	659	704	833
	August	954	867	703	756	877
	September	1,034	906	741	788	1,041
	October	1,105	915	758	801	1,040
	November	1,380	974	918	1,073	1,176
	December	1,459	1,023	979	1,193	1,241
2021	January	1,463	1,099	990	1,368	1,276
	February	1,445	1,124	1,020	1,360	1,363
	March	1,541	1,285	1,030	1,479	1,611
	April	1,660	1,386	1,078	1,487	1,573
	May	1,715	1,575	1,136	1,531	1,585
	June	1,671	1,518	1,004	1,400	1,297
	July	1,584	1,468	1,063	1,274	1,282
	August	1,494	1,434	1,142	1,341	1,356
	September	1,485	1,399	1,181	1,427	1,310
	October	1,923	1,484	1,310	1,818	1,421
	November	1,961	1,443	1,341	2,050	1,416
	December	1,696	1,411	1,270	1,861	1,362
2022	January	2,016	1,470	1,345	2,196	1,412
	February	2,148	1,596	1,522	2,443	1,499
	March	2,230	1,957	1,777	2,441	2,361
	April	2,095	1,948	1,683	2,064	2,276

Source: Cocommunity and Oil World

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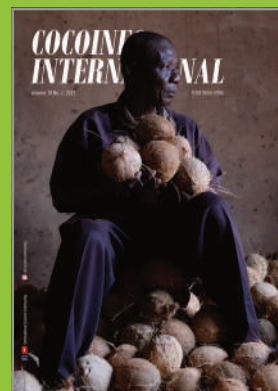
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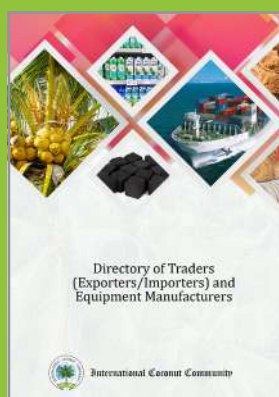
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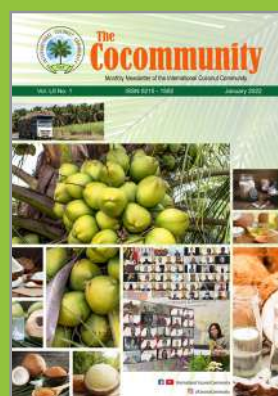
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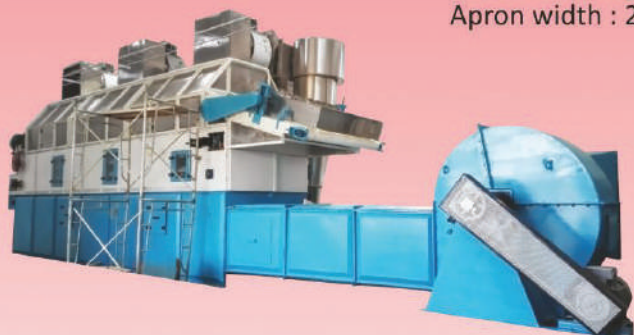
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Output Capacity : 1000 to 2500 Kgs/hr.

Two Stage and Three Stage Dryers.

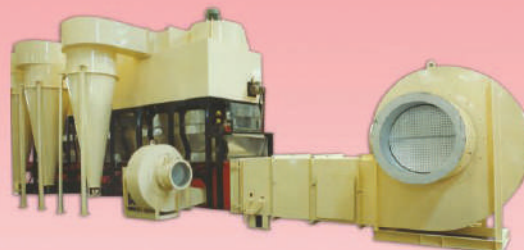
Apron width : 2640mm and 3250mm



COMBINATION DRYER

for Desiccated Coconut Granules, Chips,
Toasted D/C & Parings.

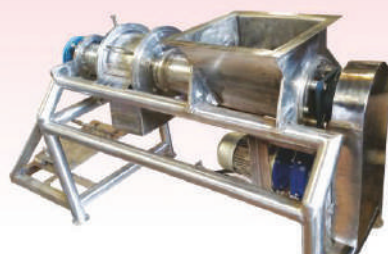
Output Capacity : 300 to 1000 Kgs/hr.



VIBRATORY FLUID BED DRYER

for Desiccated Coconut Granules & Parings.

Output Capacity : 300 to 1000 Kgs/hr.



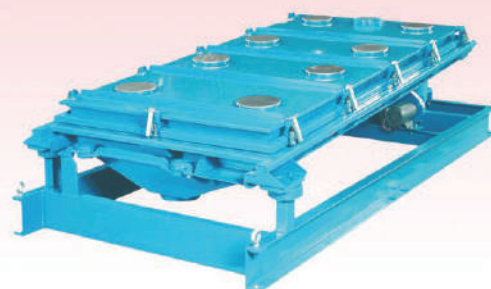
GRINDER

Output Capacity:
1000Kgs/hr.



BLANCHER

Output Capacity :
1000 to 4000 Kgs/hr.



NOVATEX SCREENER/GRADER

Output Capacity :
1000 to 1500 Kgs/hr.



DESHELLING MAHINE

Output Capacity :
250 to 300 nuts/hr.



DEHUSKING MACHINE

Output Capacity :
1200 nuts/hr.



OIL EXPELLER



RADIATOR Extruded Fins or Plate Fins Type



STAINLESS STEEL PERFORATED APRON TRAYS

Width: 2640mm & 3250mm



STAINLESS STEEL CHAIN



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BY AIR MAIL

The **COCOMMUNITY** is the monthly Newsletter of the INTERNATIONAL COCONUT COMMUNITY (ICC) incorporating current news, features, statistical data, business opportunities, and market information relating to the world coconut industry.

Established in 1969, under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP), the ICC is an independent regional intergovernmental organization which consist of twenty member countries and accounts for 85-90% of the world production of coconut. The ICC member countries are: the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Phillipines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Vietnam.

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