# The Cocommunity

Monthly Newsletter of the International Coconut Community

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International Coconut Community

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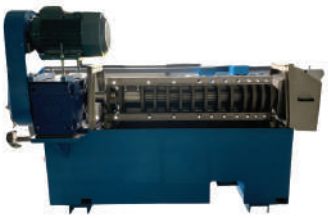

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS ...

***"From World Coconut Day Celebration into Coordinative Action"***

The World Coconut Day (WCD) is celebrated annually on 2nd September by coconut-producing countries to commemorate the establishment of the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) as an inter-governmental organization of coconut-producing countries under the aegis of the United Nation Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP). APCC was initiated and formed in 1969, and has further expanded its membership to include not only Asia and the Pacific countries but also countries in Africa, the Caribbean, and South America. Hence, the name of APCC was changed to International Coconut Community (ICC) with 20 member countries to date.

I'd like to express my heartfelt congratulations to coconut farmers and all coconut stakeholders for the greatest moment of celebration of the 2022 WCD as the very important momentum to thank the greatest creator for blessing us with the creation of coconut as the tree of life, to strengthen our sense of connection to coconut sector we work with and to reinforce the importance of this commodity to the economic, social and environment. This is also the best time to recognize great achievements and innovation in the entire supply and value chains, to prompt motivation, strengthen the local and global relationships and attract global recognition, and to stimulate more innovative technologies, and exchange ideas in addressing current global issues due to climate change, pandemic and global political instability impacting the coconut sector.

As part of the celebration of the World Coconut Day, ICC in collaboration with the government of India through the Coconut Development Board (CDB) conducted an International Good Agricultural Practices Workshop to provide ICC member countries with technical guidance through the harmonization of some technologies developed in each country considering the local knowledge and international standards. We have entered an era characterized by rapid changes in the human population leading to the urgent need for food security, and rapid advances in science and technology to increase agricultural production including coconut production. Nevertheless, irrespective of the rapid advances in technology to increase production, the technology has brought along complex problems on the quality of the ecosystem and its impact on human health.

In face of this situation, there is a call for protecting the natural resources and quality of the agricultural ecosystem, protecting our farmers as producers and consumers and ensuring food safety while attaining the food security, improving the quality of products and meeting local and global market requirements or certifications to increase the value of the traded products, which we do hope that all could lead to the improved farmer's livelihood.

As a global community, each of us has a role to play in advancing our coconut sector towards a more sustainable and resilient direction. From governments to private companies, researchers, academia, farmers and all individuals, including youth, we all need to be part of the change. Happy world coconut day 2022. Growing coconut for a better future and life. Happy and Healthy life with coconut.

**DR. JELFINA C. ALOUW**
Executive Director

# PREVAILING MARKET PRICES OF SELECTED COCONUT PRODUCTS AND OILS

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

**COPRA:** The price of copra in Indonesia was US$642/MT in August 2022, which was lower than previous month's price. Compared to the same month of last year the price was US$ 270/MT lower.

In the domestic market of the Philippines (Manila), the price decreased by US$ 112/ MT from US$797/MT in July 2022 to US$685/ MT in August 2022. The price was US$160/MT lower compared to the price of US$845/MT in August 2021.

**COCONUT OIL:** The average price of coconut oil in Europe (C.I.F. Rotterdam) declined to US$1,364/MT in August 2022. This price was also lower by 8.2% as opposed to the price in August 2021 at US$1,486/MT.

The average local price of coconut oil in the Philippines was US$1,281/MT in August 2022. The price was US$292/MT lower compared to the price of US$1,573/MT in August 2021. Meanwhile, the average local price of coconut oil in Indonesia decreased to US$1,239/MT in August 2022 from US$1,331/MT in July 2022. The price was US$237/MT lower compared to the price of US$1,476/MT in August 2021.

**COPRA MEAL:** The average domestic price of the commodity in the Philippines at selling points was quoted at US$243/MT. The price was US$5/MT lower compared to the previous month and was US$39/MT higher than the price a year earlier.

The average domestic price of copra meal in Indonesia was US$281/MT which was lower than previous month. The price was US$9/MT lower than last year's price.

**DESICCATED COCONUT:** The average price of desiccated coconut (DC) FOB USA in August 2022 was US$2,021/MT, which was 12.4% lower than previous month price and US$488/MT lower than the price of the same month last year.

In Sri Lanka, the domestic price of desiccated coconut in August 2022 was US$1,466/MT or US$27/MT lower than in July 2022. Meanwhile, the price of DC in the domestic market of Philippines in August 2022 was US$2,039/MT, which remained the same as previous month's price. Indonesian price (FOB) of DC in August 2022 was US$1,375/MT which was lower than price in July 2022, and was lower compared to last year's price of US$2,450/MT.

**COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL:** In Philippines, the average price of the commodity in August 2022 was US$365/MT which was higher than price in July 2022. Meanwhile, Indonesia's charcoal price decreased from US$550/MT in July 2022 to US$496/MT in August 2022. Moreover, compared to last year's price, the price was lower by US$73/MT. Sri Lankan's price in August 2022 was US$402/MT which was higher than last month's price.

**COIR FIBRE:** Coir fiber was traded in the domestic market in Sri Lanka at US$62/MT for mix fiber and US$315/MT-US$413/MT for bristle. The Indonesian price for mixed raw fiber was US$160/MT in August 2022 which was lower than price a year earlier at US$285/MT.

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

| Products/Country | 2022 Aug | 2022 Jul | 2021 Aug | 2022 (Annual Ave.) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dehusked Coconut** | | | | |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 150 | 158 | 184 | 203 |
| Indonesia (Domestic, Industry Use) | 146 | 141 | 187 | 187 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic, Industry Use) | 178 | 147 | 262 | 202 |
| India (Domestic Kerala) | 395 | 388 | 530 | 448 |
| **Copra** | | | | |
| Philippines (Dom. Manila) | 685 | 797 | 845 | 1,008 |
| Indonesia (Dom. Java) | 642 | 691 | 912 | 871 |
| Sri Lanka (Dom. Colombo) | 955 | 887 | 1,480 | 1,217 |
| India (Dom. Kochi) | 1,055 | 1,058 | 1,463 | 1,166 |
| **Coconut Oil** | | | | |
| Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Rott.) | 1,364 | 1,517 | 1,486 | 1,855 |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 1,281 | 1,482 | 1,573 | 1,856 |
| Indonesia (Domestic) | 1,239 | 1,331 | 1,476 | 1,581 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 1,860 | 1,775 | 2,883 | 2,428 |
| India (Domestic, Kerala) | 1,815 | 1,831 | 2,385 | 1,979 |
| **Desiccated Coconut** | | | | |
| Philippines FOB (US), Seller | 2,021 | 2,307 | 2,509 | 2,505 |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 2,039 | 2,039 | 2,039 | 2,039 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 1,466 | 1,493 | 2,679 | 1,941 |
| Indonesia (FOB) | 1,375 | 1,540 | 2,450 | 1,847 |
| India (Domestic) | 1,396 | 1,442 | 2,106 | 1,652 |
| **Copra Meal Exp. Pel.** | | | | |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 243 | 248 | 204 | 235 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 240 | 241 | 270 | 241 |
| Indonesia (Domestic) | 281 | 288 | 290 | 309 |
| **Coconut Shell Charcoal** | | | | |
| Philippines (Domestic), Buyer | 365 | 364 | 498 | 391 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 402 | 385 | 546 | 422 |
| Indonesia (Domestic Java), Buyer | 496 | 550 | 569 | 570 |
| India (Domestic) | 532 | 494 | 563 | 507 |
| **Coir Fibre** | | | | |
| Sri Lanka (Mattress/Short Fibre) | 62 | 62 | 142 | 87 |
| Sri Lanka (Bristle 1 tie) | 315 | 324 | 573 | 417 |
| Sri Lanka (Bristle 2 tie) | 413 | 485 | 872 | 570 |
| Indonesia (Mixed Raw Fibre) | 160 | 190 | 285 | 213 |
| **Other Oil** | | | | |
| Palm Kernel Oil Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.) | 1,173 | 1,301 | 1,333 | 1,873 |
| Palm Oil Crude, Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.) | 1,026 | 1,057 | 1,136 | 1,435 |
| Soybean Oil (Europe FOB Ex Mill) | 1,599 | 1,533 | 1,436 | 1,727 |

**Exchange Rate**

*Aug 31, '22* 1 US$ = P56.23 or Rp14,845 or India Rs79.47 or SL Rs360.01

1 Euro = US$1.01 n.q. = no quote

# MARKET REVIEW OF COCONUT OIL

Amid global uncertainty due to pandemic and Russia-Ukraine war, global trade of lauric oils showed a turn back trend in 2022. Lower prices and international cargo recovery have triggered an increase in shipments of the oils. Demand of the oils from main importing regions such as USA and European Union is reported to go up during the first half of 2022.

During January-August 2022, US import of lauric oils was recorded a significant upsurge to level of 545,312 MT meaning an increase of 1.5% compared to the volume a year earlier. The upsurge attributed to the increase in imports of coconut oil. Demand for the oil by US market went up by 13% during January-August 2022 compared to the volume a year earlier. Meanwhile, import volume of palm kernel oil dropped by 12.5% from 243,160 MT to 212,671 MT during January-August 2022.

**Table 1. US Imports of Lauric Oils, January-August 2021/2022**

| | | Jan-Aug 2021 | Jan-Aug 2022 | Change (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CNO | Volume (MT) | 294,312 | 332,641 | 13.0 |
| | Value (USD'000) | 514,775 | 726,013 | 41.0 |
| PKO | Volume (MT) | 243,160 | 212,671 | -12.5 |
| | Value (USD'000) | 291,082 | 493,106 | 69.4 |
| Lauric Oils | Volume (MT) | 537,472 | 545,312 | 1.5 |
| | Value (USD'000) | 805,857 | 1,219,119 | 51.3 |

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

Similarly, shipments of the oils to European market in the first half of 2022 showed increasing trend. During period of January-June 2022, imports of lauric oils by European countries was 971,060 which was 11% higher than the volume a year earlier. Import of coconut oil contributed to the higher import of the oils. Import volume of the oil jumped by 20% during the period. Likewise, palm kernel oil import by European countries slightly rose by 1% during the period.

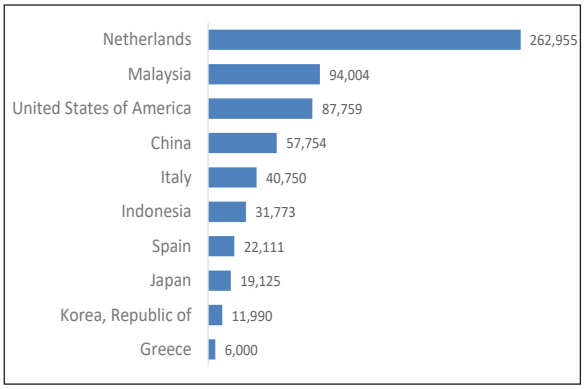
**Table 2. European Union (EU28) Imports of Lauric Oils, January – June 2021/2022**

| | | Jan-Jun 2021 | Jan-Jun 2022 | Change (%) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CNO | Volume (MT) | 449,379 | 540,197 | 20.2 |
| | Value (USD'000) | 672,714 | 1,050,636 | 56.2 |
| PKO | Volume (MT) | 425,507 | 430,863 | 1.3 |
| | Value (USD'000) | 528,736 | 740,297 | 40.0 |
| Lauric Oils | Volume (MT) | 874,886 | 971,060 | 11.0 |
| | Value (USD'000) | 1,201,450 | 1,790,933 | 49.1 |

*Source: ITC*

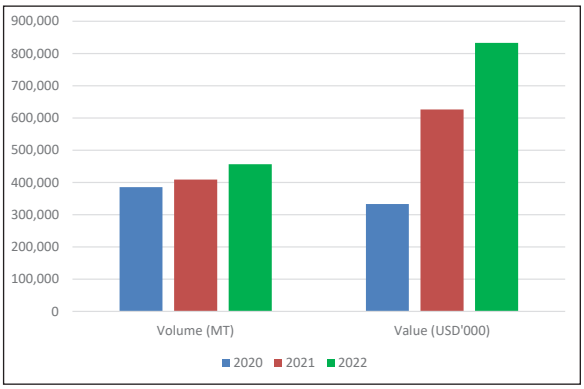
In the supply side, Philippines unexpectedly managed to improve their export of the products. Philippine Statistics Authority reported that during the period of January-June 2022, coconut oil exports from Philippines went up to 643,030 metric tons from 353,723 metric tons in January-June 2021. Better international shipments and lower prices have enabled oil producers in the country to release their oil stocks which have been abundant in the last two years. Shipments of the oil to main destinations such as European countries and USA increased notably. Philippines export of the oil to European countries went up to 334,777 tons in January-June 2022 from 184,541 metric tons in January-June 2021. At the same time, export to US market hiked from 87,759 tons to 55,302 tons.

**Figure 1. Top 10 Export Destinations of Philippines' Coconut Oil, January-June 2022**




*Source: UCAP*

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

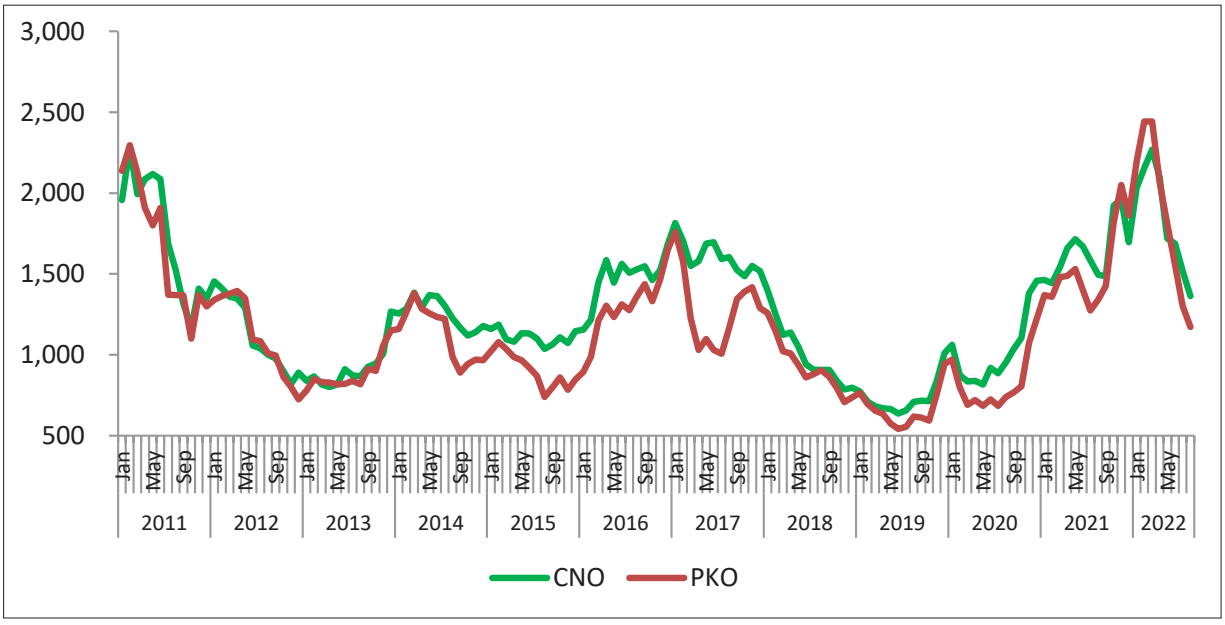



*Source: UCAP*

Likewise, following the positive trend in 2021, Indonesia recorded a higher export volume of coconut oil during January-August 2022. During the period, Indonesia shipped 456,674 MT coconut oil to global market. The export was 12% higher as opposed to the previous year's volume. The export earnings jumped from US$ 626.7 million to US$ 832.9 million or an upsurge of 33% reflecting a higher volume and price of the oil. Major markets for Indonesian coconut oil were United States, Malaysia, China, and Netherlands.

Price pressure on lauric oils is persisting until third quarter of 2022. Price of oils dropped of more than 20%. Price of coconut oil depreciated by 20% and price of palm kernel oil dropped by 37% during the January-August 2022. Abundant stocks of the oils and expected lower demand have brought about the price to lower. Price of the oils is expected to remain weak until end of the CY 2022. However, the lower prices are expected to revive demand of the oils.

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




*Source: ICC*

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## CONSULTATION MEETING BETWEEN ICC AND FAO-ESN DIRECTOR

ICC had a consultation meeting with Food and Nutrition Division of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO-ESN) on 8th August 2022. This was a long pending meeting and was convened virtually. The objectives of the official meeting were to know the 2022 ESN FAO program and policies, to align the ICC and ESN FAO program in accelerating the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs), to exchange ideas on important topics of sustainable food systems for healthy diets and improved nutrition and latest scientific evidence relating to coconut and its value-added products. Further to discuss the potential participation of ESN FAO in ICC's webinars/workshops or conferences, and to establish a constructive relationship between ICC and FAO-WHO.

The ICC team was led by the Chair of ICC-Scientific Advisory Committee on Health (SACH), Dr. Fabian Dayrit, Professor of Chemistry, Ateneo de Manila University, and joined by the ICC Executive Director, Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Mr. Benjamin Madrigal, Jr., Chair of the Technical Working Group (TWG) of ICC who is the Administrator of the Philippines Coconut Authority (PCA), and ICC Assistant Director, Ms. Mridula Kottekate, and ICC Partners, Ms. Josyline C. Javelosa, Ph.D., Agriculture Attaché and Deputy Permanent Representative to Rome-based Agencies of the United Nations, Embassy of the Philippines, Rome, Italy.

At the outset of the meeting Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, welcomed all the participants and expressed her gratitude to Dr. Lynnette Neufeld, Director of FAO-ESN for accepting the ICC request and agreeing to this consultation meeting. ICC is requesting WHO/FAO for a meeting since 2017. This is the first time ICC got a positive response from FAO. Executive Director presented the brief general activities of ICC, and the program implemented in supporting the member countries for the achievement of SDGs and food security.

Dr. Fabian Dayrit, Chair of ICC Scientific Advisory Committee on Health (SACH) presented about the Coconut Oils, diets of coconut and scientific evidence against coconut oils and some of the recommendations of the FAO against fats and fatty acids. He said that coconut oil is a saturated oil with about 63% medium chain fatty acid (MCFA), and coconut oil has negligible cholesterol while animal fat has a lot of cholesterol. So, a quantitative definition of 'saturated fat" is needed, and vegetable oil should be differentiated from animal fats based on cholesterol content. He proposed to hold a joint ICC – FAO/WHO technical conference to review the scientific information on coconut oil with regard to its effects on health and nutrition.

Dr. Lynnette Neufeld briefly mentioned the activities of the Food and Nutrition Division of FAO. She added that FAO is working in close coordination with WHO and for organizing any technical meetings with food and nutrition. In response to the proposal submitted by Dr. Dayrit, she enquired whether ICC has ever approached WHO for any such technical conference.

Dr. Neufeld added that this meeting has enlightened her knowledge about ICC which is an intergovernmental organization, and its beneficiaries include smallholder farmers. She expressed her apprehension that FAO/WHO never had any technical conference purely based on a single commodity. Moreover, being a nutritionist, she requested more evidence available to prove the goodness of coconut and coconut diets. She admitted that the dietary/voluntary guidelines issued by FAO-WHO are quite old and need revision with sufficient evidence based on the work done by nutritionists and academicians. She further added that she will have a dialogue with her counterpart in WHO and get back to ICC to proceed further. She assured that she will refer to more documentary evidences and studies done on coconut and coconut diet.

There was a fruitful and productive discussion and the meeting concluded with the closing remarks of Mr. Benjamin Madrigal Jr., Administrator and Chair ICC TWG. *(ICC News)*

## 1ST INTERNATIONAL IPM SYMPOSIUM IN COCONUT

International Coconut Community and the Philippines Coconut Authority organized the 1st International Integrated Pest and Disease Management Symposium on Coconut virtually from 23-26 August 2022. The theme was: ***"Implementing IPM to Sustainably Protect Coconut, Producers and Industry"***. The general objective of organizing the symposium is to establish an international IPM network system and synergy to protect the coconut producers & industries, conserve the coconut genetic resources and diversity from the adverse impact of pests and diseases through expertise and experience sharing.

The pest and disease experts from the different ICC member countries, universities, research institutes, and international organizations participated in the symposium and presented their most recent research and development in this sector. There were 193 participants from 34 countries attended the event. This symposium served as a venue for knowledge sharing amongst entomologists, pathologists and breeders for a concrete and innovative action toward protecting our crop and managing pests with minimal or no use of harmful chemicals.

The symposium started on 23 August with the welcome remarks by Mr. Benjamin R. Madrigal, Administrator, PCA. Mr. Benjamin expressed his gratitude that the ICC takes concrete steps to coordinate, promote and harmonize activities and efforts in the aspect of integrated pest management. He hoped that the symposium will strengthen the existing IPM strategies and further enhance the mechanisms for coordination among member countries to completely address the threats and challenges brought by the emerging coconut pests and diseases.

Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC, delivered the rationales and objectives of the Symposium. She mentioned that demand of coconut products is continuously growing, but pests and diseases reduce the ability of the industry to fully benefits from the market opportunities. Collaborative efforts among stakeholders are needed to address the issues in pest and disease management. She added that science innovation network, sustained support, and digital information system are essential to protect coconut palms, and to prevent the spread and the economic coconut yield losses. Therefore, ICC in collaboration with the Centre for Agriculture and Bioscience International (CABI), Malaysia, is launching the Cocopest portal. It is an e-information as a one-stop portal of major coconut pests and diseases and their management in coconut-growing countries, which will help the coconut farmers and stakeholders to have a first-hand idea of the major pests and diseases of coconut and they can reach out to experts for advice for managing the same in the field.

During the four-day virtual symposium, subject matter experts from UPLB, CABI, CSIRO, FAO, and DPP&Q-MAFW presented the state of the art of Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPM) in three sessions as follows: Modelling and Decision Support System for IPM; Strengthening IPM to Increase Global Market Acceptability of Coconut Products; Biosecurity for Germplasm and Biocontrol Agent Movement.

The fourth session was Country Presentation-Related to Pest and Disease Challenges (New Emerging Pests) and Control Strategies, Policy Support, Economic, Sociological and Cultural Barriers/Boosters to the Adoption of the IPM Principles in which countries like India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Pacific Country, Caribbean, and African countries status were presented.

A parallel session of 10 selected papers on biotechnology tools for pest and disease identifications and management, integrated management approach to coconut whitefly,

and the roles of entomopathogens in IPM were presented by ten presenters. Q&A and discussions on different questions raised by the participants.

On the last day of the symposium the Establishing of IPM Networks were presented by Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director. She mentioned that the IPM concept needs to consider producers, consumers, and sustainability aspect that covers economic viability, environmental safety, and social acceptability. Member countries need to collaborate to protect the palm from major pests and diseases from unacceptable losses of quality and quantity by forming the IPM Networks to provide technical and policy guidance and recommendations to member countries in handling pest and disease problems. Adaptable IPM strategies that fit local requirements, considering biological and ecological heterogeneity, should be developed, and adapted by each country and region since one size doesn't fit all.

Ms. Mridula Kottekate, Assistant Director, ICC, presented the soliciting recommendations crafted from the four days symposium which will be submitted to the ICC Session & Ministerial meeting for approval and for implementations. The Symposium concluded with the closing remarks by Mr. Ramon L. Rivera, Deputy Administrator, PCA, Philippines. Dr. Chyrelyn Pace was the moderator for the Symposium. *(ICC News)*

## GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO DOWNSIZE THE COCONUT INDUSTRY CONTINUE, ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER

Minister of Coordinating Economic Affairs Airlangga Hartarto emphasized ongoing government initiatives for the downstreaming of the coconut industry with a variety of derivative products to become export-oriented in order to increase added value for farmers and have a multiplier effect on the economy.

In an official statement, he said, "We want development to have a significant impact and benefit the wider community, especially coconut growers and businesspeople. The downstream strategy enacted by the government requires participation and cooperation from all stakeholders."

In addition, he asked all parties to contribute and work together to promote the downstreaming of the coconut industry and make a commitment to fostering an environment that will attract plantation investments, particularly for the coconut commodity.

According to Hartarto, the government has worked to advance the coconut agribusiness through support for boosting coconut plant productivity through the distribution of qualified seeds and advancement of the coconut processing industry through diversification of its derivative products.

According to him, cooperation is necessary for the development of the local coconut industry because its average production is now less than one ton per hectare.

The minister pointed out that coconut is the second-best commodity, behind palm oil, and contributes up to Rp30 trillion to the agriculture sector's export growth, which as of July 2022 grew by 24.98 percent annually, or US$380 million.

The significant growth in coconut exports results in higher yields, income, and employment. In order to preserve the commodity's impressive performance, the government has committed to planting one million genjah (dwarf) coconut trees in Solo Raya, Central Java.

In an effort to revive the economy, the government has also constructed a coconut nursery and, in partnership with PT Unilever, implemented a closed-loop system for the Sukabumi-based dwarf coconut product.

Additionally, the government has assisted farmers with finance through the People's Business Credit (KUR). Coconut farmers and business owners can benefit from this funding option for growth and innovation in business development, with a KUR cap in 2022 reaching Rp373.17 trillion and three percent interest. *(Antara News)*

**THE GOVERNMENT WILL GET READY FOR INDUSTRIALIZING DWARF COCONUT TREES**

The government will get ready for the industrialization of the dwarf coconut trees (*Cocos Nucifera* L.) planted all around Indonesia, according to President Joko Widodo (Jokowi).

This (industrialization) is now being prepared here, in every village where there are large quantities of dwarf coconuts, according to President Jokowi. "The most important aspect is that after planting, preparations are also being made for industrialization because this coconut can be used to produce palm sugar, as well as to obtain coconut oil.

President Jokowi noted that a dwarf coconut tree might yield between 140 and 180 coconuts after 2.5 to 3 years when inspecting the dwarf coconut farm in Sanggang Village, Sukoharjo, Central Java.

"Yes," he said, "simply multiply the result if we plant one million across the country."

The industrialization of dwarf coconut trees, in the president's opinion, provides at least two key advantages.

He continued, "First, dwarf coconut trees can be planted on waste ground, in yards, in gardens, etc., generating additional income for the community.

The president reaffirmed that 110 thousand dwarf coconut seedlings from a total of 200 thousand for Solo, Central Java, had been allocated to Sukoharjo.

As part of the national effort to plant one million dwarf coconut trees, which will also be continued in many other provinces, a total of 44 thousand additional dwarf coconut seedlings were granted for Boyolali and the remaining 46 thousand for Karanganyar.

Earlier, President Jokowi remarked that the dwarf coconut growing program was a part of the efforts to prevent food crises by using vacant land in a news release for a similar activity in Giriroto Village, Boyolali.

President Jokowi was accompanied by First Lady Iriana, Minister of Agriculture Syahrul Yasin Limpo, Minister of State Secretary Pratikno, and District Head of Sukoharjo Etik Suryani during the working visit to Central Java Province, his home province. *(Antara News)*

**REASONS FOR UNILEVER'S LARGE BETS ON SMALLER COCONUT TREES**

With its new type of small coconut trees, Unilever hopes to significantly benefit farmers.

Many common constituents in well-known consumer goods, most notably coconut sugar, come from coconut palms. Coconut farming is dangerous, though. Coconut trees are tall, usually approximately 100 feet high, and farmers must climb to the top of the trees with buckets and knives in order to manually harvest the nectar required for the manufacturing of coconut sugar.

Unilever and the Indonesian Coconut Institute are releasing a new breed of coconut trees that only grow to about one-third of the height of a typical coconut tree, which should make nectar harvesting a significantly safer activity. This is being done in order to improve farmer safety and secure the future supply of coconut sugar. In addition, the Genjah Kuning Bali coconut tree matures faster than the average coconut tree, which takes seven years.

One of the steps Unilever claims it has taken to enhance the sustainability of the coconut

industry since signing the Sustainable Coconut Charter, an initiative to raise the incomes and livelihoods of smallholder farmers, improve supply chain traceability, stop deforestation, and lessen the effects of climate change, is the development and release of this new tree breed.

***Short coconut trees: a novel strategy to improve farmers' incomes***

Unilever compiles a list of farmers interested in working with them before planting season starts. The business then collaborates with regional vendors and nurseries to offer free distribution of coconut seedlings to farmers. In exchange, the farmers agree to use more ethical farming methods to guarantee the health of the trees.

Unilever has teamed with Balit Palma, an Indonesian research center that specializes in palm and coconut research, to provide instructional services for farmers in good agricultural practices and climate change resistance. Climate change has increased burdens for coconut producers.

Clement Jaloux, Unilever's Procurement Manager, Supplier Development Southeast Asia, said the company "also works closely with the farmer community to establish a service delivery model, which should help farmers access finance, fertilizers, and assure offtake of their coconut sugar." "All things considered, farmers don't have to destroy forests to boost their incomes by farming their plots. A key strategy for halting climate change is to keep trees standing.

***Technology used to enhance sustainability***

Unilever is not the only high-tech agricultural company offering farmers new kinds of coconut trees. The business has also created a smartphone app that can be used to forecast coconut sugar production, identify agricultural problems, and provide farmers guidance.

The program aids the business in employing satellite technology to track environmental damage and deforestation. "Digital technology is used to record all farmers and the properties they own that are part of the small coconut tree initiative. Deforestation notifications are tracked weekly on digital platforms where deforestation monitoring is carried out once this process has begun, according to Jaloux. The platforms "employ geolocation technology to increase the traceability and transparency of our supply chains," the speaker continued.

It's an exciting advancement; this technology simply wasn't available a few years ago, according to Jaloux.

***Future Plans for Unilever's Coconut Program Expansion***

In 2017, the first 100-hectare test plot of Genjah Kuning Bali trees was planted. Since then, according to Unilever, production has expanded up quickly. In partnership with 3,600 smallholder farmers as of June 2022, Unilever claims to have planted the equivalent of 3,300 hectares of its micro coconut trees. Farmers are expected to replace their older, less productive trees with the new, smaller variety as they increase the amount of hectares planted with Genjah Kuning Bali coconuts. The timing of Unilever's move is crucial since Indonesian coconut trees are rapidly losing their optimum output. Unilever plans to acquire half of its coconut sugar from this new species of tree by 2026. *(Triple Pundit)*

**WORLD COCONUT DAY 2022: WHY THE DAY IS CELEBRATED?**

On September 2, World Coconut Day is observed to emphasize the adaptability of the fruit. Coconut, a member of the drupe family, is one of those fruits having a wide range of applications. The fruit is used in numerous ways, from its flesh to its water to its husk. Tropical areas are where coconut is primarily grown, and it is very nourishing.

***Why do people celebrate World Coconut Day?***

Asia-Pacific nations celebrate World Coconut Day to increase public knowledge of the applications and advantages of this luscious fruit. The Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC), an intergovernmental group with numerous countries that produce coconuts as members, including India, was the organization that initially commemorated the day.

One of the world's top producers of coconuts is India. States like Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh are among those that grow the fruit.

***Celebration***

Farmers, specialists, and businesspeople commemorate World Coconut Day to raise awareness of the many advantages of coconuts and to compel people to consume them. On this day, activities and events are organized where professionals disseminate information on the many uses of coconuts and their health advantages.

***Coconut uses***

You can use coconut in a variety of ways into your daily life. A fresh coconut will provide you with pleasant, cooling coconut water that has anti-aging benefits and may even support good heart function.

The fruit also yields coconut oil, which is useful for cooking, moisturizing the skin, and nourishing the scalp. In addition, the coconut's outer shell can be used to make coconut husk, also known as coir, which is used to make ropes, plant pots, rugs, and doormats, among other things. *(Doctor NDTV)*

**DO COCONUTS HELP KEEP FLIES AWAY?**

According to a USDA press release, stable flies and other blood-feeding pests cost agriculture $2.2 billion annually. To combat these pests, three researchers from the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) banded together.

According to the report, they worked together to transform the coconut into the longest-lasting natural repellant product examined to date. They did this by combining their expertise in entomology, organic chemistry, and processing technology.

Researchers Steven Cermak, James Kenar, and Jerry Zhu at the ARS National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (NCAUR) in Peoria, Illinois, and the ARS Agroecosystem Management Research Unit in Lincoln, Nebraska, found that coconut fatty acids have exceptionally potent repellent properties against a variety of blood-sucking pests.

In addition to causing direct physical harm, stable flies can infect animals with viruses, germs, and parasites.

Cermak stated in the statement that "animal stress and sickness impair milk production in dairy cows." Bite marks harm hides and lower the quality of leather in the leather industry. Finally, the expense of caring for animals, including the cost of treating illness and dealing with animal loss, can be very high. Therefore, it's crucial to keep these kinds of pests away from animals.

Insects that can spread diseases to both humans and animals, such as bed bugs, mosquitoes, ticks, and biting flies, are effectively repelled by medium chain fatty acids for a prolonged period of time. Nearly two-thirds of coconut oil is made up of the desired medium chain fatty acids, according to the study, even if certain other plant oils also contain the chemicals.

According to Zhu, "These fatty acids repelled biting flies, bed bugs, and ticks for two weeks after treatment." During the sweltering summer, pastured cattle were shielded from biting flies for up to 96 hours by an aqueous starch-coconut fatty acid composition that had undergone initial testing. As far as we know, this

is the longest period of protection that a natural repellant has yet to be examined for.

Repellency is an improvement. However, scientists point out that it won't be of any use if it cannot be implemented in a way that is safe for the environment and animals.

To transport the coconut fatty acids, the scientists used starch and water. Delivering coconut fatty acids in a water-based system proved difficult since they are not water soluble.

The group opted to employ a system already created at NCAUR. Jet cookers were used in the procedure to mix starch and coconut fatty acids into the water. According to the press release, the slightly thick mixture enables the dispersion of coconut fatty acids in tiny droplets that do not quickly stay together.

The material can be dried to a powder so it can be sent without the extra weight of water, stored, and then rehydrated when needed for usage, according to Kenar. However, there are still some adjustments and enhancements that may be made.

Additionally, coconut oil and its derivatives are trusted to be safe and are renewable resources.

Despite the fact that most of the study on coconut fatty acids has been geared toward animal uses, Zhu said, "we also see potential commercial applications that include skin lotions, textiles, and agricultural applications for crop protection, as well as for garden snails in our backyards." *(Dairy Herd)*

## A "SLEEPING GIANT": THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT INDUSTRY

The proper implementation of the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan is one of the high-impact initiatives that the government of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. should carry out over the course of the next five to six years (CFIDP).

Executive Order 172, which was signed on June 2, 2022 by the then-President Rodrigo Duterte and authorized the CFIDP, paved the door for the use and release of the P75 billion fund made available by Republic Act (RA) 11524, also known as the "Coconut Farmers and Industry Fund Act."

The CFIDP may have a significant, I mean huge, influence on the Philippine coconut sector and the 3.5 million farmers that depend on it with a guaranteed funding of P75 billion over a period of five years. And many of our coconut growers are among the "poorest of the poor" in our nation.

The P75 billion allocated for the CFIDP will be distributed as follows: P10 billion will be allocated for each of the plan's first and second years; P15 billion will be allocated for each of the third and fourth years; and P25 billion will be allocated for the fifth year, including interest from the fund.

3.6 million hectares of land are currently planted with coconut, primarily in 69 provinces, which are home to about 347 million fruit-bearing trees.

Most of the 347 fruit-bearing coconut trees in the country, if not all of them, are the tall, low-yielding kind rather than the high-yielding hybrid form.

Furthermore, the tall variety, which are already decades old, can only produce 50 coconuts annually, which is a relatively poor yield when compared to local hybrids, which may produce 100 to 250 coconuts annually.

Just think of the outcome if we were able to replace as least a third or 33 percent of the nation's coconut trees with high-yielding kinds in a single year. By the fifth year, we could have at least 115 million high-yielding varieties generating 100 to 250 nuts annually.

However, we need to use somatic embryogenesis technology to generate tens of thousands or possibly millions of coconut seedlings in the next five years in order to carry out a significant

replanting. I discovered that this technology has been tested and evaluated specifically for coconut by the Department of Science and Technology's Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and Development, the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), the University of the Philippines, Bicol State University, and Visayas State University. Therefore, it might be time to commercialize that technology.

However, increasing the number of coconuts produced is only one factor in improving the socioeconomic situation of our coconut farmers; they will make more money if they are helped to set up their own processing facilities. As a result, they will be able to create their own value-added coconut goods such milk, desiccated coconut, coir, gata, water, sugar, and fuel additives like coco methyl ester.

Thankfully, Section 4-f of RA 11524 mandates the construction of shared facilities for coconut farmer organizations to use, allocating a sizable P7.5 billion (10% of the total fund) for that purpose.

To ensure that the shared facilities would enable coconut farmer organizations to enter the value chain of the product and make them viable economic entities, meticulous planning must be made. These coconut farmer businesses should be able to sell their goods to a larger domestic market as well as for export with help from the Department of Trade and Industry.

Therefore, it is essential to the success of the CFIDP that farmers get organized into cooperatives that can run like successful businesses.

***Added organizations***

The CFIDP will be implemented by the PCA, a Department of Agriculture department, but other agencies will also be involved in its many components.

The Philippine Health Insurance Corp. will be used for the health and medical program for coconut farmers, and the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. will offer crop insurance services. The Commission on Higher Education will also award scholarships, and the Agricultural Training Institute under the DA and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority will offer training and farm schools.

The Cooperative Development Authority will play a key role in the creation and growth of farmers' cooperatives and organizations.

The Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development will be in charge of leading the research and development for high-yielding coconut types, while the PCA will take the lead in hybridizing coconut trees.

The Land Bank of the Philippines and the Development Bank of the Philippines will take the lead in providing other support services including lending, while the Department of Trade and Industry will handle marketing and market development.

The Department of Public Works and Highways will construct farm-to-market highways and other relevant infrastructure.

***"Slumbering Giant"***

The Philippines, behind India and Indonesia, produced the third-most coconuts in 2020, according to statisa.com. The nation produced 14.49 million metric tons (MMT) of coconuts that year, compared to 16.82 MMT and 14.7 MMT, respectively, from Indonesia and India.

Before the pandemic, the Philippines was the world's second-largest producer of coconuts decades ago.

Millions of coconut farmers in the Philippines could be lifted out of abject poverty if the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan is rigorously carried out. While increasing the

amount of coconut oil exported, the Philippines can also broaden the range of goods it sells.

The coconut farming system can support diversification so farmers can have extra income streams from cultivating other crops and cattle, poultry, and fish.

The coconut farming technique can also be used to grow cash crops with export potential, such as coffee, chocolate, and cassava, in addition to conventional food crops like vegetables.

The PCA reports that the nation's average yearly export earnings from coconut goods were P91.4 billion from 2014 to 2018. And as of now, the Philippines still leads the world in the export of coconut oil, with a share of the market of 52.48%. The nation was also responsible for 35.91 percent of the global market for desiccated coconut.

The Philippine coconut industry is unquestionably a "sleeping giant" with a significant opportunity to boost the nation's overall economic growth. And the money is already there—at least P75 billion—to advance the coconut sector during the following five years. *(The Manila Times)*

## COCONUT HUSK HAS THE POTENTIAL TO PROMOTE PROSPERITY IN GHANA

The coconut husk offers enormous economic potential for Ghana, according to Bender Owusu Bediako Antwi, Chief Executive of CocoBenz, which must be exploited to fight poverty and advance national development.

"If food production declines over the next 20 years, young people would be the most negatively impacted. For many Ghanaians, the coconut husk is just a waste (bola), however it has tremendous value addition.

To truly end hunger and poverty, we require more young coconut farmers, more young agricultural professionals, and more young coconut processors and market proprietors," said him.

After the 2nd International Coconut Festival, 2022, was launched in Ampain in the Ellembelle District of the Western Region by the Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA) and the African Coconut Group, Mr. Antwi presented these arguments in an interview with the Ghanaian Times.

Repositioning Ghana's coconut industry for an accelerated industrialization agenda was the focus.

"Coconut peat, for example, is produced from coconut husk. It has been proven to serve many purposes such as nursing seedlings, bedding plants, planters, gardens, greenhouse farming, and large-scale tree planting," Mr. Antwi, an advocate for youth in the coconut value chain, continued.

He noted that the Coconut Waste Project (COWAP) conducted a baseline survey that showed there was an increasing need for coco peat (mulch) fertilizer in Ghana.

According to the baseline research, important end-users of coconut waste value-added goods were market participants in the mining, hospitality, and agricultural/forestry industries.

Mr. Antwi remarked to the Ghanaian Times, "The hospitality industry serves as a market for coconut value-added products such as coconut-waste-paper-bags and charcoal briquettes. These actors are medium to large-scale businesses that depend on coconut waste value-added products in their line of business.

"The majority of businesses in the hospitality sector, including stores, malls, and eateries, utilize paper bags to package their goods. This is how they help to promote a clean, healthy atmosphere."

In addition, Mr. Antwi highlighted that the collection of coconut waste husk would be an

useful source of employment for the youth at a time when unemployment in Ghana was on the rise, and he congratulated GEPA and partners for "such a good initiative to push the value chain in coconut."

"Despite how lucrative the recycling of the husks and selling of fresh coconut water may be, the coconut oil industry is a successful one. Food, household cleaners, metalworking fluids, paints and coatings, soaps, textile chemicals, the plastics industry, the pharmaceutical industry, and the cosmetic industry all use coconut oil," said him.

The CEO of CocoBenz claimed that several women had started producing coconut oil as a reliable source of income that allowed them to enroll their children in school.

He told the Ghanaian Times that youth participation in agriculture was essential because they were more enthusiastic, productive, and open to new concepts and cutting-edge technologies. He also added that they needed to consider more than just production in order to attract attention and make money.

Mr. Antwi reiterated his belief that the coconut industry should focus on value addition rather than just mass manufacturing in order to become more competitive and generate more foreign exchange for the nation. *(All Africa)*

**WORKING TOGETHER ON COCONUT PLANT TECHNOLOGY IS SABAH DEPT**

The Malaysian Kuwaiti Investment Co Sdn Bhd (MKIC) and the Sabah Department of Agriculture have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) establishing a joint venture to provide technical consultancy services for coconut plant technology and to confirm the authenticity of plant material.

Through the MoU, according to MKIC Chairman Datuk Seri Dr. Sabin Samitah, MKIC will also receive guidance and registration from the Sabah Department of Agriculture as a participant in the Sabah Plant Material Verification Scheme (SPBT), which includes participation in the Good Agricultural Practices Scheme.

According to him, the MoU represents a continuation of the partnership between the two parties in the coconut plantation sector that began last year.

At the MoU signing ceremony, he stated, "The collaboration (via the MoU) also covers the sharing of coconut plant technologies as well as other information connected to coconuts."

Mohd Syahrin Mohd Ali, the CEO of MKIC, and Jifrin Mohamad, the director of the Sabah Department of Agriculture, signed the MoU in the presence of Datuk Seri Dr. Jeffery Kitingan, the Deputy Chief Minister of Sabah.

According to Sabin, the two parties are also working together to create 200,000 Matag hybrid coconut seeds, which are intended to be distributed to smallholders in the state.

He said that MKIC had been engaged in Sabah's palm oil industry for 30 years prior to entering the coconut plantation industry in 2018 with a sizable coconut operation at the PJ Nagus Plantation nearby.

"MKIC's coconut plantation is now the largest in Sabah, having grown from a "seed farm" of only 50 acres (20.23 hectares) at one point to an area of 834 hectares (approximately 337.50 hectares).

He said that a number of high-yielding coconut varieties, including the matag, tacunan, Malayan dwarf, and Vietnamese dwarf, had been planted.

More than 30% of these coconut plantation areas, according to him, are profitable and bring in money for the plantation.

"PJ Nagus Plantation anticipates producing no less than 20 million coconuts annually after the coconut plant reaches full maturity by 2026.

Sabin claimed that MKIC's involvement in Sabah's coconut industry is evidence of the company's belief in the plant's potential as a high-impact agricultural product. Sabin also claimed that the Sabah Department of Agriculture's steadfast support was essential to the development of the coconut project at the PJ Nagus Plantation.

In addition to building a factory to process coconuts in collaboration with the major players in the market, he claimed that MKIC is working to develop a downstream industry based on coconuts to make use of the crops that would be harvested. He claimed that this effort would directly attract investment and job opportunities to Sabah.

Jeffery, who is also the Sabah Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, expressed the hope that the partnership between the Sabah Department of Agriculture and MKIC could be strengthened in order to make the coconut farming sector the state's largest sector of profitable trade.

As we want to turn Sabah into a net exporter of foodstuffs, including coconuts, he continued, "I also hope that this will encourage the downstream industry, processing, and ultimately exporting". *(The Borneo Post)*

## SABAH YOUTHS TO RECEIVE TRAINING IN COCONUT PROCESSING

A factory that processes coconuts in Batu Pahat, Johor, has hired 24 young people from rural Sabah, Malaysia, to receive on-the-job training.

Datuk Dr. Roland Chia, the Chief Minister's political secretary, stated that the youths would be assigned to the largest Linaco coconut processing facility in Batu Pahat.

They will receive on-the-job training while they wait for the Langkon factory to be finished in four years, he said.

Dr. Roland continued by saying that after the Kota Marudu factory in Langkon is finished, the young people will have the choice of returning to Langkon to work as managers or supervisors and mentor new employees.

Speaking on ceremony for the 24 youths, Dr. Roland added that this was the best illustration of human capital development for rural youths because it gives them the chance to boost their economies, contribute to the improvement of their communities, and develop the state's economy.

According to Linaco's Executive Director, Alex Yong, all of the trainees hired come from Paitan and Pitas in Kudat.

Until we reach the ideal worker capacity to operate the factory in Langkon, Kota Marudu, which will be opened later, we will conduct an intake once a month throughout the State, he said.

Yong added that 2,000 workers will be required at their factory in Langkon to run it on a daily basis.

All of the trainees, according to him, will work in Batu Pahat and receive complimentary housing, water, electricity, a complimentary afternoon meal, as well as complimentary transportation to their place of employment.

"They will receive a monthly salary of RM1,500, with higher pay offered to those with more education.

Because they are the most impoverished areas in Malaysia, Pitan and Pitas were chosen as the initial place for the enrollment of trainees, he explained.

After a year of employment in Johor, the trainees will be permitted to return, and in an emergency, they will be permitted to return for a specific amount of time.

He claimed that the Langkon factory's 70-acre site would need the bare minimum of amenities, including plenty of water and electricity.

If the supply is insufficient, we intend to build our own water treatment facility and will talk to Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) about obtaining additional electricity.

Linaco currently processes 800,000 coconuts per day on 5,000 acres of coconut plantation in Paitan.

He told the media, "We use two high quality coconut breeds, which are Tacunan and Sampoorna.

In addition, Linaco invites smallholders to plant the Tacunan coconuts that Linaco will provide.

According to Alex, they will pay 80 sen for each kilogram of coconuts the smallholders plant.

"We also invite other farmers to participate in our initiative for growing coconuts.

"Linaco now exports food and non-food items made from coconuts to 40 nations around the globe, with the United States of America serving as the primary import market.

Without any wastage, he promised, "We would generate all downstream products based on coconuts."

He said that Sabah received an investment of RM200 million as a result of all the efforts engaged. *(The Borneo Post)*

## GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS THE COCONUT INDUSTRY FOR HIGHER REVENUES AND GROWTH

The Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA) and Africa Coconut Group have announced plans to expand the coconut industry and turn it into a significant and dependable source of income at the launch of the 2022 International Coconut Festival in Ellembele, in the Western Region.

The second edition of the International Coconut Festival is on the theme 'Repositioning Ghana's Coconut Sector for Accelerated Industrialization', and aims at exploring ways of expediting growth of the sector by adding value to the raw materials produced from coconut.

Afua Asabea Asare, CEO of the Ghana Export Promotion Authority, gave the opening remarks at the event and revealed plans of the government to provide sufficient support for investors to establish coconut processing factories under the One District, One Factory initiative.

She pointed out that since the Akufo-Addo administration took office in 2017, GEPA has invested a sizable amount of money in the coconut industry as a result of its recognition of the sector's potential for export, job creation, and revenue.

She claimed that some policy initiatives were launched through its successful partnership with the African Coconut Group, and the results are already apparent.

Since 2017, GEPA has made modest but significant investments in the sector by acquiring and providing disease-tolerant coconut seedlings to coconut farmers throughout the major coconut farming regions of the nation. To date, we have distributed close to 700,000 seedlings covering approximately 11,200 acres. We won't stop working until the industry is developed and self-sufficient.

We also acknowledge the substantial investments made in the sector by the Ministries of Food and Agriculture, Local Government, and Rural Development through the Planting for Export and Rural Development (PERD) Programme. Of course, we are not blind to the crucial role that the African Coconut Group, led by Mr. Davies Korboe and his capable colleagues,

has played in vehemently advocating for sector development to increase export revenues.

She applauded the government for establishing the Tree Crops Development Authority, believing it will have a favorable effect on the coconut business.

"We are happy to report that our two institutions have been collaborating well on various issues, and on the occasion of this launch call for greater inter-institutional cooperation. We also applaud government for establishing the Tree Crops Development Authority (TCDA), which GEPA and other stakeholders had strongly advocated for. We believe the Authority's mandate and activities will accrue to the sector's benefit, with coconut being one of the key tree crops under the Authority.

The African Coconut Group's Davis Korboe provided information about the events planned for the festival's second iteration.

The event, according to the organizer, "will feature exhibitions of high and low level technologies in the coconut industry, business seminars, financial support platforms, networking, talks, field visits, competitions at the senior high and university level, colloquia, and others."

He added that the festival's purpose is to invite investors from across the world to export coconut from Ghana. While regretting the bad impact of COVID-19 on the sector, Mr. Korboe noted that the business would have been on its knees except for support from GEPA.

CEO of CocoBenz, Bender Owusu Antwi said: "Venturing into coconut must not only include manufacturing but also value addition, because value attracts attention and attention becomes our currency…value exceeds all means of short-cuts to prevent unemployment".

The businessman and serial entrepreneur argued that young participation in agriculture is essential because they are more enthusiastic, productive, and open to novel concepts and cutting-edge technologies. He believes this will have an impact on the desire to add value to the coconut industry. *(Ghana Web)*

## A SHARED FACILITY WILL BE SET UP BY PHILMECH FOR COCONUT TO SUPPORT A VALUE CHAIN

To house various types of equipment that would support the value chain of the product, the Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech) will set up shared facilities for coconut farmers cooperatives and local government entities.

The action is a part of what the organization is required to do by the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act, according to PhilMech director Dionisio Alvindia.

Alvindia continued, "The shared facilities setup will consist of the building, processing machinery, hauling and transport vehicles, tractor or truck, coconut harvesting equipment, basic testing instruments, and other ancillary equipment such as but not limited to power lines, transformers, water pumps, piping, fittings, flanges, valves, wastewater treatment, and the like.

According to PhilMech, the shared facility will also house a social enterprise with a focus on applying workable solutions to the production, distribution, and processing of coconuts in order to advance the regional coconut industry.

Alvindia continued, "These processing units are shared or jointly used, owned or operated by the farmers' cooperatives for the production, packaging, labeling, storing and marketing of selected coconut goods or by-products for retail and wholesale distribution to different clientele.

The project will also feature copra centrals, copra buying stations, integrated coconut processing centers to make virgin coconut oil, coconut water, coconut water concentrate, coconut

flour, coconut skimmed milk, and coconut coir from mature and young nuts, coco sap-based processing facilities, integrated processing facilities for pared coconut, frozen meat, bukayo, buko pie, coconut shell charcoal, granulating plant, and farm service staff.

The proposed shared facilities can also include cacao and coffee processing facilities, dairy milk processing facilities, and livestock-based processing facilities for farmers who will produce other food crops and livestock in the off-season. *(Malaya Business Insight)*

## COCONUT PROCESSORS PUSH VCO AGAINST COVID-19 IN A BATTLE

Virgin coconut oil (VCO) proponents and processors have encouraged the government to promote VCO and other non-vaccine techniques to increase immunity and disease resilience among Filipinos in light of the rising instances of COVID-19, dengue fever, and at least one confirmed case of monkeypox.

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) has already conducted clinical trials proving the efficacy of VCO as a cure for mild to moderate COVID cases, according to the VCO Producers and Traders Association of the Philippines (VCO Philippines).

"VCO should be effective against Omicron variants based on two clinical studies that were conducted against two variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (the original Wuhan variant and the Delta variant). This is due to the fact that all SARS viruses share a viral membrane, which is what VCO is thought to attack, according to VCO Philippines.

Since the dengue and monkeypox viruses are lipid-coated, VCO may potentially be effective in theory. However, all of these need to be validated in clinical investigations. VCO is reasonably priced and safe to take. The government, perhaps, will pay for these studies, according to VCO Philippines.

VCO should be included in the nation's arsenal of weapons against emerging diseases, according to Dr. Ed Lalusis, patented inventor of a capsulized VCO and president and chief executive officer of Growrich Manufacturing Inc. This is especially true in light of the DOST-funded clinical trials on VCO that demonstrated its curative properties against COVID-19.

Well, Lalusis said, "My recommendation there really is that we should take the prevention strategy — mass vaccination with boosters especially, and promote VCO intake.

Dr. Sterling Tiu, a patented inventor of a VCO with menthol spray and who had recently filed an application for patent to a lagundi and VCO mix mouth spray, said coconut oil should be seriously considered as an adjunct treatment for COVID-19.

Numerous studies have demonstrated the ability of virgin coconut oil to inactivate viruses like HIV, RSV, influenza, and many others. In light of this, VCO could theoretically be used as a supplemental therapy for both established and emerging infectious diseases, according to Tiu.

Although there are no foolproof methods to prevent infections, daily VCO intake can aid the body in getting ready and aiding in its defense if it is exposed to these pathogens, the expert said.

Meanwhile, lagundi is also believed to have anti-viral properties in addition to being able to relieve respiratory symptoms.

“The nicest thing about VCO and lagundi is that they are made from Philippine plants and crops, which means that using them has fewer side effects than using other supplements and medications. Therefore, as we move towards an inevitable future of novel infections, VCO and lagundi hold a great deal of promise," Tiu said.

The results of the DOST Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI) enlarged clinical trials on VCO, which revealed the outcomes of the 2020 clinical tests in Sta. Ana, were given by the

former science secretary Fortunato dela Pea in Valenzuela City last January. La Laguna, Rosa

"Both VCO clinical trials by DOST-FNRI confirmed that VCO hastens the resolution of COVID- 19 signs and symptoms," Dela Peña added. *(Phil Star Global)*

## EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF GHANA SUPPORTS COCONUT PRODUCTION

A $30 million "Coconut for Life" project funded by the Ghana Export-Import (EXIM) Bank is underway with the goal of increasing the nation's coconut production.

In accordance with the project, between 50,000 and 1,000,000 nuts of the hybrid Sri Lankan Green Dwarf x Vanuatu Tall variety will be produced over the course of five years.

Once more, the initiative will assist the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - Oil Palm Research Institute (OPRI) in establishing 120 hectares of coconut seed gardens in order to generate at least one million nuts of the (SGD x VTT) type every year through hybridization.

This aims to stop the spread of Cape St. Paul's Wilts, a disease that has decimated more than 3,000 hectares of coconut trees in the Western Region and continues to wreak havoc on the coastal coconut sector, depriving communities of their means of subsistence and escalating poverty.

At the 2nd International Coconut Festival's opening ceremony at Alabokazo in the Ellembelle District of the Western Region on the theme "Repositioning Ghana's coconut sector for accelerated industrialization agenda," Lawrence Agyinsam, Chief Executive Officer of EXIM Bank, revealed this in a speech that was read for him.

In order to help the nation get past a significant bottleneck in the coconut sub-sector, he said, CSIR-OPRI, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA), and private operators would be hired to grow the necessary seedlings from the nuts and sell them at discounted prices to farmers.

Before the project began in four regions, Mr. Agyinsam said the bank would restore eight hectares of seed gardens in Menzezor and Bonsaso through CSIR-OPRI and MoFA to guarantee that the farmers had access to at least 100,000 seed nuts.

In order to ensure that the deliverables were met, he further stated that EXIM Bank would closely collaborate with GEPA, CSIR-OPRI, MoFA, and the Coconut Farmers and Exporters Association.

Meanwhile, he claimed that the bank had encouraged the construction of a factory in Takoradi for the processing of coconuts.

According to Mr. Agyinsam, "the EXIM Bank would work with GEPA to explore export market opportunities for local producers with an interest in the efficient operation of all parts of the value chain."

"The expansion of the raw material basis is crucial," he said. "One major lesson learned from our experiences in financing agro-based industrialization activities. Many agro-based companies are failing to operate at optimal capabilities due to insufficiency of raw materials."

The coconut sub-sector will be correctly repositioned for industrial transformation, employment, and foreign exchange generation, he said. "We are determined to reverse this narrative by doing everything to remove the bottlenecks," he said.

He pointed out that Ghana's production of coconuts had expanded dramatically over the years, from 219,000 metric tonnes (MT) in 1985 to 245,000 MT in 1995 to 315 000 MT in 2005 to 380,000 MT in 2015, and progressively to 412,000 MT in 2020.

224 million nuts are produced annually from an estimated 36,000 hectares of land

under cultivation in the coastal savanna and forest zones, and 80 percent of the coconut holdings are owned by small and marginal farmers, with the remaining 20 percent by farming organizations.

According to him, a fresh young coconut cost as little as 20GP in 2007, rose to 60GP in 2011, and is presently marketed for between GHC 2.5 and GHC 3.00, depending on size.

With the exception of the cost of moving the nuts from rural fields to metropolitan centers, the cost of production has been steady throughout the preceding eight years.

According to Mr. Agyinsam, this sharp rise in price has increased demand among urban residents who are becoming more aware of the coconut's health and nutritional advantages.

"Coconut production is a significant go-to commodity in the government's objective to rake in $25 billion yearly from non-traditional exports," he added. "The rising domestic and global market coupled with the favorable soil and climatic circumstances make coconut production a big go-to commodity."

"Cape Saint Paul Wilts, a devastating deadly yellowing illness, presents a hurdle to this potential, nevertheless. The Volta Region's coconut industry collapsed by the middle of the 1950s as a result of this pandemic, which started in Cape Saint Paul in Woe close to Keta and damaged thousands of coconut palms. So the "Coconut for Life project" was born. *(Ghanaian Times)*

## IN THE PAST: COCONUT PRODUCTS - A COMMODITY THAT EARNS MONEY

In the late 1980s, edible coconut cream production appeared to have the potential to be one of the nation's major money-making exports.

This is according to Rupeni Tuiloma, vice president of an external trade organization (ETO). He claimed it would be a significant improvement for the export and import industries of the nation.

The quality of the Fiji coconut cream gained a particular mention in the edition of Food Focus, the corporate information magazine published in Sweden by Alfa Laval Food and Engineering, a world-renowned food processing firm.

It appears that the product will be available in American markets by the end of the year. A Taveuni farmer named Nikola Chapalia and a Suva-based trade organization had coconut products shipped to Singapore where they were successfully tested at a food manufacturer.

Mr. Chapalia intended to begin planting high-quality, highly productive coconut palms.

Following negotiations, it was decided to start manufacturing aseptic products including drinks and coconut cream using liquid, according to Mr. Tuiloma.

Mr. Chapalia delivered 1,000 kg of frozen coconut milk to Alfa Laval's testing facility in Singapore in March of the previous year.

According to Mr. Tuiloma, the test work done focused on pasteurization, sterilisation, and recipe development.

Additionally, coconut protein coagulation, fat oxidation, and product stabilization against creaming have to be taken into consideration.

Additionally, a unique method for thawing the coconut milk was required in order to prevent the product from turning sour before it was fully defrosted. An aseptically packaged coconut cream with a 25% fat content and a flavor of preserved coconut was introduced after more testing and samples.

The ultimate product was of very high quality since the cream was pressed out of fresh coconut flesh.

A market in the USA is being actively pursued, according to Mr. Tuiloma, because of the superior quality of the product.

According to Mr. Tuiloma, "We expect the product to be a huge breakthrough for Fiji and would become a substantial source of income for coconut growers."

ETO sold Fiji Coconut Cream, which might sell for up to $1,600 per tonne.

Paul Freeman, the president of ETO, allegedly had commercial ties in the US, which aided in the product's development and promotion, according to Mr. Tuiloma. *(The Fiji Times)*

# TRADE NEWS

**INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE**

This week saw a decline in the price of vegetable oils.

After two dull weeks, the coconut oil market in Rotterdam was once again active. According to reports, it was traded at $1,270-1,290/MT CIF, less than the most recent paying level, which was $1,300-1,405/MT CIF three weeks ago. Beginning in August/September through December/January, sellers were offering positions at $1,370-1,390/MT CIF, mirroring lower palm oil prices. The market continued to remain weak despite the recovery in the palm oil and soybean oil markets, but after the close, increased purchasing demand sparked by the competitive prices helped to buck the trend. Closing prices ranged from $1,300-1,335 per MT CIF.

After a week of stillness, the palm kernel oil market also recorded activity. The traded level range was higher than two weeks earlier, at $1,180-1,200/MT CIF. The market also got off to a smoother start, with quotes ranging from $1,190-1,260 per MT CIF for jobs from September through January. Except for nearby positions that grew stronger under the effect of palm oil prices, prices generally followed the movement of the price of coconut oil. At $1,215-1,285/MT CIF, the market closed higher.

This week, the price differential between coconut oil and palm kernel oil again decreased. Despite relatively lower prices for coconut oil, the average spread continued to narrow for the fifth week in a row, falling this week to $100.50/MT from last week's $180.70. Following are the price premiums per position: August/September $77.00 ($202.00 last week), September/October $129.50 ($212.00), October/November $102.50 ($156.00), November/December $99.00 ($166.50), and December/January $95.00 ($167.00).

Soybean futures at the CBOT Soya Complex market remained bearish in response to improving weather in crop-growing regions of the US that had been affected by recent dryness. Reduced Chinese purchases contributed to the gloomy market mood. However, the market recovered later in the week as a result of increased interest from traders and investors who had taken advantage of the low pricing. Nevertheless, profit-taking following past gains is what caused closing levels to be lower.

After a good closing the previous week, the palm oil market started the current week lower due to profit-taking, but it quickly recovered thanks to increased prices for CBOT soybean oil and crude mineral oil. Towards the weekend, however, market weakened anew dragged by bearish fundamentals, yet settled higher at close on renewed interest for the commodity linked to weak Malaysian currency and outlook of improved exports.

Prices of tropical oils for nearest forward shipment showed coconut oil still in the negative territory for second consecutive week this week, dropping another $62.50 from $1,395.00 last week to $1,332.50/MT CIF currently. On the other hand, palm kernel oil gained $10 from $1,193.00 to $1,203.00/MT CIF and palm oil

hiked $27.00 from $1,055.00 to $1,082.00/MT CIF. Consequently, the price premium of coconut oil contracted against palm kernel oil from $202.00 last week to $129.50/ MT this week, as well as against palm oil from $340.00 to $250.50/MT. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

**MARKET ROUND-UP OF COCONUT OIL**

In Rotterdam, the coconut oil market resumed operations after two weeks vacation. Business reported included September/October at $1,290; October/November $1,270, $1,280; November/December $1,270; and December/ January at $1,270/MT CIF. Market moved downward but managed to reverse at close with sellers bidding $1,450 for July/August; $1,335 for August/September; $1,310 for September/ October; and $1,300/MT CIF for October/November, November/December, and December/January. At close, buyers requested $1,270 for the months of August/September, September/October, and October/November; $1,260 for the months of November/December, and January; $1,250 for the months of January and February; $1,260 for the months of February and March; and $1,265/MT CIF for the months of March and April.

Market for FOB coconut oil remained shut. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

**PRODUCTS MADE FROM COCONUT CHARCOAL BY MSMES WERE EXPORTED TO JAPAN: MINISTRY**

The first exports from Micro, Small, and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to Japan totaling US$19,200 have been made public by the Ministry of Trade. These products are coconut charcoal briquettes.

The Export Coaching Program (ECP) for the West Java region, a partnership between the Export and Trade Services HR Training Center (PPEJP) and the West Java Provincial Industry and Trade Service, Secretary General of the Ministry of Trade Suhanto noted in a statement, "This achievement was clocked by CV Coco Indonesia Maju, as a participant in the ECP for the West Java region.

The first export was released by Head of PPEJP Sugih Rahmansyah, Head of Foreign Trade of the West Java Provincial Industry and Trade Center M. Lukmanul Hakim, representatives from the West Bandung District Trade Service, Free Trade Agreements (FTA) Bandung Center, and West Java ECP counselor Abdillah Sani.

Heri Akhmadi, the ambassador of Indonesia to Japan and Micronesia, and Arief Wibisono, the Tokyo Trade Attaché, both virtually witnessed the release.

The enormous appeal of coconut charcoal briquettes was emphasized by Ambassador Akhmadi in a number of nations, including Japan.

He said, "We hope that the assistance program would be more intensive to encourage Indonesian exports to Japan. The Indonesian Embassy (KBRI) in Tokyo is ready to facilitate business owners in Indonesia to promote their products to Japan.

On the same occasion, Rahmansyah also complimented CV Coco Indonesia Maju, as a West Java millennial MSME, for having succeeded in attaining its first export despite it being only the fourth of the eight ECP stages.

He added that the export announcement "is expected to inspire other ECP participants as well as MSMEs throughout Indonesia to export their products in order to increase national exports and support economic recovery."

This success is realized thanks to the commitment and role of the Ministry of Trade's PPEJP in cooperation with ministries and agencies, state-owned firms, the private sector, and local governments.

The entire commerce between Indonesia and Japan in 2021 has reached US$32.5 billion. In

contrast, the total for the period of January through July 2022 was reported at US$20.2 billion, an increase of 38.9% from the same time last year.

The value of Indonesia's exports to Japan was $11.8 billion, while the value of its imports from Japan was $8.4 billion. *(Antara News)*

## OTHER VEGEOIL NEWS

### MALAYSIAN, CHINESE FIRMS JOINT VENTURE TO MAKE HVO, SAF

China's state-owned companies will collaborate with Malaysian firms as well as the Malaysian Palm Oil Board (MPOB) to produce oil palm-based product involving RM6 billion (USD1.35 billion) in foreign direct investment.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said the products are hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) and sustainable aviation fuels (SAF). He said the development of the maiden HVO and SAF plant in Malaysia is an initiative to drive the palm sector towards high-tech and high-value industries.

The companies from China are Shanxi Construction Investment Group Co Ltd (SCIG) and the Institute of Coal Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (ICC-CAS) while the Malaysian partners include Benalec Holdings Bhd's subsidiary Pengerang Maritime Industries Sdn Bdh and Sabah Oil and Gas Development Corporation (SOCDC). *(UCAP Bulletin)*

### INDIA EXPANDS BIOFUEL TAX EXEMPTIONS FOR VEGETABLE OILS, ETHANOL

The Indian government has expanded the country's biofuel tax exemption to promote higher blending ratio of vegetable oils and ethanol. The tax exemption would be applicable to a 20% portion of alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids obtained from vegetable oils blended with diesel and to an ethanol portion of 12-15% blended with gasoline, from the previous 10% blend.

India, the world's third biggest petroleum oil importer and consumer, has been keen to reduce its import bill following a surge in global crude prices due to the conflict in Ukraine. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

### EDIBLE OIL MAKERS IN INDIA ASKED TO REMOVE PACKAGING TEMPERATURE FROM LABELS

The details about the temperature at the time of packaging will be removed from the labels of edible oil bottles, vanaspati, and non-edible vegetable oil. The Department of Metrology has asked manufacturers to mention the volume and weight of the content instead.

The report quoted the executive director of the Solvent Extractors'Association of India (SEA), BV Mehta, saying that several oil companies in India have been resorting to the unfair practice of packing the oil at a higher temperature to reduce weight. Thirty degrees Celsius is considered room temperature.

The Legal Metrology department under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution notified the companies, not to mention temperature. Temperature and density are inversely proportional. When one of these goes up, the other one falls. Packing oil at higher temperature means that the quantity in the bottle is less than what it would have been had it been packed at room temperature, the report said. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

### MALAYSIAN PALM OIL COUNCIL TO HOLD PALM OIL TRADE SEMINAR IN MANILA

The Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) held the Palm Oil Trade Seminar (POTS) in Manila on August 17, 2022. Venue was in the Dusit Thani Hotel in Makati, Metro Manila.

POTS will have the theme "Addressing Philippines Oils and Fats Diversity through Malaysian Palm Oil". The Honorable Datuk Zuraida Kamaruddin, Malaysia's Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities will give the keynote address at the opening ceremonies.

The invite is open to everyone particularly those who came from the edible oils companies, fats and oils sector, food manufacturing/processing group of companies, bakery industries, direct palm oil users/consumers, palm oil importers and traders and some other oils and fats related agencies both in the private and government sector and for those who are planning to do business around fats and oils. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

### INDONESIA STARTS TESTS FOR B40 PALM OIL BIODIESEL

Indonesia has started testing for two types of biodiesels containing 40% palm oil. The fuels to be tested over the next few months are diesel mixed with 40% fatty acid methyl ester (FAME), called B40, and B30D10, which is diesel with 30% FAME mixed with 10% green diesel made of refined, bleached, and deodorized palm oil (RBD palm oil), the report said.

The tests will be made on 12 of the most popular passenger car models and commercial vehicles over 50,000 kilometers and 40,000 kilometers, respectively, said Dadan Kusdiana, head of the energy ministry's renewable energy. "We have improved fuel specifications so that they are better than B30," he said.

Indonesia's biodiesel consumption is forecast to be at least 10.15 billion liters this year and the government expects B40 to increase total biodiesel consumption by up to 3.5 billion liters per year. The country's current production capacity is 18 billion liters per year of biodiesel and 120,000 MT of green diesel. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## HEALTH NEWS

### FROM HYDRATION TO YOUTHFUL SKIN: A LOOK AT HEALTH BENEFITS OF COCONUT WATER

Coconut water has become a beverage of choice for many people over the last few years. The drink is not only naturally sweet but also provides a boost of hydration and several important nutrients to the body. Many believe that coconut water also aids weight loss because of its nutrient qualities with fairly low calories.

Coconut water has as much potassium as a banana but it is extremely low in calories and sodium which makes it a perfect drink.

If you are looking for a sign to include coconut water in your diet, here is a list of its several health benefits.

***Hydration***

Coconut water's highest quality is that it is hydrating for the body. Coconut has electrolytes like sodium, potassium, as well as magnesium which are essential for the regulation of hydration and your pH.

***Improves digestion***

Coconut water is rich in fiber and magnesium content which helps aid digestion.

***Promotes hydrated, youthful skin***

Coconut water has large quantities of Vitamin C (close to 10 mg per 100g). Vitamin C helps boost the natural collagen formation that reduces signs of aging like lines and wrinkles.

***Improves heart health***

Drinking coconut water is also healthy for the cardiovascular system because of its high potassium value.

***A healthy post-workout drink***

A glass of coconut water can also be a healthy workout drink. While sports drinks or energy drinks are full of sugar, preservatives, and flavors, coconut water is 100% natural and low in calories and carbohydrates.

***Helps in preventing kidney stones***

Hydration is of utmost importance to prevent kidney stones and coconut water helps to do that.

***Here is the nutrient value in one glass of coconut water (around 240 ml)***

- Calories: 60
- Carbs: 15 gm
- Fats: 0 gm
- Sugar: 8 gm
- Calcium: 4% of the daily value (DV)
- Magnesium: 4% of the DV
- Phosphorus: 2% of the DV
- Potassium: 15% of the DV

*(DNA India)*

## COCONUT RECIPE

**LUSCIOUS LEMON COCONUT CAKE**

***Ingredients***
***Cake***

1. 2½ cups (325 g) cake & pastry flour (see Note)
2. 1½ cups (300 g) granulated sugar
3. 3 tsp ( 9 g) baking powder
4. ½ tsp (2.5 g) salt
5. zest of 1 lemon
6. ¾ cup (175 g) unsalted butter, at room temperature, cut into pieces
7. 1 cup (250 ml) buttermilk
8. ¼ cup (60 ml) fresh lemon juice
9. 1½ tbsp (30 ml) vegetable oil
10. 4 large eggs, at room temperature
11. 2 tsp (10 ml) vanilla extract

***Lemon Coconut Filling***

1. 1 cup (250 ml) whipping cream
2. 1 cup (200 g) granulated sugar
3. zest of 1 lemon
4. ¼ cup (30 g) cornstarch
5. 2 cups (100 g) sweetened flaked or shredded coconut
6. 3 large egg yolks
7. ½ cup (115 g) unsalted butter, cut into pieces
8. 1 tsp (5 ml) vanilla extract
9. ½ tsp (2 ml) coconut extract, optional

***Sabayon buttercream & assembly***

1. 2 large egg yolks
2. ¼ cup (50 g) granulated sugar
3. zest of 1 lemon
4. ¼ cup (60 ml) fresh lemon juice
5. 2 cups (260 g) icing sugar, sifted
6. 1½ cups (340 g) unsalted butter, at room temperature and cut into pieces
7. 2 tsp (10 ml) vanilla extract
8. 1½ cups (150 g) sweetened flaked or shredded coconut

***Instruction***

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F). Grease two 20 cm (8 in) round cake pans. Line the bottoms with parchment paper and dust the sides of the pans with flour, tapping out any excess.
2. Sift the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt into a large mixing bowl (if using electric beaters) or into the bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Add the lemon zest and stir in. Add the butter and cut in on medium-low speed until the flour is crumbly and no pieces of butter are visible, about 2 minutes.
3. In a separate bowl, whisk the buttermilk, lemon juice, oil, eggs and vanilla. Add this all at once to the flour and mix first on low speed

until combined and then increase the speed to medium high and beat for 1 minute until lighter in colour. Divide the batter between the two pans and spread to level.

4. Bake the cakes for about 30 minutes, until a tester inserted in the entre of a cake comes out clean. Cool the cakes for 30 minutes on a rack in their tins, then turn out to cool completely.
5. For the filling, measure the cream, sugar, lemon zest, cornstarch and coconut in a saucepan and whisk this together. Have the egg yolks in a small dish and have the butter in another dish on hand. Bring the cream mixture up to a full simmer over medium heat while whisking, about 5 minutes. Ladle a spoonful of the cream into the egg yolks while whisking and then add this back into the pot, and continue to cook for about 4 minutes while whisking, to cook the eggs. Remove the pan from the heat and whisk in the butter until melted. Whisk in the vanilla and coconut extract (if using) and transfer to a bowl to cool. Cover and chill for at least 4 hours before using.
6. For the buttercream, whisk the egg yolks, sugar, lemon zest and juice in a metal bowl placed over a pot of gently simmering water, until the mixture has doubled in volume and holds a ribbon on the surface when the whisk is lifted. Remove the bowl from the heat and whisk in the icing sugar – this will cool the sabayon. Using electric beaters or in a stand mixer fitted with the whip attachment, whip the sabayon one minute to cool it further and then add the soft butter a few pieces at a time, until the buttercream is smooth. Whip in the vanilla. Use the buttercream at room temperature.
7. To assemble the cake, slice each cake layer in half horizontally. Place one cake layer onto a platter or cake stand. Spoon some of the buttercream into a piping bag fitted with a large plain tip and pipe a ring around the outside edge of the cake. Spoon a third of the chilled coconut filling inside this ring, spreading evenly. Top this with another cake layer and repeat two more times. Cover the top and sides of the cake with the remaining buttercream and coat the entire cake with coconut. Chill the cake until ready to serve.

***Note***

- Cake and pastry flour, available from some supermarkets and specialist retailers, usually has a finer texture and lower protein content, which yields a tender cake crumb, but you can easily use plain flour instead in this recipe.
- The cake should be stored refrigerated, but is best enjoyed when it sits out for an hour before slicing and serving.

*(SBS Food)*

# 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 | 71,557 | 141,347 |
| April | 46,063 | 39,796 | 43,675 | 65,594 | 51,164 | 105,681 |
| May | 35,782 | 29,483 | 66,712 | 105,704 | 60,018 | 116,375 |
| June | 52,717 | 45,326 | 48,582 | 78,866 | 55,547 | 100,407 |
| July | 66,368 | 56,217 | 71,449 | 113,089 | 79,133 | 128,730 |
| 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** | **401,831** | **752,059** |

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 | 97,009 |
| February | 35,743 | 44,265 | 59,757 | 53,704 | 123,579 |
| March | 82,848 | 122,223 | 91,762 | 72,143 | 97,741 |
| April | 69,532 | 123,057 | 53,629 | 58,555 | 123,835 |
| May | 68,968 | 100,580 | 61,034 | 51,927 | 113,696 |
| 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** | **555,860** |

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

**Table 5. International Prices of Selected Oils, September 2019 - August 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** | 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 | 2,033 | 1,470 | 1,345 | 2,196 | 1,412 |
| | February | 2,153 | 1,596 | 1,522 | 2,443 | 1,499 |
| | March | 2,269 | 1,957 | 1,777 | 2,441 | 2,361 |
| | April | 2,097 | 1,948 | 1,683 | 2,064 | 2,276 |
| | May | 1,720 | 1,963 | 1,717 | 1,811 | 2,079 |
| | June | 1,688 | 1,752 | 1,501 | 1,555 | 1,885 |
| | July | 1,517 | 1,533 | 1,057 | 1,301 | 1,557 |
| | August | 1,364 | 1,599 | 1,026 | 1,173 | 1,496 |

Source: Cocommunity and Oil World

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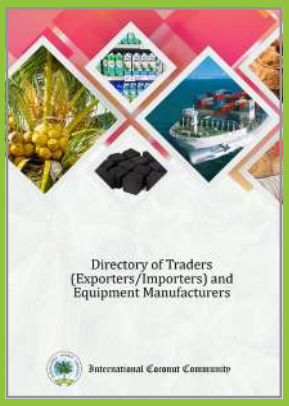


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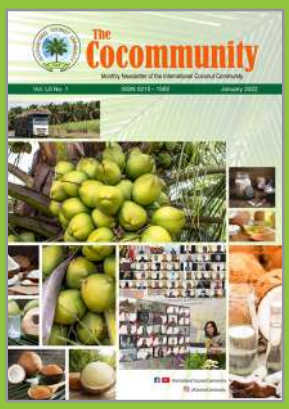


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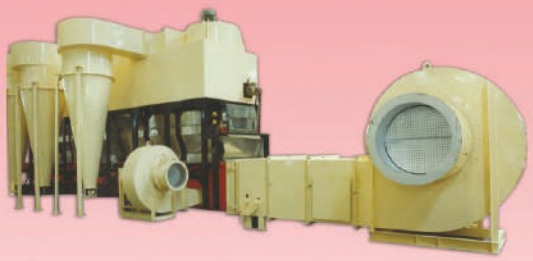

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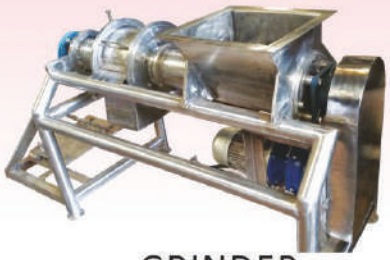
Output Capacity : 300 to 1000 Kgs/hr.



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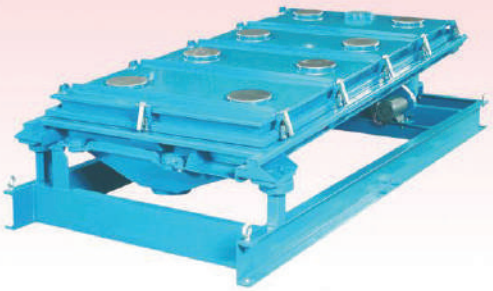
Output Capacity :
1000 to 4000 Kgs/hr.



## 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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Established in 1969, under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Commision 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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