The Cocommunity

Monthly Newsletter of the International Coconut Community

Vol. LII No. 10 ISSN 0215 - 1502 October 2022

International Coconut Community

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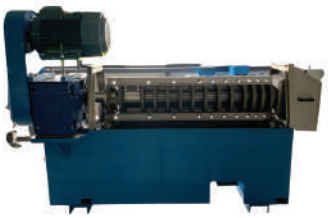

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"Can Growing More Coconuts Mitigate Global Environmental Issues?"

Rapid growth of human population, industrial and commercial activities has led to high demand of energy, which in turn increase CO^2 emission, environmental pollution, global warming, depletion of fossil fuels as non-renewable sources, and cause detrimental effects on health. The United Nation has recommended that all countries make remarkable attempts to minimize greenhouse gas emission levels as the emissions increase exponentially. These issues have catalyzed countries to secure energy system and seek alternative energy sources that are renewable, eco-friendly, and more affordable.

Like sunlight, wind and water, biomass and coconut oil are also considered as sustainable, renewable, and environmentally friendly source of energy. Coconut husks, shells and fronds are among the most abundant biomasses for energy sources. Biomass is carbon neutral and has low greenhouse gas emissions due to lower nitrogen and sulfur content. Coconut shell containing high lignin, low amount of complex heavy metals, superior in terms of energy and carbon content, and low nitrogen and sulfur content is a promising biomass to produce charcoal. In addition to its role as a source of biofuel, charcoal is also used for various purposes like in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, animal feed, and as raw material for processing of activated carbon that is very beneficial for water purification and filtration.

Another source of biofuel is coconut oil. Studies conducted by experts have revealed that coconut oil is a good feedstock of jet fuel due to the composition of fatty acid, the chain length distribution of the resulting biofuel fits perfectly with conventional jet fuels, so further steps that increase costs and reduce process yield are not required. Furthermore, the study showed that coconut oil could potentially be used as jet fuels at competitive costs and with relevant environmental and social benefits. Studies has also suggested that coconut-based biodiesel could be a good alternative fuel for those who live in remote areas, where fossil fuel is extremely expensive and not regularly available. A comprehensive analysis on the mass production of coconut-based fuels that are economical and profitable for producers, processing industries and the environment is needed.

Products from coconut husk, leaves and stems are also excellent sources of biodegradable products to address non-biodegradable products or plastics, which are also major contributors to climate change. Coco chips and coco peat are among the best natural organic growing media for various crops. Coconut fiber has diverse utility from plastic-free household products to the automobile industry. Promising results of the coconut-based biofuel and degradable products need to be supported by sustainable feedstock to the industry. Hence, it is advisable to planting more coconuts to mitigate global environmental issues and support food security.

Countries are now considering and taking definitive turning point toward more secure energy system that are cleaner, eco-friendly, and more affordable. They are also promoting environmentally friendly degradable products. Around 67 billion nuts are produced globally to yield various products for different purposes, as reported in 2021. Current production should be increased to save the nature from the environmental damage and climate change impacts.

DR. JELFINA C. ALOUW
Executive Director

PREVAILING MARKET PRICES OF SELECTED COCONUT PRODUCTS AND OILS

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

COPRA: The price of copra in Indonesia was US$543/MT in September 2022, which was lower than previous month's price. Compared to the same month of last year the price was US$ 314/MT lower.

In the domestic market of the Philippines (Manila), the price decreased by US$23/MT from US$685/MT in August 2022 to US$662/MT in September 2022. The price was US$142/MT lower compared to the price of US$804/MT in September 2021.

COCONUT OIL: The average price of coconut oil in Europe (C.I.F. Rotterdam) declined to US$1,261/MT in September 2022. Moreover, this price was lower by 15% as opposed to the price in September 2021 at US$1,486/MT.

The average local price of coconut oil in the Philippines was US$1,202/MT in September 2022. The price was US$325/MT lower compared to the price of US$1,527/MT in September 2021. Meanwhile, the average local price of coconut oil in Indonesia decreased to US$1,227/MT in September 2022 from US$1,239/MT in August 2022. The price was US$197/MT lower compared to the price of US$1,424/MT in September 2021.

COPRA MEAL: The average domestic price of the commodity in the Philippines at selling points was quoted at US$243/MT. The price remained the same as the previous month and was US$44/MT higher than the price a year earlier.

The average domestic price of copra meal in Indonesia was US$273/MT which was lower than previous month. The price was US$8/MT higher than last year's price.

DESICCATED COCONUT: The average price of desiccated coconut (DC) FOB USA in September 2022 was US$1,984/MT, which was 1.8% lower than previous month price and US$511/MT lower than the price of the same month last year.

In Sri Lanka, the domestic price of desiccated coconut in September 2022 was US$1,466/MT or same as in August 2022. Meanwhile, the price of DC in the domestic market of Philippines in September 2022 was US$2,039/MT, which remained the same as previous month's price. Indonesian price (FOB) of DC in September 2022 was US$1,450/MT which was higher than price in August 2022, and was lower compared to last year's price of US$2,363/MT.

COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL: In Philippines, the average price of the commodity in September 2022 was US$371/MT which was higher than price in August 2022. Meanwhile, Indonesia's charcoal price slightly decreased from US$496/MT in August 2022 to US$465/MT in September 2022. Moreover, compared to last year's price, the price was lower by US$110/MT. Sri Lankan's price in September 2022 was US$400/MT which was lower than last month's price.

COIR FIBRE: Coir fiber was traded in the domestic market in Sri Lanka at US$60/MT for mix fiber and US$388/MT-US$466/MT for bristle. The Indonesian price for mixed raw fiber was US$130/MT in September 2022 which was lower than price a year earlier at US$220/MT.

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

Products/Country	2022 Sep	2022 Aug	2021 Sep	2022 (Annual Ave.)
Dehusked Coconut				
Philippines (Domestic)	134	150	172	195
Indonesia (Domestic, Industry Use)	147	146	215	182
Sri Lanka (Domestic, Industry Use)	166	178	262	198
India (Domestic Kerala)	396	395	524	443
Copra				
Philippines (Dom. Manila)	662	685	804	970
Indonesia (Dom. Java)	543	642	857	835
Sri Lanka (Dom. Colombo)	887	955	1,493	1,181
India (Dom. Kochi)	1,025	1,055	1,421	1,150
Coconut Oil				
Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	1,261	1,364	1,486	1,789
Philippines (Domestic)	1,202	1,281	1,527	1,762
Indonesia (Domestic)	1,227	1,239	1,424	1,541
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,746	1,860	2,928	2,352
India (Domestic, Kerala)	1,769	1,815	2,355	1,956
Desiccated Coconut				
Philippines FOB (US), Seller	1,984	2,021	2,495	2,447
Philippines (Domestic)	2,039	2,039	2,039	2,039
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,466	1,466	2,577	1,888
Indonesia (FOB)	1,450	1,375	2,363	1,803
India (Domestic)	1,396	1,396	2,069	1,623
Copra Meal Exp. Pel.				
Philippines (Domestic)	243	243	199	236
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	238	240	271	241
Indonesia (Domestic)	273	281	265	305
Coconut Shell Charcoal				
Philippines (Domestic), Buyer	371	365	478	388
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	400	402	565	420
Indonesia (Domestic Java), Buyer	465	496	575	559
India (Domestic)	518	532	567	508
Coir Fibre				
Sri Lanka (Mattress/Short Fibre)	60	62	141	84
Sri Lanka (Bristle 1 tie)	388	315	570	414
Sri Lanka (Bristle 2 tie)	466	413	867	559
Indonesia (Mixed Raw Fibre)	130	160	220	203
Other Oil				
Palm Kernel Oil Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.)	1,249	1,173	1,427	1,804
Palm Oil Crude, Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.)	909	1,026	1,181	1,393
Soybean Oil (Europe FOB Ex Mill)	1,548	1,599	1,399	1,707

Exchange Rate

Sep 30, '22 1 US$ = P58.74 or Rp15,278 or India Rs81.38 or SL Rs365.47

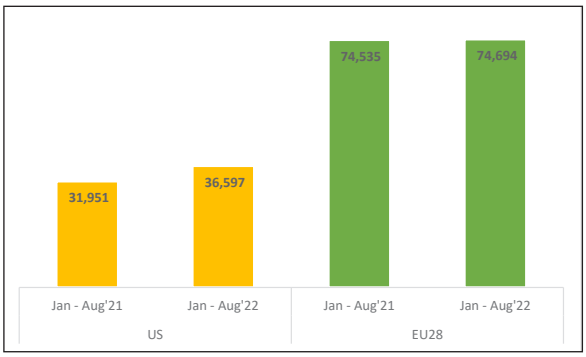
1 Euro = US$0.99 n.q. = no quote

MARKET REVIEW OF DESICCATED COCONUT

Price pressure in the global market due to economic uncertainty are affecting price of desiccated coconut (DC). Price of DC showed a decreasing trend at least in the last six months. Price of DC from Philippines was US$2,721/MT in February 2022 and gradually went down to US$1,984/MT in September 2022. Similarly, price of DC from Indonesia leveled down to US$1,450/MT in September 2022 from US$2,240/MT in January 2022. Sri Lankan DC price declined from US$2,603/MT in January 2022 to US$1,466/MT in September 2022 mainly due to economic crisis in the country worsened by global economic uncertainty.

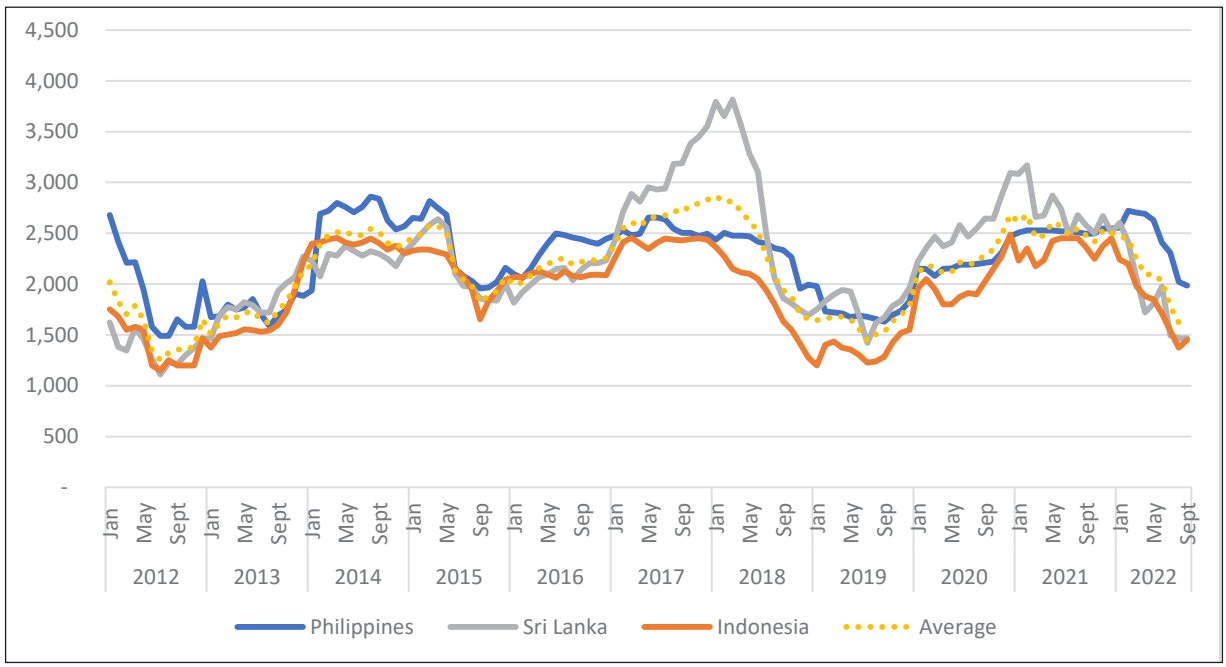
Global market of desiccated coconut (DC) showed a positive trend until the third quarter of 2022 following increasing trend in the previous year. Imports of the products by the main importing regions such as Europe and USA increased during January to August 2022. US imports of desiccated coconut rose by 14.54% compared to the same period in 2021. Similarly, demand of desiccated coconut by European countries went up by 0.21% during the period. Shipments of DC to European countries amounted for 74,694 tons of during the period of January-August 2022.

Figure 2. USA and European Union Imports of DC (MT), January-August 2021/22



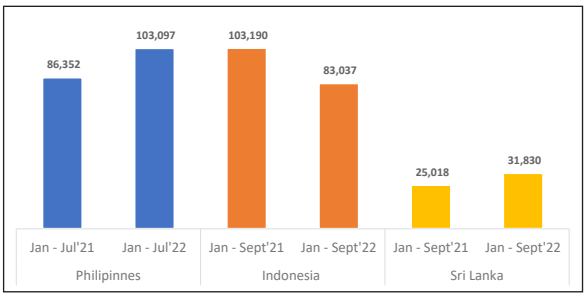
On the other side, supply of DC is improving and is back to normal production capacity supported by higher coconut production. Export of DC from Philippines, the largest exporting country,

Figure 1. Monthly Price of Desiccated Coconut (US$/MT), January 2012- September 2022



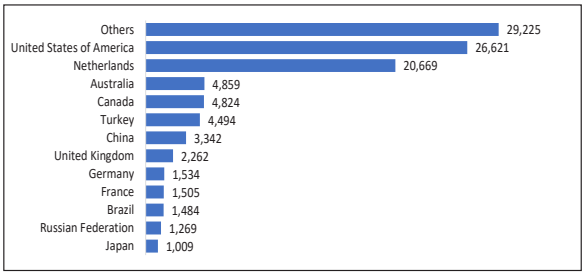
increased from 86,352 tons in January-July 2021 to 103,097 tons January-July 2022. The increase was following a positive trend in the previous year. At the same time, amid the economic crisis in the country Sri Lanka pushed their DC exports to a higher level. During January-September 2022, export DC from Sri Lanka reached 31,830 tons which was 27.23% higher as opposed to the volume a year earlier. However, export of DC from another main supplying country, Indonesia, showed a decrease during January-September of 2022. Indonesia suffered from higher supply of DC from Philippines. During the period, export of DC from Indonesia was 83,037 MT which was 19.5 lower compared to the volume a year earlier.

Figure 3. Export Volume (MT) of DC from Philippines, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka, 2021-2022



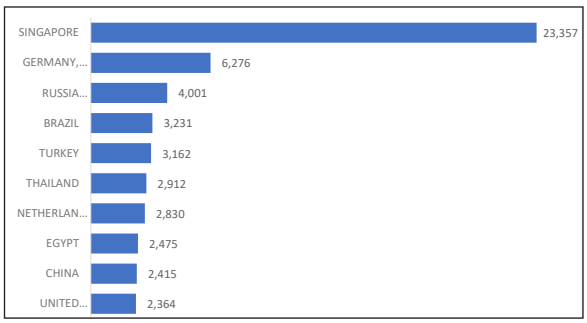
European countries and US are still the major destinations for desiccated coconut. During January-August 2022, Philippines shipped more than 28 thousand tons of DC to Europe and US market. The export volume was accounted for more than 55% of DC exports from the Philippines. Meanwhile, Middle East is the traditional market for DC from desiccated coconut from Sri Lanka.

Figure 4. Export Destination of DC from Philippines, January-July 2022



Meanwhile, Asia and Europe are the major destinations for DC from Indonesia. Singapore is the main hub for DC from Indonesia. During January-September 2022, Indonesia sent 23,357 MT of DC to Singapore to be shipped to many destinations. It constituted for more than 28.13% of the total export volume of DC from Indonesia during the period. Other destinations included Germany, Russia, and Brazil which received 6,276 tons, 4,001 tons, and 3,231 tons respectively.

Figure 5. Top 10 Export Destinations of DC from Indonesia, January-September 2022



COMMUNITY NEWS

WORLD COCONUT DAY 2022 CELEBRATION

World Coconut Day is observed every year 2 September, to Commemorate the establishment of ICC by all coconut-producing country.

The 2022 World Coconut Day theme was ***"Growing Coconut for Better Future and Life"***. To accommodate the participant's enthusiasm, this year ICC invited nominations for awards in different catagories which included Best Innovative Farmer, Best Micro Small and Medium Enterprise, Best Coconut Farmer Organization, and Best Coconut Scientist and invited nominations from all the ICC member countries. ICC also invited a Coconut Song Writer Competition which was open to all globally. ICC secretariat being part of the celebration of World Coconut Day organised by Government of India through Coconut Development Board in Kochi, Kerala.

The event was conducted in a hybrid mode, both physically and virtually along with the distribution of National Award & Export Excellence conducted by the Coconut Development Board, India. The inauguration was commenced with the lamp lighting ceremony by Honorable Union Minister of Agriculture, Govt of India Mr. Narendra Singh Tomar, who joined virtually from the Junagarh district of Gujarat state of India. He also inaugurated the state centre of Coconut Development Board in Junagarh. In his address honorable minister mentioned the achievement of India in the coconut production, productivity and export sector. On behalf of Prime Minister of India, he congratulated all the national awardees for their acheievement in the development of coconut sector in India. The event was attended physically by Dr. N Vijayalakshmi, Chairperson, CDB and Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC with other dignatories in Kochi.

In her address, Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw expressed her gratitude to the CDB of the Government of India Ministry of Agriculture for regularly organizing the WCD. She mentioned that we are celebrating World Coconut Day to strengthen our sense of connection and to reinforce the importance of this palm. The WCD is the best time to recognize great achievements and innovation in the entire supply and value chains to prompt motivation, strengthen global and local relationships, and attract global recognition to the coconut and its products, also to stimulate more innovative technologies and exchange ideas in addressing current global issues to climate change, pandemic, and also global political instability, potentially impacting the coconut sector.

The development of the coconut agroindustry for optimizing added-value is an ideal objective for providing employment, generating more income, reducing poverty and stimulating economic growth. However, challenges in the sustainable supply of raw material technology transfer, capacity building, policy, financial and global political support, and global market acceptability need to be addressed these challenges through just the ability of the industry to fully benefit from the market opportunities. A comprehensive and adaptable plan and alternatives need to be developed for better production, better product quality, better environment, better market and better life, as a global community.

Dr. N. Vijayalakshmi, Chairperson, CDB, appreciated the work done in the coconut sector and encouraged the coconut stakholders and farmers to adopt the latest cultivation and processing technologies of coconuts. Chairperson mentioned about the board's projects to improve income of farmers through skill development. The other dignatories spoke on the occasion were Mr. Rajendra Kataria, IAS, Principal Secretary Horticulture, Government of Karnataka and Mr. K. Babu MLA of Tripunithara constituency. The National Awards and Export Excellence Awards of the Board was distributed jointly by all the dignatories during the occasion.

During the function ICC also announced the nominations received from the member

countries in different four catagories and distributed the certificate of participation to the nominees received from India. The winner for each category will be announced during the 50th COCOTECH Conference, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 7-11 November 2022. A exhibition was also organized in which depicting the different coconut value added products, research developments and schemes implemented by CDB showcased. ICC also participated in the exhbitions and displayed the different publications. ICC received many querries on global marketing of coconut products. The function was attended physicaly by the coconut farmers, stakeholders extension officers and researchers from all parts of India.

The program was concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Rajeev Bhushan Prasad, Chief Coconut Development Officer, CDB. *(ICC News)*

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GOOD AGRICULTURE PRACTICES (GAP) IN COCONUT

International Coconut Community in association with the Government of India through Coconut Development Board organized a three-day International Workshop on Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) in coconut, at Le Meridian Kochi, Kerala, India from 2-4 September 2022 in a hybrid mode. The theme of the workshop was: Good Agricultural Practices for Coconut in Enhancing Production Efficiency, Product Quality and Resilience to Climate Change.

The general objective of organizing the workshop is to disseminate the knowledge on GAP for 'Enhancing the level of management practices adopted in coconut gardens for higher quantity of quality nuts for better remuneration, in the wake of biotic & abiotic stresses amid climate change'.

The agronomists and related experts in the field of major coconut growing countries from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam and international organization participated in the workshop and presented their most recent research and development in this sector. There were more than 125 participants joined physically as well as virtually. This workshop served as a venue for knowledge sharing amongst agronomists, soil science and related experts for establishing an international platform/network among ICC member countries to catalyse local/ national innovation and action for scaling up climate smart agriculture for coconut and to Identify data and technology gaps, area for future research activities to develop improved GAP recommendation based on up to date research results.

The workshop was inaugurated on 2nd September by Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC by lightning the traditional Lamp with Dr. N. Vijaya Lakshmi, IAS, Chairman CDB. The other dignatories present were Mr. Rajendra Kumar Kataria, Principal Secretary Horticulture, Government of Karnataka, India. In her welcome address Dr. N. Vijaya Lakshmi, IAS mentioned that GAP in coconut production is the need of the hour; as timely adoption and monitoring of GAP in coconut production helps improve the safety and quality of coconut and coconut based value added products thereby improving the chances of exports. Good Agricultural Practices in coconut cultivation not only helps to produce quality outputs, but also improves the soil condition, reduces cost resulting in improving the livelihood of the adopted farmers.

Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC, delivered the inaugural address and presented the rationales and objectives of the workshop. She mentioned the expected outcomes of the workshop mainly a sustainable and resilient coconut industry with improved environmental management, nut quality and production efficiency that benefit producers & consumers; also improve the coconut farmer's livelihood and quality coconut-based products (better production, better environment, better market & better life) which is the need of the hour.

Principal Secretary, Horticulture, Government of Karnataka, Mr. Rajendra Kumar Katariya IAS in his address said that the workshop needs to be come up with an road map for a GAP to be followed globally. He added that the countries must follow the program of lab to land in which the technologies developed is to demonstrated in the field for easy adaptation by the farmers for better result. Many international experts are sharing their experience in this platform so the participants can take benefit of this opportunity to take home the latest and updated knowledge with them.

The three day workshop covered in three sessions. Session 1 Good Agricultural Practices in Coconut for Sustainable Development and Innovative Extension Approaches for Promotion of GAP was mainly focused on the country presentations. The session was chaired by Dr. Manish Pande, Director and Head of Quality Council of India and co chaired by Dr. K. Selvaraj, Scientist from ICAR-Natioanl Bureau of Agriculture Insect Resources, Government of India. The country speakers from India, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Philippines joined physically and experts from Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam joined virtually. All the seven speakers presented the different GAP practices adopted and strategies/ policies followed in their respective countries with sociological and cultural barriers. The SWOT related to the GAP technologies and way forward also presented.

The second session was Moving Towards Sustainable Agriculture - GAP and its Relevance in the Context of Climate Change in which experts from FAO and Quality Council of India presented the different programs and GAP certification procedures to be followed by the stakeholders and farmers. Dr. Pande stressed on four pillars to be considered i.e. food safety, environment management, fair price with workers safety and quality of products and the persons responsible for this are farmers; processors and handlers; the government and consumers. The session was chaired by Dr. Liberty H. Canja, Department Manager, Philippines.

The last and third session on Successful Models Practiced by Progressive Coconut Farmers for Enhancing Productivity & Nut Quality was mainly on the experience sharing by the progressive farmers. The session was chaired by Dr. Thamban, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPCRI and Dr. Anjana Atapattu, Senior Research Officer, CRI, Sri Lanka. The progressive farmers shared their experinces were Mr. Raam Mohan, N. U. of Umapthy Hybrid Centre, Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu India and Prof. Nelson Pomalingo, Chairman, Coconut Growing Districts, Gorontalo Regency, Indonesia. They shared their experiences and mentioned how important is GAP certification to compete in the global coconut market.

There were open forum and discussions in which the researchers, extension officers, stakeholders and farmers participated. The main output and recommendations of the workshop suggested was to synergies and harmonize the GAP technologies and strategies between the countries which will help the famers to adopt the best technologies for developing sustainable Agriculture. Further the Industries and extension officers to join together to create awareness amongst the farmers thru Farmers Field Schools like in the Philippines by involving the development departments, research institutes and universities. GAP certifications may lead to increase in cost of production wherein farmers needs policy support for better reneumeration for their quality products. Need to develop sustainable viable extension module involving the Farmers Producing Organizations in lining with industry to get better price. There is an urgent need to address the carbon sequestration in coconut in the context of climate change. Forming of GAP network to address the issues with the vision to develop a sustainable, resilient & highly competitive coconut sector. Providing cost-effective and science-based GAP strategies to help growers increase the coconut quantity & quality, by reducing the adverse impacts of land and palm management on human health, environment, and non-target organisms and promoting extreme climate resilient coconut plantation system & sustaining biodiversity

which will increase the coconut-based products acceptance in global markets.

The physical session was conluded on 3rd September with the valedictory session addressed by Dr. N. Vijaya Lakshmi, IAS, Chairman CDB and Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC.

A field visit was arranged on 4th September to the field of Mr. Raam Mohan and Mr. OVR Somasundaram, Tirupur District of Tamil Nadu state. The participants could see the hybridization techniques followed in the Umapathy hybrid centre in which he adopted an integrated farming system with poulty farming. He maintained a big nusery of hybrid coconut seedlings of Raamganga variety in poly bag. Mr. Raam Mohan making coconut sugar and its value added products by tapping neera from his own plantation. He adopted the neera harvesting technology in a controlled condition developed by ICAR-CPCRI. A well maintnied coconut plantation with intercrops of Nutmeg and other fruit crops could see in OVR Farms.

The workshop was an integrated package covering both physical, field visit and exhibitions which give the participants a combined feelings of seeing in believing. *(ICC News)*

VISIT TO SRI LANKA-INTERACTION WITH COCONUT INSTITUTES AND STAKEHOLDERS

With the objective to discuss the major project and programs of ICC and to know more about the impacts of the current situation in Sri Lanka to coconut sector and industry and to identify the required facilitation and supports from ICC and other international organizations, Dr. Jelfina C.Alouw, Executive Director and Ms. Mridula Kottekate, Assistant Director , ICC visited Sri Lanka on 6th September 2022.

On arrival at Coconut Research Institute (CRI), ED and AD were warmly welcomed by Mrs. D. S. Wijesekera, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Plantation Industries and representative of Secretary and NLO for ICC from Sri Lanka, Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma, Chairman, CRI and Dr. Lalith Perera, Acting Director. A meeting was arranged in the CRI in which representatives from other partner coconut institutes like Coconut Cultivation Board (CCB) and Coconut Development Authority (CDA) including the senior officers from Ministry of plantation and researchers of CRI participated.

The meeting started with the welcome address by Mrs. D. S. Wijesekera, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Plantation Industries, Sri Lanka. Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, in her address mentioned the main purpose of the visit and briefed the different concluded ,ongoing and upcoming programs of ICC for the CY 2022. She also informed that ICC always in close contacts with the researchers of CRI and they are actively participating in all the ICC programs. ED Pointed out some of the specific problems faced by all coconut growers after pandemic and some unseen incidents like wars, natural calamity and economic recession. Executive Director invited Chairman, CRI and CCB for the upcoming International Cocotech Conference in November in Malaysia and requested to include the major coconut industry and stakeholders of Sri Lanka to be part of the conference and exhibition wherein ICC arranging the B2B meeting for the stakeholders. This platform will give an opportunity to them for expanding their business and support the country in overcoming national problems through increasing exports of coconut-based products.

Dr. Saranga Alahapperuma, Chairman, CRI mentioned the mutual understanding between CRI and ICC in implementing the ICC programs specially the International Certificate Course for Coconut Development Officers consecutively two years on campus and one year virtually. He mentioned some of the focal points to be considered in improving the coconut production and productivity and the National Coconut Research Policy formulated by the Ministry of plantation, Sri Lanka. Chairman CRI appreciated the work carried out by the researchers of CRI specially in Tissue Culture.

He requested ICC to facilitate to identify some machinery manufacturers and capacity building in processing and production of Nata de coco. Recently in Sri Lanka efforts have been made to bring more unutilized coconut land into cultivation for that different programs and projects also launched. Dr. Alahapperumma assured ICC that CRI will continue to host the training program in coming years. Chairman shared that recently CRI has been awarded with the best Citizen's website Award.

Mr. Keerti Sri Weerasinghe, Chairman, Coconut Development Authority (CDA), in his address requested ICC to encourage the researchers of member countries to come up with more work on health and nutrition aspects of coconut to combat with the negative campaign against coconut oil and other coconut products. He added that now a days MCT oil is getting popular amongst the consumers so need to encourage more producers in this sector.

Dr. Nayanie Aratchige, Deputy Director (Research), CRI presented the R&D programs of CRI. The activities of CDA and CCB were presented by Mr. Sampath Samarawickrama, Director of CDA and Mr. W. M. Rathnayaka, Assistant General Manager, CCB.

There were in depth discussion on different aspects related to marketing; capacity building, and facilitation by ICC to coconut industries of other member countries. Dr. Jelfina assured full support of ICC in linking with the stakeholders and experts and manufacturers for the sustainable development of the coconut industry in Sri Lanka.

The meeting concluded with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Lalith Perera, Acting Director, CRI. He stated that CRI having a well-developed digital library which can be linked with ICC for the reference of other coconut experts of the countries.

In the afternoon the Executive Director and Assistant Director visited the processing, soil testing laboratory, agronomy division, breeding, plant protection and tissue culture (TC) laboratory of CRI. Saw the different activities of the units and progress made in the respective divisions. Also visited the multilocational study conducted by CRI with the tissue culture plants developed in the field. It was really appreciable to see the progress made by the TC division.

A meeting with industry representatives was also arranged in Colombo. Mr. Suresh Siva, CEO of Silver Mill and his associates met with ICC team. He shared his experiences in developing the industry in other countries like India and Indonesia and hurdles faced mainly competing in global markets. Silver Mill is one of the biggest industry in Sri Lanka looking after by the third generation holders. ED, ICC invited him to the International Cocotech Conference so that he can be a motivator to other start-up companies.

The visit to Sri Lanka and meeting with the Chairman(s) of coconut institutes and stakeholders were very productive and informative. The team are delighted to see a lot of progress in the development of coconut technology and the country's situation is gradually improving. *(ICC News)*

IN SOUTH MINAHASA, INDONESIA, MINISTRY TO BUILD COCONUT PROCESSING PRODUCTION HOUSE

In order to process coconut products, the Cooperatives and SMEs Ministry of Indonesia will construct a production facility in the South Minahasa District of North Sulawesi Province.

In the future, cooperatives will run the production facility to speed up the downstreaming of farmer-owned coconut goods.

According to a statement from the North Sulawesi Ministry of Cooperatives and SMEs, Teten Masduki, "North Sulawesi, particularly (its) South Minahasa District, is one of the largest coconut production centers in Indonesia, with a production rate of more than 270 thousand tons in 2021. Unfortunately, this coconut

production has yet to provide added value for small farmers directly."

He noted that farmers have always charged little for whole coconuts. Each whole coconut was typically sold for Rp2,000, but if it was refined into virgin coconut oil (VCO), it might get Rp12,000.

It was said that 100 kilograms (kg) of coconut would yield 25 kg of coir, which could then be processed into 7.5 kg of cocofiber for Rp2,000 per kg and 16 kg of cocopeat for Rp500 per kg.

Additionally, it was rumored that coconut shells were used to make charcoal or briquettes, both of which were greatly sought for abroad.

This is our (selling point)," the minister said. "Business players are also currently investing heavily in coconut products, so this has a significant economic value that is larger than palm oil, and there is no environmental issue.

Farmers were unable to independently process their own produce due to the high cost of the necessary technologies. Therefore, setting up a production facility has become a crucial step in the quest to produce downstream processed goods.

Masduki emphasized the importance of keeping the house well-maintained so that it would last for a long time. If the project were to be a success, it is conceivable that the government would construct such production facilities throughout Indonesia, each one suited to the distinctive output of the area.

Franky Donny Was Demat, the district chief of South Minahasa, noted that 46,000 hectares in his region were used for coconut farming. 600 SMEs will eventually develop coconut-specific products from the production facility.

He thought that the effort would aid coconut growers in gaining more value from downstreaming processed coconuts, especially Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Only five districts and cities have agreed to this cooperative production house construction project; South Minahasa is fortunate to be one of them. Let's work together to make this a success. *(Antara)*

MOELDOKO PLANTS NEW COCONUT VARIETIES FOR WORLD COCONUT DAY

On September 2, 2022, World Coconut Day, Presidential Chief of Staff Moeldoko took part in planting a relatively new variety of coconut.

Moeldoko stopped by the University of Muhammadiyah Purwokerto's (UMP) Science Techno Park, which is home to the kopyor coconut species, while he was in Purwokerto, Central Java, Indonesia.

Moeldoko planted the superior Genjah Kuning Sinumpur species of kopyor coconut from the seed directly into the UMP complex garden.

One of the scientists from UMP, Prof. Sisunandar, created this novel kind.

Along with planting, Moeldoko chose a kopyor coconut that was ripe for harvesting.

Then, as he savored the kopyor he had personally selected, Moeldoko engaged in active conversation with Prof. Sisunandar, known as the professor of kopyor coconut, to learn more about the advantages and economic possibilities of kopyor coconut.

"Kopyor coconut is an excellent product with great potential for the nation. In order for research and studies on the kopyor coconut to continue to expand, I hope that young people begin to see this variety of coconut as an opportunity.

Prof. Sisunandar also valued the time the Presidential Chief of Staff spent speaking with him. He believes the government should keep supporting the growth of kopyor coconut.

There must be a garden like this somewhere else so that the kopyor is not lost, according to Prof. Sisunandar. "This Kopyor is only owned by Indonesia. The UMP Science Techno Park is still the only kopyor coconut germ garden in Indonesia. *(Liputan6)*

WHO PRODUCES THE MOST COCONUTS?

Long prized for their usefulness, the hard-shelled fruit was transported by Arab traders to Africa, through the silk road to Europe, and further on throughout the New World. Today, the picturesque palm grows on every subtropical coastline in the world. applications range from curries and cookies to a cooling workout beverage.

Genetic testing can classify every coconut tree based on these varieties: while coconuts in the Caribbean are of Indian descent, the ones from Central America are of Malay origin. Although many types are now cultivated, the sweet-fleshed Malayan Dwarf coconut has become the most popular. Fast-growing, bountiful, and hardy, this shorter tree is the most agronomically efficient.

Coconuts flourish in warm coastal climates

The coconut tree thrives in warm settings — 95 degrees Fahrenheit is excellent for germination, while temperatures under 72 degrees hinder growth. Humid coastal areas are the best-suited habitat. Coconuts naturally grow between latitudes 25 degrees north and south of the equator.

The process is not entirely wild; coconuts are first propagated in a nursery bed and then transferred to a field for four to ten months. After five to six years, the palms will start bearing fruit — upwards of 100 coconuts a year — but mass production is difficult because the palm needs ample circulating groundwater in addition to rainfall.

The plant doesn't adapt well to human intervention, making it constantly vulnerable to pests and infections. Additionally, climate change is drying up growth areas, limiting water that's crucial for the tree. Increased genetic and breed research is helping these challenges, boosting the plant's yield. Despite their widespread use, sustainable coconut agriculture is facing several stressors.

The Philippines and Indonesia produce the most coconuts

In 2020, the island nation of Indonesia will produce an astounding 16.82 million metric tons of coconuts, followed closely by the Phillippines and India, which together will account for more than 70% of world production. The majority of the world's coconut trade will take place in Asia, with Thailand and Malaysia being the top importers.

While coconut flakes and milk are the most common pantry items, most productions focus on oil extraction. by drying the contained white flesh, known as copra, the fatty extract is pressed and used in various applications. Not only are coconuts used for food, but they are also an essential ingredient in many soaps and cosmetics. In high-volume growers in Indonesia and the Philippines, the manufacture of oil involves a complex trade network. while some small villages fire coconuts, others use coconut oil.

The global use of coconuts is becoming more varied

Due to its versatility, the coconut tree is more than just a source of income; it also has cultural and spiritual significance. In Indonesia, it is known as the "Tree of Abundance," while the Filipinos call it the "Tree of Life." At least 83 functional uses of the plant have been documented, ranging from toothbrushes to eating utensils to musical instruments. Such centrality is accompanied by

spiritual significance; in Hinduism, coconuts are a cornerstone of rituals and

With the growing popularity of vegan products, the demand for coconut is rising quickly in the United States. From 2020 to 2027, the market is expected to reach $23.39 billion, a 10.5% increase. Not only is coconut oil a more frequent addition to the pantry, but the fruit's varied use in health and self-care productions is becoming increasingly recognized. *(Tasting Table)*

UPGRADE FOR THE FCM'S COCONUT STORAGE AREA

After remodeling its coconut storage room, the Fiji Coconut Millers factory in Savusavu can now store whole coconuts in a more hygienic setting.

Yesterday, President Ratu Wiliame Katonivere officially opened the renovated storage space and praised the business for continuing to pursue excellence and quality in all aspects of its operations.

Before the concrete slab, according to Ratu Wiliame, coconuts were simply stored on the ground where they would come into touch with muck and grime, making the processing operations performed unsanitary.

Costing $80,000, the storage area improvement was completed.

The government contributed $70,000, while Fiji Coconut Millers covered the remaining expenses.

The company has also achieved Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) designation for its Food Grade products as a result of the renovation to the storage space.

In order to lower the danger of contracting any foodborne illness, the HACCP system outlines how to monitor the entire food system, from production to consumption.

As a result, the system is built to identify, manage, and mitigate any issues before they arise.

The achievement of this designation by the Fiji Coconut Millers Limited, according to Ratu Wiliame, is fantastic news. *(FBC News)*

A KOCHI MAN BUILT THE "WORLD'S FIRST" ROBOT THAT HELPS FARMERS EXTRACT COCONUT SAP FROM TREE

There are fewer tree climbers in Kerala (India), the home of the coconut tree, for a variety of reasons, including employees choosing stable office employment for a career that carries significant risk. Many climbers suffer grave injuries after falling from enormous coconut trees.

Kochi native Charles Vijay Varghese's firm, Nava Design & Innovation Pvt Ltd, has created SAPER, the "world's first coconut sap tapping robot," to address this issue.

A laborer must climb a coconut tree at least 270 times to harvest toddy, whereas SAPER reduces this to only two climbs—once for installation and once for dismantling.

According to Varghese, the 2016-founded agritech business strives to integrate robotics and AI into the agricultural industry.

The device runs on AI and solar energy and has zero carbon footprint. Once the robot is fastened to the tree, it cuts and collects toddy from the tree. It includes a "centralised closed collection system" that allows it to gather "fresh and contamination-free sap from many trees."

According to Verghese, this invention can assist coconut growers earn more money with less work and climbers work securely. SAPER has won patents in 28 countries, including India, and it also won the National Startups Awards in 2020. *(The Better India)*

COCONUT FARMING EXPANSION URGENCY

According to Minister for Agriculture Dr. Mahendra Reddy, the Fijian Ministry of Agriculture wants landowners in the Western Division to begin extensive coconut farming.

We are working for the development of more coconut orchards in the Western Division since, at the moment, there are only a few large-scale coconut plantations in Vanua Levu, specifically in the Cakaudrove Province and on Taveuni, which are insufficient to meet our demands, the official said.

For the rising demand for copra, fresh coconut juice, coconut oil, and other coconut products, according to Dr. Reddy, more coconuts are required.

"So, we want to grow the area under coconut farming here in the Western Division by expanding coconut plantations on a huge scale, and if large scale plantations are not viable, then we may at least start off with smaller coconut farms.

"By taking this initiative to grow coconuts, as leaders of your community and mataqali, it is a good sign towards the success of our push towards increasing the coconut business locally."

As part of the Ministry of Agriculture's commemorative activities for World Coconut Day, which is observed yearly on September 2, the Nawamagi Coconut Orchards were established. *(Fiji Times)*

$1.5 MILLION TO HELP THE COCONUT INDUSTRY

Farmer Mahmood Patel is on a mission to ensure that within the next two years Barbados remains the industry leaders and has set up an agri processing factory. It would cost about $1.5 million to expand the coconut business in Barbados.

Patel, a coconut farmer and the proprietor of Coco Hill Forest, claimed that he established the forest between 2013 and 2014 with the intention of exploring the coconut industry as a subsector of the agricultural sector and one of the alternatives to the monocrop sugar cane.

He claimed that although they had planned to plant about 5000 trees in that time, they had only managed to plant about 500 over the previous eight years.

The terrain of the Scotland District, he claimed, remained a problem and called for a significant financial outlay.

After eight years, according to Patel, they had scaled up after making all the required errors and learning from them. *(Nation News)*

WHAT TANZANIAN INVESTORS CAN EXPECT FROM COCONUT

Coconut farming is a significant investment because it may be passed on to a grower's next generation, earning the crop the nickname "tree of life" due to its long lifespan.

Tanzanians have a great opportunity of using its numerous economic benefits due to the fact that it grows in numerous locations around the nation.

Through the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI), the government has developed plans to revive coconut farming, improve the industry, and spread the East African Tall type throughout all coconut-growing regions in an effort to increase production.

The new East African Tall type may be able to endure dry circumstances, diseases that can kill coconuts, and pest infestations.

Manager of Tari's Mikocheni Center Fredy Tairo suggests that farmers try their hand at growing coconuts in order to boost their revenue.

The coconut tree is good for timber, and its leaves are used for roofing, mats, and carpets, among other things, according to him.

He continues, "The ripe coconut can be used as a refreshment and snack at the same time. One can produce cooking bolls and charcoal from coconut shell."

Farmers grow the coconut crop for cooking and for extracting ointment oil, and he encourages investors and small-scale farmers to employ the tall type and afterwards add value to the produce.

According to him, coconut cultivation has great financial potential and may significantly help fill the global shortage of cooking oil.

Dr. Tairo claims that coconut oil has the potential to contribute around 80% of all edible oil and eliminate the need for cooking oil imports.

He claims that a new method for extracting coconut oil has already been developed to increase the crop's worth. This value addition makes use of a straightforward machine rather than coconuts that are typically sold for Sh400.

He claims that a farmer can add value by extracting oil, which pays well, using a simple machine.

Roughly 20 coconuts, or about Sh8,000, are needed to produce one litre of virgin coconut oil; however, if a farmer decides to extract the oil, this one litre may be sold for Sh40,000, making the business five times more profitable.

Tari is moving in the direction of disseminating the technologies through farmers' organizations.

To suit its manufacturing needs, Tari is also emphasizing the promotion of coconut farming.

Coconut milk is now imported from Thailand and Indonesia due to a lack of local production; however, after the plantation is established in five to six years, local production will be able to meet the industry's raw material needs.

As was previously said, because the trees can continue producing coconuts for up to 70 years or more, the crop can flourish across numerous family generations.

The focus is on both small-scale and large-scale farmers who wish to construct coconut plantations, and in addition, Tari has partnered with local officials so that they may cooperate and increase the coconut production.

He says that between the ages of five and six, the East Africa Tall variety begins to produce.

Coconut production

The area grown was 265,000 hectares, which translates to 800 metric tonnes of nuts in the country, although the production of the coconut crop has lately decreased in comparison to past years when the country used to have 25 million coconut trees in the country.

The main causes of the decline were protracted issues like drought, pests, and the coconut lethal disease, which is the biggest issue. The sector was also neglected for a while, which also contributed to the decline.

In the next five years, Tari, a government agency, is working hard to grow or double the 25 million tons of coconuts now produced.

The reason the coconut crop grows successfully along the shore is that it typically needs sandy loam soil, deep soil that permits aeration and water to pass through, and rainfall.

The best-performing coconut, according to him, is the East African Tall, which can withstand drought conditions and coconut-lethal diseases. The other two coconut populations are dwarf and hybrid, and their life spans range from 25 to 30 years. This is the result of 25 years of research on the crop in Tanzania, he claims.

But because it copes well with the condition, scientists are currently concentrating on the East African Tall.

When discussing and focusing on coconuts, it is important to note that this crop was traditionally grown in the eastern parts of the nation, including Tanga, Morogoro, Lindi, Coast Region, Dar es Salaam, Mtwara, and all of Zanzibar. However, there are now new potential growing areas for the crop, including Mbeya, particularly in Kyela, Kigoma, Mwanza, and Musoma.

He claims that only 5% of Tanzania's coconut production is generated by medium- and large-scale farmers, with the majority of the crop being farmed and produced by small-scale farmers who own an average of one hectare.

However, the government has returned to revitalize the coconut industry in an effort to increase coconut production, and the emphasis is on planting new East Africa Tall coconuts.

Tanzania's annual demand for edible oil is 650,000 tonnes, compared to 290,000 tonnes produced locally, leaving a deficit of 360,000 tonnes, according to the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Forecasts for edible oil demand indicate that 700,000 tonnes would be needed by 2030, promising market growth for investors in the near term.

To help with the scarcity, the government has encouraged the production of seed crops.

More work is necessary, though, as there are still numerous obstacles in the way of this kind of agriculture. *(The Citizen)*

EXPERT: COCONUT SECTOR DIVERSIFICATION TO PROVIDE PRODUCTS WITH VALUE-ADDED

According to a senior official of the Coconut Development Board, the trend of coconut oil prices falling has highlighted the necessity for diversification to create various value-added products to maintain the sector in the competitive market (CDB).

Speaking to the annual general meeting of Cochin Oil Merchants Association (COMA), KS Sebastian, Deputy Director of CDB, suggested that COMA take the initiative in helping its member brotherhood reap the benefits of product diversification through collective involvement.

The Board has taken several initiatives for brand promotion of coconut, and COMA members — focusing both on exports and production — should fully leverage the potential to come up with more value-added products to shore up their revenue. The concept of "wealth from waste" is fast catching up, and the coconut sector should focus on this endeavor to get more income from byproducts.

According to him, coconut oil is a crucial and widely used commodity in the local market that has been sufficiently well-known over time without the use of marketing tactics.

Take advantage of growth possibilities

Sebastian cited the example of soaring exports of activated carbon, which helped India achieve record revenue in coconut product exports at 3,200 crore, and noted that 60–70% of the export kitty (2,000 crore) comes primarily from byproducts like coconut shells.

Sebastian continued by saying that COMA members should develop new initiatives by utilizing the incentive programs provided by the Board for the development of technical expertise and product marketing.

Only a small portion of the association has so far benefited from the Board's incentive programs under the Technology Mission in Coconut, and COMA members should take advantage

of the prospects for company expansion and modernization.

The Board should offer subsidized incentives to the existing companies rather than new entrants in the coconut oil industry, according to Rajesh Jose, Vice President, COMA, who claimed that farmers are suffering losses due to falling prices of coconut and other products.

He also advised CDB to induct a member from COMA onto the Board so that the fraternity may raise its concerns with the government directly as a result of the proliferation of small mills in the State. *(The Hindu Business Line)*

COCONUT VALUE CHAIN STAKEHOLDERS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION

In order to increase the nation's annual coconut production from the current 412,459 tonnes to 14 million tonnes in the following three years, industry players, including the Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA), the Tree Crop Development Authority (TCPA), and the African Coconut Group, have teamed up.

By increasing their investments in research, manufacturing, capacity building, equipment, digitalization, and market expansion, they hope to reach their goal.

Investments by TCPA

William Quaitoo, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the TCPA, announced the authority planned to invest $20 million in the coconut value chain over the following five years as he announced the conclusion of the second International Coconut Festival in Accra.

He declared that the money would go toward digitalization, capacity building, research, and production.

According to Mr. Quaitoo, the TCPA's responsibility is to oversee and promote sustainable growth in the processing and marketing of tree products, with coconut playing a crucial role.

The CEO claimed that the value chain for coconuts held huge potential for the nation.

The country may be developed to become one of the top three producers of coconuts in the world, he claimed, adding that "our current production is not our maximum."

Increased output

Mr. Quaitoo remarked that while the majority of people had previously believed that coconut was exclusively suitable for coastal communities, the situation has changed due to the crop's thriving production in the hinterlands.

If they do not take precautions, Ashanti Region may soon overtake them, he warned, so players in coastal areas shouldn't believe that coconut is only intended for them.

He claimed that the organization was working to make sure farmers had access to all the lands available for growing the crop.

He continued, "We also want to make sure that the farmers have access to the appropriate seedlings so that we can purposefully increase yields.

Role of GEPA

Samuel Dentu, the GEPA's deputy chief executive officer, said the organization was working to promote and expand non-traditional exports.

As it was stated during the closing ceremony, we aspire to be the third-largest producer of coconuts in the world, so we are making efforts to highlight the coconut sector.

Due to prior expenditures and efforts, he predicted that the country's coconut crop would be more productive the next year.

According to Mr. Dentu, the GEPA is confident that the nation will get more coconut processing plants so that the produce may be enhanced before being exported.

Commendation

Davis Korboe, the chairman of the Africa Coconut Group, praised the GEPA and the TCDA for their assistance in recent years in helping to grow the industry into a significant source of revenue for the government.

He claimed that the government also needed to make more investments to boost the coconut industry's vitality and support national development in order for it to become a source of revenue.

More investment, according to Mr. Korboe, would help Ghana's coconut industry catch up to the top producers in the globe, which included the Philippines, Indonesia, and India, which together produced roughly 70% of the world's coconuts.

According to him, Ghana is currently the top producer of coconuts in Africa and ranks 14th overall.

Coconut Festival

The goal of the 2022 International Coconut Festival was to investigate how to hasten the sector's expansion by giving coconut-derived raw materials more value.

Repositioning Ghana's Coconut Sector for Accelerated Industrialization Agenda was the conference's theme.

The GEPA and the Africa Coconut Group organized it.

The Senior High School (SHS) Coconut Module Project, which aims to inspire students to pursue coconut farming after school, was also launched at the festival's conclusion. *(Graphic Online)*

CERATH GHANA TO EMPLOY 100 PEOPLE IN COCONUT WASTE PROJECT

As part of measures to manage waste and create employment in the country, Cerath Development Organisation is set to employ some youth to go into coconut waste project.

The Coconut Waste Project, which is funded by the European Union under the Circular Economy and Local Development Programme will create opportunities through value addition to coconut waste in the La Nkwantanang Municipality.

The project is expected to aggregate an average of 100 tonnes of coconut waste on daily basis.

In addition, the aggregation of coconut husks is expected to create 100 jobs for the youth within the La Nkwantanang Municipality.

Also, 50 youth will receive training on various entrepreneurial schemes and sustainable waste management practices.

Speaking to Joy Business at a workshop in Accra, Country Director of Cerath Development Organisation, Dr. Lucille Abruquah said the project will improve sanitation as well as create jobs.

"We will provide jobs for about 100 people through the coconut processing factory which is 70 percent complete. The factory will have an output capacity of 25 tonnes", she said.

She explained that the output will contribute to improving sanitation conditions, and employment opportunities for marginalized people in the municipality.

Dr. Abruquah pointed out that the key activities being implemented by Cerath Development Organisation ahead of the launch of the facility include baseline survey on the coconut value chain, mapping of coconut vendors and dumping sites with GPS technologies, capacity building for youth entrepreneurs as

well as engagement with market actors for partnership opportunities.

She added that the organisation is also participating in the Green Ghana Day and training on Cooperative formation and Management.

On his part, the Pogramme Officer, in charge of Infrastructure and Sustainable Development Section at the European Union, Clemens Beckers reiterated the EU's commitment to supporting Circular Economy in Ghana.

He stated that the EU will continue to invest in waste management and recycling of waste to help reduce pollution of the environment.

The Coconut Waste Project was launched in May 2021 in Accra. *(My Joy Online)*

REPLANTING WITH 500,000 COCONUT SEEDLINGS FROM KIK-START

Alan Aku, managing director of Kokonas Indastri Koperesen, stated that this is done to help lower the 50% rate of senility among coconut stand workers in the nation.

He said that the replanting initiative was initiated in 2016 and that 500,000 seedlings had since been dispersed to the field.

People were asking why they were planting coconut when the planting program first began, so we had to review our programs and execute them concurrently with downstream processing, the official added.

"Now that they've seen the products (coconut oil, soap, husks, and white copra), they claim that planting is justified because there are high-value coconut products that can be sold for a profit," the man stated.

At the 57th session of the industry, Mr. Aku stated that 1369 trees were planted between 2018 and 2020, covering an estimated 221,000 hectares of coconut land.

In addition to the replanting initiative, he added that cooperative societies had been established.

The idea is that if we can train our farmers at the cooperative level to consolidate volume and to take care of quality, and Coconut Resources Limited (CRL) buys at one buying point, it makes it easier for the market system, Mr. Aku said. "We're modeling to three of them, one in East New Britain and three in Bougainville.

"The other thing is that we want to group all the farmers together to reduce their freight costs, as it is more expensive for one farmer to transport one bag of kopra than it is for ten farmers to transport one load in one truck, which lowers their logistics costs, and for this reason, we are grouping the farmers together.

"Aggregate market system is the name of the market system we are creating.

"We will grant them licenses so that they can become financially independent.

The precedent we are setting is that.

CRL only serves as a conduit for economic growth and for assisting farmers in starting businesses to profit from their coconut crops." *(Post Courier)*

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CONDUCTS TWO-DAY CLIMATE RESILIENCY WORKSHOP FOR COCONUT FARMERS IN ORANGE WALK

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security, and Enterprise (MAFSE) conducted a two-day Climate Resiliency Workshop for Coconut farmers at the Orange Walk Agriculture Station in Yo Creek.

"Basically, it is to teach farmers about climate resiliency, how they can mitigate the impact of climate change in their coconut farms, and also train them to identify and control coconut pests and diseases," said National Coordinator for Non-Traditional Fruit Trees Barry Palacio.

Palacio said 25 lead farmers and Extension Officers attended the workshop.

"Lead farmers who work with a group as their focal points. The idea is that these same people will go back and train the other farmers," said Palacio.

"It's a trainer of trainers type of workshop."

Palacio said the training was an alliance among the Ministry of Agriculture, the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), and the International Training Centre (ITC), a European Union funded project.

"We all joined together to be able to make an impact, an outreach to the farmers along the different value chains of the coconut industry," said Palacio.

"CARDI and MAFSE will be focusing on production, ITC together with the Ministry we'll be focusing on the processing component of coconuts. We call it an alliance because we're all trying together to serve the same client which is the farmer."

The training conducted by agronomist Teresita Balan from Central Farm, Extension Officer Samuel Cocom, CARDI consultants Edgar White and Robert Graham, Pesticides Control Board's Edgar Silva, and Palacio himself. *(Breaking Belize News)*

PCA CONCLUDES THE 36TH NATIONAL COCONUT WEEK CELEBRATION, AWARDS 2021 TOP COCONUT EXPORTERS, ADVOCATES AND MSME

The Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) recognized the country's top coconut industry players at the closing ceremonies marking the 36th National Coconut Week Celebration. PCA administrator Benjamin Madrigal, Jr. bestowed the awards in appreciation for their outstanding performance in bringing various coconut products in the forefront of the global marketplace.

The following won the top exporters award under various categories. The selection was based on data provided by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA). (CATEGORY 1): Top 3 exporters with the Highest CAGR for the past 5 years: (1) BF Industries, (2) Oleo-Fats, Inc., (3) Coco Palm Agri Group, Inc.

(CATEGORY 2): Top exporters of the five leading export commodities for CY 2021: (1) Top Coconut Oil Exporter - Cargill Oil Mills Philippines, Inc.; (2) Top Desiccated Coconut Exporter - Franklin Baker Company of the Philippines; (3) Top Activated Carbon Exporter - Cenapro Chemicals Corp.; (4) Top Virgin Coconut Oil Exporter - Peter Paul Philippines Corp.; (5) Top Coconut Water Exporter - Axelum Resources.

(CATEGORY 3): Top 5 Filipino Owned Exporting Companies for 2021; with 100% Filipino ownership: (1) Davao Bay Coconut Oil Mills, Inc., (2) New Davao Oil Mill, Inc.; (3) Peter Paul Philippines Corp.; (4) Oleo-Fats Inc.; (5) WorldVenture Commodities, Inc.

(CATEGORY 4): A. Most sustainable/resilient company award (with the greatest number of markets penetrated in 2021) went to Franklin Baker Company of the Philippines (45 countries). B. Outstanding Filipino SME award (with the greatest number of markets penetrated) went to Andy Albao Enterprises (14 countries). C. Outstanding Conglomerate for 2021 (based on total accumulated/collective export transactions of affiliated companies, from data provided by PSA): (1) WorldVenture Commodites (four companies); (2) Primex Group of Companies (six companies); (3) Oleo-Fats Group of Companies (two companies).

The Outstanding Coconut Advocate award went to Dr. Fabian M. Dayrit. He also won the Best Scientist award. The Best MSME category awards went to (1) AG Pacific Nutriceuticals Corp.; (2) Lamac Multipurpose Cooperative; (3) Pasciolco Agri Ventures. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

5,000 DWARF COCONUT SEEDLINGS DISTRIBUTED IN QUEZON TOWN

The local government unit (LGU) in collaboration with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) distributed some 5,000 dwarf seedlings of coconut in Quezon town, Gen. Luna. Gen. Luna Mayor Matt Erwin Florido said that the distribution is part of his administration's goal to restore vitality to the coconut industry in the town.

The coconut variety is said to bear medium-sized coconut fruit but the meat is thick, bears more fruit compared to the tall variety, bears fruit after only three years, and fitted to grow on flat surface or areas. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

TRADE NEWS

INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Lower prices prevailed in this week vegetable oils market.

The coconut oil market in Rotterdam saw brisker business this week as buyers took advantage of the dwindling prices to cover positions. Trades reported were done at $1,130-1,205/MT CIF, lower than week-ago paying level at $1,220-1,245/MT CIF. Market started off a bit firmer with offers at $1,222.50-1,240/MT CIF for positions from October/November through to February/March 2023, afterwards trended downward during most part of the week tracking other vegetable oils. By week's end level was down to $1,100-1,145/MT CIF.

Palm kernel oil featured an only trade this week concluded at $1,130/MT CIF in an otherwise dull market. Level was below last week traded price range at $1,255-1,280/MT CIF. Opening values were lower at $1,220-1,235/MT CIF for positions from October/November through to February/March and continued weaker during the week. At the close, quotes were down to $1,135-1,140/MT CIF.

Coconut oil remained at a discount under palm kernel oil in most positions this week. Price premium though were observed for early 2023 positions except March/April. Thus, while still cheaper than palm kernel oil for the second week running, price differential vastly contracted to just $3.78/MT from week-ago at $20.83. Shown following are the price premium/discounts per position: September/October no data (-$42.00 last week); October/November -$3.00 (-$7.00); November/December -$23.50 (-$18.00); December/January -$9.50 (-$17.00); January/February $5.00 (-$20.00); February/March $10.00 (-$21.00); March/April -$1.67 (new position).

At the CBOT soya complex market, soybean futures earlier were firmer supported by USDA reports of flash sales amounting to 136,000 tons and a drop in crop condition ratings. Starting midweek, however, market reversed course and headed lower amid forecasts of beneficial rains in crop-growing areas in Brazil. News China plans to use less of soybean meal in feeds also dampened market sentiment.

At the palm oil section, market this week stayed for the most part weaker following concerns over the impact of global recession on demand and rising interest rates in the U.S. and Asia. A respite was observed midway during the week linked to overall recovery in commodity market amid unfavorable weather conditions anticipated in the near term and strong Malaysian export data for September 1-20 compared to prior month. Market eventually closed sharply lower.

Prices of tropical oils for nearest forward shipment were lower this week with lauric oils showing significant reductions from last week. Coconut oil slumped $91.50 to $1,178.50/MT CIF from last week at $1,270.00; palm kernel oil plunged $130.50 to $1,181.50/MT CIF from $1,312.00. Palm oil, however, showed a marginal drop by $0.50 at $1,052.00/MT CIF from $1,052.50. As a result, discount of coconut

oil under palm kernel oil narrowed considerably to $3.00 from week-ago at $42.00. Premium over palm oil contracted to $126.50 from $217.50 last week. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

MARKET ROUND-UP OF COCONUT OIL

In Rotterdam, the coconut oil market showed improved activity. Trades reported comprised of September/October at $1,145; October/November at $1,140, $1,145; November/December $1,205, $1,150, $1,130; December/January $1,145; January/February $1,145; and February/March $1,145/MT CIF. Market closed easier with sellers quoting $1,120 for October/November; $1,100 for November/December; $1,115 for December/January; $1,130 for January/February; and $1,145/MT CIF for February/March. Buyers retreated at close in all positions but February/March asking $1,100/MT CIF.

The FOB coconut oil market resumed quietness. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

GEPA SEEKS TO GENERATE US$2.8 BILLION FROM COCONUT EXPORTS EACH YEAR

As there is a rising global market for fruit, the Ghana Sale Promotion Authority (GEPA) has stated that it is targeting an annual revenue of US$2.8 billion from the export of semi-processed and processed coconut.

At the second International Coconut Festival in Accra, Deputy CEO of GEPA Samuel Dentu said the Authority has prioritized the coconut business for the past five years while speaking to dignitaries on behalf of GEPA CEO Dr. Afua Asabea Asare.

"In 2017, GEPA started the coconut revitalization intervention with the obvious goal of reviving the at-the-time-ailing coconut business to increase the value chain's supply capacity. Since then, the crop's potential for profit has increased," he stated.

According to GEPA's non-traditional export data for 2021, Ghana received US$11.44 million in revenue from coconuts and US$6.99 million in revenue from coconut oil. These numbers represent an increase of 132% and 33% over the 2020 numbers, respectively.

With these opportunities, Mr. Dentu stated, "Our aim is to strive toward achieving an annual revenue of US$2.8billion in the very near future."

Indeed, the export of coconuts generates more than US$3 billion in revenue each year for Indonesia and other South-East Asian nations. Nearly 17 different coconut species are available for export from Indonesia alone.

He added, "GEPA's collaborative effort with the African Coconut Group, the Trade Ministry, MoFA, Ghana EXIM Bank, and the Tree Crops Development Authority has contributed to the growing gains of the sector. This tells us that with more strategic aggression in promoting more derivatives of coconut, we can gain a lot more ground."

Dr. Owusu Afriyie Akoto, the Minister of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), stated that the ministry is pushing coconut as one of the tree crops under its Food and Agriculture Development Policy.

Based on the economic potential of the crop, including food security, environmental protection, and poverty alleviation, the sector, according to the speaker, had been designated by the government as a significant driver of the economy into the next few decades.

He claimed that rising consumer demand for coconut goods, coupled with its diverse industrial applications, is a result of rising awareness of the health advantages of coconut and its value-added products.

"Global rising trends in the coconut industry point to value addition, and nations like Indonesia, Philippines, India, and others have either transformed or are converting their

economies through value addition to coconut," he continued.

In order to increase production and value as well as job creation, the Chairman of the African Coconut Group, Davies Narh Korboe, affirmed the Group's ongoing engagement to promote trade and investment in Ghana's agri-food sector.

Across the nation, the coconut value chain is thought to be currently employing about 500,000 people.

The International Coconut Festival

The second iteration of the event, which was organized by Africa Coconut Group in partnership with GEPA, had as its theme "Repositioning Ghana's Coconut Sector for Accelerated Industrialization," and it urged industry participants to support the promotion and growth of the coconut industry while turning it into a sizeable and dependable source of income.

The festival's goal with its inaugural event in 2019 is to attract investors from all over the world to Ghana's export of coconut.

The event featured discussions, networking opportunities, demonstrations of both advanced and primitive technologies related to the coconut sector, business seminars, financial support platforms, and site visits. *(Ghana Web)*

IN THE FIRST 7 MONTHS, COCONUT IMPORTS VALUE INCREASED BY 50%

China imported 566,000 tons of coconuts overall from January through July of this year, up 35.3% over the 418,000 tons imported during the same time last year. The total import value increased by 49.9% to $332 million from $221 million in the same quarter last year.

From the standpoint of origin, China imported coconuts from Thailand, Indonesia, and Vietnam for 48.6%, 32.5%, and 18.4% of the total imports from January to July of this year, respectively. It is noteworthy that from January to July of this year, there was a notable increase in the percentage of coconuts imported from Thailand. Thailand's share of global imports last year was 37.1%, less than Indonesia's 42.0%.

In other words, the proportion of coconut imports from Thailand has remained steady at around 38% from 2019 to 2021 despite a huge increase in the share of coconuts from Thailand from January to July this year, surpassing Indonesia to become the top producer of coconuts imported to China.

From January to July of this year, the price of coconuts imported from Thailand was $0.88/kg, significantly more expensive than the prices in Vietnam ($0.29/kg) and Indonesia ($0.31/kg).

However, the average price from January to July this year was $0.90/kg, $0.30/kg, and $0.32/kg, respectively, which is slightly less than the average price from January to July 2021. Imported coconuts from Thailand, Indonesia, and Vietnam were also slightly more expensive. *(Mingliang)*

OTHER VEGEOIL NEWS

LAUNCH OF NEW OIL PALM HYBRID IN INDIA

A new high yield oil palm hybrid has been introduced in the nation, according to 3F Oil Palm, a leading Indian oil palm company. The company's novel three-way crossing hybrid could shorten yield time from 36 months to 24 months. It was imported from Malaysia and Costa Rica.

In order to prepare for the 2022–2023 growing season, the business stated that it intended to plant 5,000–7,500 hectares with the novel hybrid saplings, initially among farmers in Andhra Pradesh. One of the newest products

was CALIX Q6, which Sime Darby Plantations produced in Malaysia and helped plants endure extreme temperatures. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

INDONESIAN PALM OIL PRODUCERS GET ISPO CERTIFICATIONS IN MAJORITY

Bambang Dwi Laksono, the head of the sustainability division at the Indonesian Palm Oil Association (GAPKI), stated that, according to GAPKI data, almost 560 of its 718 member companies—or 78 percent—had obtained ISPO (Indonesian Sustainable Palm Oil) certificates.

During the webinar on "Strengthening the Sustainability Commitment of the Palm Oil Industry," Bambang made the comment. He mentioned the ISPO, RSPO, and ICC sustainability certifications as choices for palm oil producers. Due to the current legislation, all palm oil companies operating in Indonesia are required to participate in the ISPO.

get ISPO certified. He claims that the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil's (RSPO) certification is only optional for its member businesses. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

ASIAN FARMERS PLANT TO INCREASE PALM OIL OUTPUT, BUT A LACK OF SEEDLINGS SLOWS THE PROCESS

A delay in the industry's recovery from the COVID-19 epidemic is possible due to nurseries' inability to keep up with demand for sprouts and seedlings as farmers across Asia are actively planting trees to increase palm oil production.

According to industry officials, the lack of seedlings could delay plantations, limit production development, and keep palm oil prices high as the world already struggles with high inflation. More than 90% of the cheapest edible oil used in baking, cooking, and cosmetics is produced in Asia.

Due to labor constraints brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, palm oil output growth slowed down in recent years. However, producers are again trying to replant or expand plantations in response to higher prices.

As oil palm nurseries reduced production during the pandemic to respond to weaker demand, the quantity of germinated sprouts, needed to create seedlings, has decreased, causing the spike in demand.

According to industry officials, traditional growers Indonesia and Malaysia, which produce more than 80% of the world's palm oil, are concentrating on replacing old oil palm trees that are difficult to harvest and less productive, while India and Thailand are attempting to increase acreage.

According to Tan Kim Tun, a Malaysian nursery owner based in the state of Johor, "a lot of large Malaysian estates (have decided) they want to replant, generating a limitation of availability of seedlings in the market."

According to data gathered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the annual growth rate of palm oil production worldwide reduced to 0.5% between 2018 and 2022 from a 4.8% pace in the preceding four years.

In light of this, despite a significant recent downward adjustment, palm oil prices this year reached a record high of 7,268 Malaysian ringgit ($1,606.19) per tonne and are still higher than the average for the period between 2010 and 2020.

According to a New-Delhi-based dealer with a worldwide trading firm, new plants need four years to mature before harvest, indicating production will remain sluggish and prices will remain high for some time.

The merchant predicted that production increase would be minimal for a few years when the productive trees were cut down. The price

of palm oil will be supported for the foreseeable future by replanting.

Low seed supply

Given that it takes more than a year to produce a seedling, oil palm nurseries will have difficulty increasing production quickly enough to fulfill high demand.

Increasing our capacity is possible, but it will take time. You won't have a seed that has germinated for at least a year. The Malaysian Palm Oil Board's director general, Ahmad Parveez Ghulam Kadir, stated that the issue cannot be rectified quickly (MPOB).

According to industry insiders, Indonesia can produce 200 million sprouts annually and Malaysia up to 80 million sprouts that have germinated.

However, according to Hasril Hasan Siregar, head of research and productivity enhancement at the Indonesian Palm Oil Association, Indonesia can only produce 110 million of that amount annually at the moment (GAPKI).

According to Siregar, Indonesia only exports around 5% of the seedlings it produces and utilizes about 95% of them to meet domestic demand, which forces importers like India and Myanmar to rely on Malaysia and Thailand.

According to information gathered by the MPOB, demand for Malaysia's germinated seeds increased 30% from a year earlier in the period of January to August 2022, reaching about 38 million seeds. Demand for sprouts from Indonesia increased by over 24% during that time.

According to Tan, some nurseries are having to turn down orders because of the great demand for Malaysia's germinated seeds. He also mentioned that his nursery has a waiting list of about six months.

India, which wants to quickly increase its oil palm area, is having issues as a result of all of this.

"The demand for palm oil is rising. It's the only choice for many low-income consumers, according to a Mumbai-based trader with a multinational corporation. Due to corporate policy, the dealers declined to give their names.

According to a TS Oilfed official who declined to be identified due to company policy, India needs 20 million sprouts by 2022, but imports from countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Costa Rica have only met 75% of that demand thus far this year. TS Oilfed is India's largest importer of oil palm sprouts. *(Hellenic Shipping News)*

TOP PALM OIL BUYER IN INDIA EXPECTS 23% INCREASE IN IMPORTS

According to the biggest palm oil buyer in India, imports of palm oil might climb by 23% in 2022–2023 to 9.5 million tonnes, an eight-year high, as refiners increase purchases in response to a recovery in consumption and competitive prices.

On the sidelines of the Globoil conference, Patanjali Foods Ltd. CEO Sanjeev Asthana said, "Palm is highly interesting as prices are under pressure because of stocks."

According to him, the large soyoil discount for palm oil is unsustainable and is likely to decrease over the next several months.

According to dealers, palm oil futures have fallen by almost half from their all-time highs and are once more trading at a considerable disadvantage to competing oils.

According to them, palm oil is being offered at $950 a tonne CIF (cost, insurance, and freight) to India for shipping in October as opposed to $1,250 for crude soyoil.

Increased palm oil imports might reduce the nation's soyoil imports from 4.1 million tonnes

in the current fiscal year ending October 31 to about 3 million tonnes, Asthana added. *(Reuters)*

HEALTH NEWS

INCREASE YOUR METABOLISM WITH COCONUT WATER

Many experts advise against using coconut in food in order to promote weight loss and lower the risk of developing diabetes and heart disease.

Contrarily, consuming virgin coconut water will aid in numerous ways in weight loss.

not only nutritious but also tasty. While not everyone has that appetite, once you begin to drink it daily, it definitely aids in weight loss and achieving a healthy body.

Take it easy; it's fairly simple to find coconut water in conventional marketplaces. Here are a few advantages of coconut water's weight-loss effects on the body.

Increase muscular mass

Getting rid of all the fat or turning it into muscle is one technique to have a body that is lean and toned.

Coconut water's potassium content promotes muscular growth and controls fat. Gaining muscle results in weight loss and a stronger body.

Replace sugary beverages

It is a fantastic and healthy substitute for sugary sodas because it has very little sugar and calories. You will automatically lose all fat when you reduce your intake of soft drinks and switch to coconut water.

Boost metabolism

Coconut water gives you additional energy to be active and speed up your metabolism.

As a result, metabolic problems will be avoided, and the body will burn calories more quickly and effectively.

Aid in fat breakdown

It is well known that coconut water aids in the body's breakdown of harmful cholesterol. Along with breaking down, fat also serves to keep your arteries from becoming clogged with it. A key factor in sudden cardiac arrest is blocked arteries.

Diuretic

As a diuretic, coconut water is also beneficial. It promotes weight loss by helping to remove all toxins and fat from the body. Additionally, it lessens the possibility of bloating brought on by the retention of extra water and fluid in your body.

You feel satisfied and don't want to eat much when you consume a lot of coconut water. You also stay away from other liquids that are high in sugar. Additionally, it is energizing because it has more energy to be active and do more. *(Liputan 6)*

COCONUT RECIPE

COCONUT CREAM CUPCAKES

Ingredients
Cupcakes

1. 1 c. (2 sticks) unsalted butter, softened
2. 1 ½ c. (300 g.) granulated sugar
3. 3 large eggs
4. 1 tbsp. pure vanilla extract
5. ½ tsp. coconut extract (optional)

6. 2 c. (240 g.) all-purpose flour
7. 3 tbsp. cornstarch
8. 1 ½ tsp. baking powder
9. 1 tsp. kosher salt
10. 3/4 c. (170 ml.) milk

Custard Filling

1. 1 (13.5-oz. can) full-fat coconut milk
2. 1 (3.4-oz.) package instant vanilla pudding

Frosting Assembly

1. 6 oz. (170 g.) cream cheese, room temperature
2. 2/3 c. (75 g.) powdered sugar
3. 1 ½ c. (340 ml.) cold heavy cream
4. Pinch of kosher salt
5. 3/4 c. (40 g.) toasted shredded unsweetened coconut

Directions

Cupcakes

1. Preheat oven to 350° and line 2 standard 12-cup muffin tins with liners.
2. In the large bowl of a stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment (or in a large bowl using an electric mixer), beat butter and granulated sugar on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add vanilla and coconut extract, if using, and mix until combined.
3. In another large bowl, whisk flour, cornstarch, baking powder, and salt. Add half of dry ingredients to butter mixture and beat until just combined. Pour in milk and beat until incorporated. Add remaining dry ingredients and beat until just combined.
4. Fill prepared cups three-quarters full with batter. Bake until slightly golden on top and a tester inserted into the center comes out clean, about 25 minutes. Transfer cupcakes to a wire rack and let cool completely.

Custard Filling

1. In a medium bowl, whisk milk and pudding mix until no lumps remain. Let firm up at room temperature 5 minutes, then refrigerate until ready to use.
2. Using a melon baller or teaspoon, scoop out the center of each cupcake to create a well about 1" deep. Cut off tops of removed pieces of cupcake and reserve; reserve remaining pieces of cupcake for another use.
3. Using a small spoon or piping bag, fill each cupcake with pudding mixture. Close with reserved top pieces from each cupcake. (This will make them easier to frost.)

Frosting & Assembly

1. In the large bowl of stand mixer fitted with the whisk attachment (or in a large bowl using electric mixer), beat cream cheese on medium-high speed until creamy and smooth, about 1 minute. Add powdered sugar and beat, scraping down sides of bowl with a spatula, until no lumps remain.
2. Reduce mixer speed to low and add cream in a slow, steady stream. Add salt and beat on high speed until stiff peaks form, about 2 minutes more.
3. Pipe or spoon frosting onto cupcakes. Sprinkle with coconut.

(Delish)

STATISTICS

Table 1. Indonesia's Monthly Exports of Desiccated Coconut, 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	6,702	7,794	9,526	15,798	10,653	18,050
February	10,113	12,679	11,432	19,023	8,742	14,351
March	11,391	14,719	12,452	20,138	11,433	15,740
April	10,650	14,733	13,159	21,684	10,006	13,741
May	9,450	12,970	8,609	14,952	5,690	9,170
June	9,164	12,598	11,249	18,783	8,655	11,654
July	11,848	17,658	10,838	19,337	7,999	10,644
August	11,682	17,321	13,538	22,432	10,267	12,582
September	12,292	17,289	12,388	21,517	9,591	12,046
October	12,816	18,649	12,348	20,096		
November	9,735	14,421	13,271	22,897		
December	12,242	17,965	11,123	18,016		
Total	**128,085**	**178,796**	**139,933**	**234,673**	**83,037**	**117,977**

Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia

Table 2. Philippines' Monthly Exports of Desiccated Coconut (in MT), 2019 – 2022

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022
January	7,320	11,816	10,523	11,810
February	10,688	14,202	11,976	20,768
March	12,473	13,296	13,266	18,636
April	9,768	8,336	10,995	14,274
May	8,317	10,723	11,933	13,147
June	13,165	12,347	13,990	13,725
July	13,427	14,982	13,669	10,737
August	14,794	13,103	15,302	
September	13,830	13,678	14,920	
October	16,793	13,170	16,118	
November	13,135	9,874	16,415	
December	13,884	9,673	11,010	
Total	**147,594**	**145,200**	**160,117**	**103,097**

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority

Table 3. Sri Lanka's Monthly Exports of Desiccated Coconut (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	2,509	5,356	1,515	4,827	3,049	8,334
February	2,814	6,806	2,297	6,708	2,988	8,048
March	1,981	4,912	3,125	9,442	3,822	8,899
April	1,332	3,315	2,234	7,150	3,197	7,954
May	1,909	5,023	2,701	8,789	3,677	8,498
June	2,758	7,107	2,785	8,593	4,118	9,752
July	3,527	9,100	3,476	10,374	3,315	7,374
August	2,833	7,352	3,679	10,861	4,121	8,986
September	3,163	8,494	3,206	9,151	3,543	7,025
October	2,478	6,613	4,141	11,981		
November	2,173	6,032	3,779	10,783		
December	2,114	6,097	3,178	9,188		
Total	**29,591**	**76,207**	**36,116**	**107,847**	**31,830**	**74,870**

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

Table 4. Export Volume of Desiccated Coconut by Country of Origin, 2022 (MT)

Month	Malaysia	Thailand	India	Brazil
January	1,449	81	230	4
February	1,076	45	125	2
March	1,180	46	250	28
April	1,118	66	796	6
May	1,121	3	752	6
June	755	11	695	3
July	1,211	4	410	8
August	877	95	119	13
September		39	320	3
October				
November				
December				
Total	**4,582**	**295**	**3,697**	**73**

Source: ITC, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India & Thai Customs

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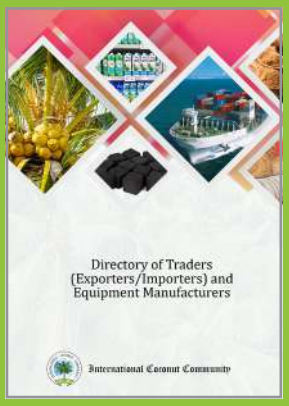

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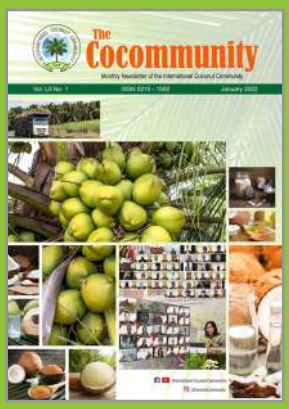

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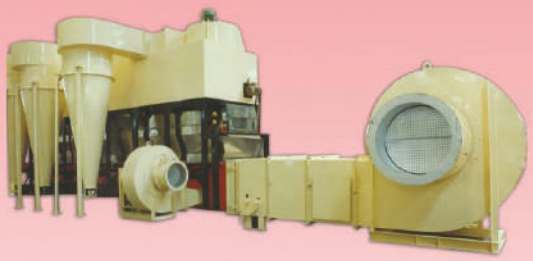

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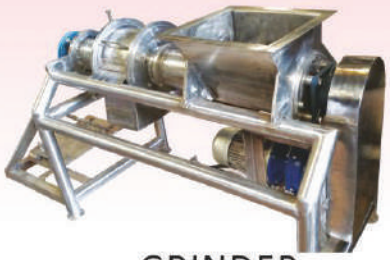
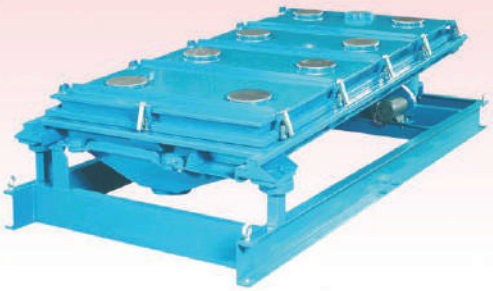


GRINDER

Output Capacity:
1000Kgs/hr.

BLANCHER

Output Capacity :
1000 to 4000 Kgs/hr.



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PO Box 1343
JAKARTA - INDONESIA

PRINTED MATTER

BY AIR MAIL

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

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