# The Cocommunity

Monthly Newsletter of the International Coconut Community

Vol. LIV No. 8 ISSN 0215-1502 August 2024

# INTEGRATED COCONUT PROCESSING MACHINERY AND SOLUTIONS

T & I Global Ltd

## THE TIGL EXPERIENCE

- New Plant Engineering, Design & Suply
- Existing Factory Up-gradation & Expansion
- Plant Automation
- Machinery Customization
- Machinery Manufacturing & Supply
- Turnkey Solutions
- Electrical, Steam, Utility Engineering
- AMC, Spares & Training Installation & Commission
- Continous Process and Machinery R&D

**50+** YEARS

**500+** EMPLOYEES ACROSS T&I GLOBAL

**40+** COUNTRIES SERVED

**400,000+** SQ.FT. INTEGRATED MANUFACTURING AREA

**100+** PROJECTS EXECUTED

**500+** TRUSTED CUSTOMERS







COMPLETE TURNKEY COCONUT PROCESSING & ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS

DESICCATED COCONUT | VIRGIN COCONUT OIL | COCONUT MILK | COCONUT WATER | CRUDE COCONUT OIL
COCONUT CHIPS & FLAKES | COIR & FIBER

THINK COCONUT. THINK T&I GLOBAL

**Contact Us** www.coconutmachineryindia.com marketing@tiglobal.com +91 9874045634/+91 9345915893

# TABLE OF CONTENTS



# TABLE LIST

# THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS

***"Coconut's Crucial Role in Securing Global Food and Energy Futures: Productivity, Innovation, and Collaboration Key to Success"***

At the recent COCOTECH Conference and Exhibition, organized by the International Coconut Community (ICC) and hosted by the Government of Indonesia, President Joko Widodo officially inaugurated the event, highlighting the vast potential of coconut in addressing global food and energy challenges. With growing demand for both food and non-food products derived from coconuts, enhancing productivity has become essential for ensuring sustainable supply chains and safeguarding the livelihoods of farmers.

Coconuts are unique in their versatility. They provide key ingredients for food products that contribute to global food security and healthy living, while also offering promise as a renewable energy source through biofuels. However, the increasing demand for coconut-based products across both sectors has sparked concerns about competition—particularly between the use of coconuts for food versus biofuel production.

While food security remains the top priority, especially in regions where coconut-based food products are critical, there is also significant opportunity to expand the use of coconuts for renewable energy—particularly utilizing non-edible copra or non-standard coconuts. Rather than debating which application is more important, the conference emphasized the need to focus on increasing coconut productivity. By improving yields, both the food industry and the emerging biofuel sector can thrive without competing for resources. This ensures a sufficient supply of raw materials for food processing while expanding renewable energy markets using non-standard coconuts.

To meet global demand, implementing improved farming practices is key. Coconut palms, particularly when cultivated in polyculture systems alongside other crops, have been shown to sequester significant amounts of carbon—both in the palm itself and in the soil. This not only makes coconut a valuable crop for food and energy but also positions it as a contributor to global efforts to reduce carbon footprints. The highest levels of carbon sequestration are observed in polyculture systems, highlighting the importance of integrating sustainable farming methods to boost productivity and combat climate change.

Efforts to enhance productivity must be accompanied by strategies to diversify coconut-based products and expand market access. It is equally crucial to ensure that coconut farmers receive fair compensation and have access to global markets. Expanding the market for both food and renewable energy products will help stabilize prices, benefiting farmers and industries as global demand grows.

In this context, governments play a pivotal role in addressing issues such as disparities in import duties, where certain countries impose high tariffs on specific products, while similar products from other countries face zero import duties. These imbalances create unfair competition and place exporters from affected countries at a disadvantage, making it essential for governments to advocate for fairer trade policies.

The COCOTECH Conference saw widespread agreement that collaborative efforts between governments, industry leaders, and farmers are essential to ensuring the sustainable growth of both the food and energy sectors. Investment in research, the development of technologies to enhance productivity, and the promotion of best agricultural practices will enable the coconut industry to meet rising global demands, secure a sustainable supply of food, and contribute to global goals of reducing dependence on fossil fuels and lowering carbon emissions, ensuring that coconut remains a critical resource for the future.

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

# PREVAILING MARKET PRICES OF SELECTED COCONUT PRODUCTS AND OILS

***July 2024 witnessed a significant surge in the prices of various coconut-related products across major producing nations, including the Philippines, Indonesia, India, and Sri Lanka. Coconut oil (CNO) prices rose in all four countries, reflecting strong demand and tight supply in global markets. Similarly, desiccated coconut (DC) prices increased in the Philippines, India, and Sri Lanka, driven by domestic and export demand. However, Indonesia experienced a contrasting trend, with DC prices decreasing during the same period. These fluctuations highlight the dynamic nature of the coconut products market, influenced by regional production levels and global economic conditions.***

**COPRA:** In July 2024, the prices of copra in Indonesia exhibited an increase, reaching US$746 per metric ton, compared to US$692 per metric ton in the preceding month. Noteworthy was the significant rise of US$154 per metric ton from the same period in the previous year. Concurrently, the Copra market in the Philippines experienced a modest increase, ascended from US$632 per metric ton in June 2024 to US$680 per metric ton in July 2024. Despite this increase, it maintained a US$38 per metric ton lead over the corresponding period of the previous year, which reported prices at US$642 per metric ton.

**COCONUT OIL:** In July 2024, coconut Oil prices exhibited a coordinated upward trend in India, Indonesia, Philippines and Sri Lanka. In Europe (C.I.F. Rotterdam), the average price surged to US$1,473 per metric ton, reflecting a 41% increase compared to the previous year. Similarly, the Philippines witnessed a local market settlement at US$1,406 per metric ton, representing a $276 rise from the previous year. Meanwhile, Indonesia experienced a significant increase, with local prices went up to US$1,390 per metric ton in July 2024 from US$1,289 per metric ton in June 2024, indicating an increase of US$369 per metric ton compared to July 2023.

**COPRA MEAL:** A nuanced perspective emerges upon examination of Copra Meal prices. In the Philippines, the average domestic Copra Meal price was US$116 per metric ton in July 2024, reflecting a decrease from the previous month. Notably, this figure marked a decrease of US$154 per metric ton compared to the corresponding period last year. Conversely, Indonesia observed an uptick in the average domestic Copra Meal price, reaching US$240 per metric ton in July 2024. However, despite this increase, it represented a US$30 per metric ton decrease compared to the previous year.

**DESICCATED COCONUT:** In July 2024, the average FOB (Free on Board) price of desiccated coconut (DC) to the USA rose to USD 2,012 per metric ton, reflecting an increase from the previous month. Sri Lanka also reported a rise in its domestic DC price, reaching USD 2,257 per metric ton. In contrast, the Philippines maintained a steady domestic market price of USD 2,039 per metric ton for DC. Meanwhile, Indonesia's FOB price for DC decreased to USD 1,950 per metric ton in July 2024. Despite this decline, the price remained significantly higher than the USD 1,500 per metric ton reported in the same period the previous year.

**COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL:** In July 2024, the average price of coconut shell charcoal in the Philippines rose to USD 370 per metric ton, reflecting a modest increase of USD 7 per metric ton compared to the previous month. In Indonesia, the average price climbed to USD 462 per metric ton during the same period, while Sri Lanka saw an uptick to USD 381 per metric ton.

**COIR FIBRE:** In Sri Lanka, the domestic trade of coir fiber in July 2024 revealed an average price of USD 64 per metric ton for mixed fiber. Bristle fiber prices ranged between USD 420 and USD 684 per metric ton, reflecting variations in quality and demand. Meanwhile, Indonesia maintained a steady price for mixed raw fiber at USD 110 per metric ton in July 2024, marking a modest increase from the previous year's price of USD 90 per metric ton.

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

| Products/Country | 2024 Jul | 2024 Jun | 2023 Jul | 2024 (Annual Ave.) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dehusked Coconut** | | | | |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 137 | 139 | 121 | 142 |
| Indonesia (Domestic, Industry Use) | 180 | 168 | 142 | 191 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic, Industry Use) | 274 | 259 | 200 | 231 |
| India (Domestic Kerala) | 478 | 485 | 375 | 476 |
| **Copra** | | | | |
| Philippines (Dom. Manila) | 680 | 632 | 642 | 651 |
| Indonesia (Dom. Java) | 746 | 692 | 592 | 700 |
| Sri Lanka (Dom. Colombo) | 1,297 | 1,253 | 1,020 | 1,151 |
| India (Dom. Kochi) | 1,216 | 1,193 | 974 | 1,181 |
| **Coconut Oil** | | | | |
| Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Rott.) | 1,473 | 1,400 | 1,047 | 1,321 |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 1,406 | 1,269 | 1,130 | 1,243 |
| Indonesia (Domestic) | 1,390 | 1,289 | 1,021 | 1,254 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 2,288 | 2,171 | 1,823 | 2,029 |
| India (Domestic, Kerala) | 1,931 | 1,893 | 1,585 | 1,862 |
| **Desiccated Coconut** | | | | |
| Philippines FOB (US), Seller | 2,012 | 2,006 | 1,690 | 1,892 |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 2,039 | 2,039 | 2,039 | 2,039 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 2,257 | 2,180 | 1,552 | 1,987 |
| Indonesia (FOB) | 1,950 | 2,050 | 1,500 | 1,947 |
| India (Domestic) | 1,742 | 1,650 | 1,389 | 1,747 |
| **Copra Meal Exp. Pel.** | | | | |
| Philippines (Domestic) | 116 | 135 | 270 | 189 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 299 | 308 | 286 | 302 |
| Indonesia (Domestic) | 240 | 237 | 270 | 248 |
| **Coconut Shell Charcoal** | | | | |
| Philippines (Domestic), Buyer | 370 | 363 | 351 | 364 |
| Sri Lanka (Domestic) | 381 | 369 | 325 | 369 |
| Indonesia (Domestic Java), Buyer | 462 | 452 | 466 | 456 |
| India (Domestic) | 436 | 443 | 338 | 395 |
| **Coir Fibre** | | | | |
| Sri Lanka (Mattress/Short Fibre) | 64 | 57 | 48 | 63 |
| Sri Lanka (Bristle 1 tie) | 420 | 390 | 395 | 429 |
| Sri Lanka (Bristle 2 tie) | 684 | 645 | 614 | 647 |
| Indonesia (Mixed Raw Fibre) | 110 | 110 | 90 | 110 |
| **Other Oil** | | | | |
| Palm Kernel Oil Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.) | 1,365 | 1,156 | 998 | 1,171 |
| Palm Oil Crude, Mal/Indo (CIF Rott.) | 896 | 874 | 879 | 887 |
| Soybean Oil (Europe FOB Ex Mill) | 1,079 | 1,011 | 1,136 | 984 |

**Exchange Rate**

*Jul 31, '24* 1 US$ = P58.31 or Rp16,267 or India Rs83.67 or SL Rs302.41
1 Euro = US$1.08 n.q. = no quote

# MARKET REVIEW OF ACTIVATED CARBON

The growth of the global activated carbon market slowed in 2024, driven by heightened global economic instability. The United States, the largest importer of coconut shell-based activated carbon, experienced a substantial 30% decline in imports during 2023 compared to the previous year. Preliminary data from the US Census Bureau indicates a continued decline in 2024, with imports during January-August falling 1% compared to the same period in 2023. This downturn is primarily attributed to the ongoing economic slowdown in the United States. Despite these recent challenges, US imports of activated carbon have demonstrated a robust compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 11% over the past decade.

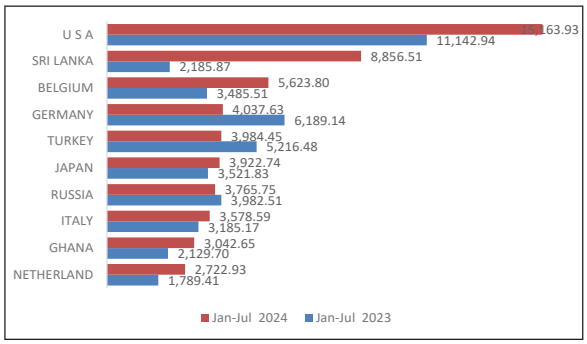
Japan also recorded a 9% decrease in activated carbon imports during January-July 2024, contracting from 48,722 tonnes in 2023 to 44,487 tonnes. This reflects a long-term downward trend in Japan's import volume, with a CAGR of -0.35% over the past decade. In contrast, demand in European Union countries (EU28) rose by 2.5% during the first half of 2024, increasing from 181,310 tonnes in January-June 2023 to 185,791 tonnes in the same period of 2024.

On the supply side, India's activated carbon exports during January–July 2024 demonstrated significant growth compared to the same period in 2023, with export value rising by 18.9% to US$ 170.2 million and export volume increasing by 25.3% to 101,475.5 metric tons (MT). The United States maintained its position as the largest market, registering a 26.4% growth in value and 33.3% in volume, reflecting a consistent demand for activated carbon in industrial and environmental applications. Sri Lanka emerged as a rapidly growing market, with exports surging by 261.9% in value and 305.2% in volume, likely driven by increased reliance on Indian products for water purification or industrial needs. Other notable markets included Japan, which saw steady growth in both value and volume, and China, where a 34% rise in export value despite a decline in volume suggests a shift toward higher-grade products.

Emerging markets such as Malaysia, South Africa, and Egypt exhibited remarkable growth, indicating diversification in India's export destinations. Malaysia and South Africa doubled their import volumes, while Egypt's imports increased by nearly 68% in value. However, challenges were observed in markets like Russia and Turkey, which experienced declines in exports due to potential geopolitical and economic factors. Germany showed a mixed trend, with a 36.7% drop in value but a 30.5% increase in volume, reflecting demand for cost-effective solutions. Overall, India's activated carbon exports in 2024 reveal robust global demand, underscoring opportunities for expanding market share in new regions while addressing challenges in traditional markets through targeted strategies.

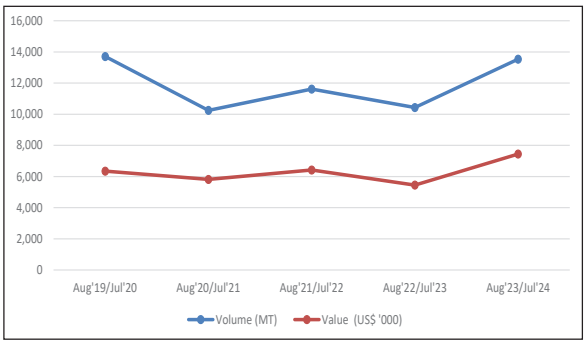
Sri Lanka also witnessed a positive trend in the first half of 2024. From August 2023 to July 2024, the country exported 15,356 tonnes of activated carbon, representing a 29.7% year-on-year increase.

**Figure 1. Exports of Activated Carbon from India, 2019-2023**



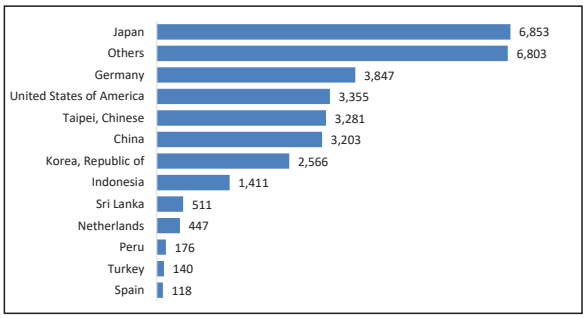

*Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India*

**Figure 2. Export of Coconut Shell Charcoal based Activated Carbon from Sri Lanka, 2018-2023**



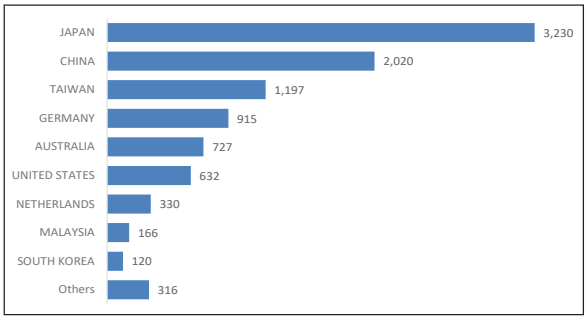

*Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka*

**Figure 3. Export Destinations of Activated Carbon from Philippines, January-June 2024 (MT)**



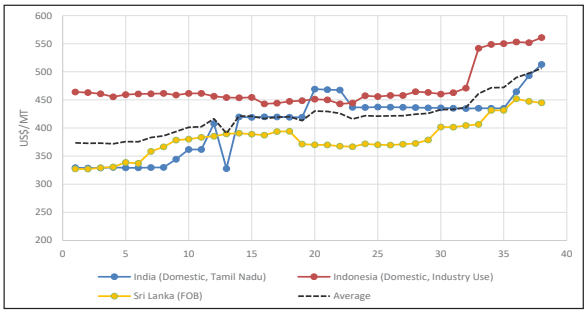

*Source: UCAP*

**Figure 4. Export Destinations of Activated Carbon from Indonesia, January-July 2024 (MT)**



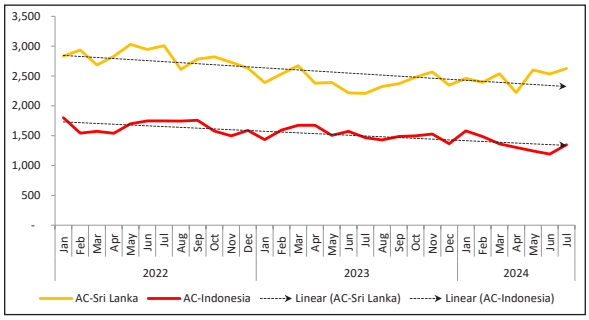

*Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia*

**Figure 5. Weekly Price of Coconut Shell Charcoal (US$/MT) in India, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka, 1st-38th Week of 2024**




*Source: ICC*

**Figure 6. Export Price of Activated Carbon US$/MT in Sri Lanka and Indonesia, January 2022 – July 2024**




*Source: CDA, Sri Lanka and BPS-Statistics Indonesia*

However, Sri Lanka's export volume had previously declined by 6% in 2023, generating export earnings of USD 124 million—a 20% decrease from 2022. The primary importers of Sri Lankan activated carbon include the United States, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

The Philippines reported a significant reduction in activated carbon exports, totaling 43,068 tonnes in January-June 2024—a 23.9% year-on-year decline. This decrease is largely attributed to reduced demand from importing countries amid global economic challenges. Key importers of Philippine activated carbon include Japan, Germany, the United States, Chinese Taipei, China, and South Korea.

Indonesia experienced a slight decline in exports of coconut shell-based activated carbon during January-July 2024, down 0.1% from the previous year to 9,653 tonnes. This follows a downward trend in 2023. Major export destinations include Japan, China, Taiwan, Germany, Australia, and the United States.

Despite declining demand for activated carbon, the price of coconut shell charcoal—a key raw material—has risen in 2024. Weekly prices in major producing countries, including Indonesia, India, and Sri Lanka, increased until September 2024, ranging between USD 445/MT and USD 561/MT. Indonesia reported the highest domestic prices for coconut shell charcoal, followed by India and Sri Lanka. This price surge is driven by lower coconut production and increased demand for coconut shell-based products such as briquettes and activated carbon.

In line with raw material price trends, the export price of activated carbon also increased during the first half of 2024. In Sri Lanka, export prices rose from USD 2,346/MT in December 2023 to USD 2,626/MT in July 2024. Indonesia, on the other hand, reported a declining trend in prices during January-June 2024, followed by a rebound in July to USD 1,348/MT. Tight supply conditions are expected to sustain high prices for coconut shell charcoal-based activated carbon in the near term.

The global activated carbon market faces challenges from economic uncertainties and shifting demand, but rising raw material costs and supply constraints present opportunities for producers to tap into emerging niches and adapt to changing trade flows.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## PRESIDENT JOKOWI HIGHLIGHTS INDONESIA'S GREEN ECONOMY POTENTIAL AT 51ST COCOTECH

At the 51st International Cocotech Conference and Exhibition, President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo emphasized Indonesia's enormous potential in the green economy, particularly in the coconut business.

The purpose of the biannual international coconut conference and exhibition is to improve food and energy security by promoting the global coconut industry and exchanging ideas, best practices, and policy recommendations. The event was held on 22–25 July 2024 at Westin Hotel, Surabaya, Indonesia. The 2024 theme is "Harnessing Coconut Potential as the Tree of Life and Green Energy".

"Moving forward, the green economy will serve as opportunity and will become a huge potential for our country, be it related to chocolate, cocoa, vanilla, coffee, pepper, clove, or others. Most importantly, coconut has a huge potential. We have a land area of 3.8 million [hectares] for coconut with a production of 2.8 million tons annually. This is massive," he said at the opening of the event at the Westin Hotel Ballroom in East Java provincial capital of Surabaya.

The President underscored that Indonesia's coconut exports reached USD 1.55 billion, adding that North Sulawesi and Riau are the two provinces with the highest coconut production in the country.

"The figure is great and it can be increased if we are serious in dealing with matters related to coconut," he said, while pointing out that seedling quality, maintenance, and harvest methods are key factors for boosting coconut production.

The President also stressed the importance of downstreaming to enhance the added value of coconut products to support the industry and create jobs.

"Research is essential in this case. Technology for downstreaming must be utilized for that matter. I noticed that coconut waste has been used for bioenergy. It is important to continue to be developed in the future," he said.

President Jokowi also urged the international coconut community to unite in advancing a sustainable coconut industry, adding that the conference is essential for Indonesia and Indonesia is also concerned with introducing its national coconut potential.

"I invite all of the international coconut community to synergize to develop a sustainable coconut industry that supports the global green economy," he said.

The 51st Cocotech Conference, adopting the theme "Harnessing Coconut's Potential as the Tree of Life and Green Energy," is expected to expand networks, create new opportunities for Indonesia's coconut industry development, and introduce its coconut potential to the global stage. *(Indonesian Cabinet Secretariat News)*

## THE PRESIDENT CALLS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF BIOFUEL FROM COCONUT DOWNSTREAM

President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) pressed for realizing the downstream of coconut commodities by processing the waste products into bioenergy and bio-aviation fuel (bioavtur) to increase added value in the green economy.

"I see there is much coconut waste that is processed into bioenergy. I think this can be developed further like coconuts (whose waste can be processed) to produce bioavtur," he remarked at the 51st Cocotech Conference.

The head of state remarked that technological advancements could support the downstream process, so the products fulfill the market standard and can attract many countries to buy them.

Indonesia is the second-largest coconut producer in the world after the Philippines, with total production reaching 2.83 million metric tons (MT) in 2023.

The same year, Indonesian coconut exports to the world were valued at US$1.55 billion, accounting for 38.3 percent of total global exports.

Meanwhile, the Trade Ministry's Director General of International Trade Negotiations, Djatmiko Bris Witjaksono, stated that the downstreaming of coconut waste into bioenergy and bioavtur fuels constituted smart projects.

Witjaksono explained that the coconut commodity, whose production reached 2.83 million tons last year, has myriad functions.

The government has mapped the downstream of coconut commodities to diversify the products.

Meanwhile, he revealed that the plan to produce bioavtur from coconut commodity waste is still in the pilot stage, which involves determining the best composition and considering its economic potential.

"There have been efforts to process coconut (waste) as an alternative for bioavtur (raw material). However, we also consider other plant sources that have the potential to be processed into aviation fuel. We will pay attention to its economic aspect," Witjaksono stated. *(Antara)*

**INDONESIA EYES COCONUT-BASED JET FUEL**

In an effort to increase the value of the fruit, Indonesia, the world's second-largest producer of coconuts, is investigating the possibility of producing sustainable aviation fuel. Reports showed that Indonesia produced 2.8 million metric tons of coconut in 2023, just behind the Philippines. Indonesia exported $1.55 billion of coconuts that year, representing about 38.3 percent of the global market share. China, Malaysia, and Singapore were among the top Indonesian coconut buyers.

President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo said that there still remained room for growth in exports, and capturing greater added value out of coconut through bioenergy could help Indonesia boost what it ships overseas annually. According to Jokowi, Indonesia needs to take a look at coconut-based jet fuel as the green economy holds great potential for the country.

"Creating greater added value is pivotal to job creation. Research is incredibly important. We need to make use of technologies, especially those related to the coconut downstream sector. I have seen coconut waste used for bioenergy. I think we really need to develop this. We can even turn coconuts into jet fuels," Jokowi told an international coconut conference in Surabaya.

"This is a huge task that we have to address. So we can promote the use of sustainable or coconut-based aviation fuel in other countries," Jokowi said.

Indonesia has begun using sustainable jet fuel, although its content derives from palm oil rather than coconuts. The state-run energy firm Pertamina produces this palm oil-based sustainable aviation fuel. Flag carrier Garuda Indonesia launched its first commercial flight using this type of jet fuel last October.

In his campaign promise, Prabowo Subianto, Jokowi's successor, mentioned sustainable aviation fuel. The letter states that Prabowo, who will take office in October, intends to continue Jokowi's initiatives regarding sustainable jet fuel and biodiesel. However, the report once more demonstrates that Prabowo's bioenergy plan is mostly focused on palm oil. One of the biggest

producers of palm oil worldwide is Indonesia. *(Jakarta Globe)*

**INDONESIA'S ENERGY MINISTRY SAYS COCONUT-BASED JET FUEL POSSIBLE**

Indonesian Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (ESDM) has confirmed the technical feasibility of using coconut oil as a source of environmentally friendly jet fuel, also known as bio-aviation fuel (bioavtur).

"Technically, it's possible. Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) which is currently under development, utilizes used cooking oil or fat," said Agus Cahyono, Head of the Ministry's Communications Bureau.

Agus claimed that the ministry awaits a more detailed explanation from the Directorate General of New Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation regarding the specific use of coconut oil for bioavtur.

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), SAF shares near-identical chemical and physical properties with conventional jet fuel. This allows for safe blending with conventional fuel at various ratios, utilizing existing infrastructure and aircraft without modification. Fuels with these characteristics are known as "drop-in fuels," meaning they can be seamlessly integrated into existing airport fueling systems.

To be eligible for the "sustainable" title, the fuel must, nevertheless, fulfill certain sustainability requirements. These include avoiding rivalry with food production (e.g., first-generation biofuels), minimizing dependence on clean water resources, preventing deforestation, and lowering lifecycle carbon emissions.

Previously, the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) collaborated with a Japanese company to process both used and non-standard or unmarketable coconut oil into bioavtur. This project, currently in the factory construction phase located in Banyuasin, South Sumatra, involves a collaboration between BRIN, PT ABE Indonesia, and Japan's Green Power Development Corporation.

Mego Pinandito, BRIN's Deputy for Development Policy, emphasized that non-standard coconut has been recognized as a viable feedstock by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). Mego believed this recognition would positively impact the development of Indonesia's domestic biofuel industry.

"The inclusion of non-standard coconuts on the approved list opens doors for coconut-producing countries like Indonesia to contribute to lowering carbon emissions in the aviation sector," Mego said in his official statement. *(Tempo)*

**INDONESIA-JAPAN DEVELOP BIOAVTUR INDUSTRY AS AN ECO-FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT FUEL SOLUTION**

Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) or bioavtur is a more environmentally friendly aircraft fuel solution.

Indonesia, through the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) and PT ABE Indonesia Berjaya, together with the Green Power Development Corporation of Japan (GPDJ), developed a bioavtur industry project. The project is already at the plant construction stage in Banyuasin, South Sumatra.

The cooperation, initiated by the Indonesia Japan Business Network (IJBNet), began with joint research between IJBNet, GPDJ, and BRIN, which is now in its third year.

"BRIN Deputy for Development Policy Mego Pinandito stated that the raw material for bioavtur is sourced from non-standard coconuts. This raw material has been recognized and included in the positive list of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)."'The entry

of non-standard coconuts into the positive list signifies the success of joint efforts to innovate SAF raw material sources beyond existing options. Thus, it will open opportunities for coconut-producing countries, including Indonesia as one of the largest coconut-producing countries in the world, to contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions in the aviation sector,' said Mego during the signing of the cooperation, at the B.J. Habibie Building, Thamrin, Jakarta.

Mego continued, this emphasis is in line with the global agreement for sustainable development and the realization of carbon neutrality. It also emphasizes the importance of innovative solutions in mitigating global warming.

Mego further explained that non-standard coconut raw materials are processed into crude coconut oil (CCO) in the production process. The existence of non-standard coconut raw materials is very important, considering that coconut is a commodity needed by the food industry.

'Non-standard coconuts are taken from coconuts that are too old, coconuts that are very small, coconuts that have sprouted, coconuts that have begun to rot or mold, and broken coconuts,' said Mego.

GPDJ chose Indonesia as a place for the CCO manufacturing industry, because of the abundant potential of coconuts in Indonesia. Research shows that the number of non-standard coconuts in Indonesia reaches 30 per cent of the total coconuts produced.

Meanwhile, PT ABE Indonesia Berjaya is a local company that will act as the project implementer. The company is targeted to produce 100 tonnes of CCO per day from non-standard coconut raw materials.

"In the production process, PT ABE will use traceability system machine technology made by the young generation," explained Mego.

IJBnet Chairman Suyoto Rais, the initiator, expressed his gratitude for the long struggle of IJBNet and its team. With the support of the government and related agencies, their efforts have borne fruit, leading to the inclusion of non-standard coconut as one of the biofuel raw materials permitted by ICAO.

The ICAO policy that provides options for the utilization of renewable energy to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, according to Suyoto, will have a significant impact on the aviation industry.

'This project will be good news for all coconut stakeholders in Indonesia, leading to an increase in farmers' income and foreign exchange,' said Suyoto.

This development will encourage the commitment of stakeholders to follow up with the implementation of this bioavtur.

'With the entry of non-standard coconuts, and later followed by other sources of raw materials, the opportunity to make Indonesia the king of bioavtur in the world in the future will be wide open,' he said.

The signing ceremony was attended by BRIN Deputy for Development Policy Mego Pinandito, GPDJ Chairman Emi Sekiya, PT ABE Indonesia Berjaya President Director Eko Fajar Nurprasetyo, and IJBnet Chairman Suyoto Rais. *(BRIN News)*

## NIGERIA'S COCONUT PRODUCTION IN LAGOS HAS THE POTENTIAL TO GENERATE $100 BILLION ANNUALLY

According to Dapo Olakulehin, General Manager of the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority, Nigeria may generate more than $100 billion a year from the production of coconuts.

The General Manager stated this on the sidelines of the 2024/2025 Rotary tree planting coastal restoration initiative aimed at planting 1000 coconut seedlings in Lagos and Ogun states.

According to him, Nigeria is currently producing close to 300,000 metric tonnes of coconut per annum representing about $10 billion worth of business transactions.

He went on to say that Nigeria has the potential of operating at $100 billion per annum in coconut production.

"Nigeria is currently operating close to 300,000 metric tonnes of coconut per annum representing a $10 billion worth of business transactions in terms of what we are producing now, but ultimately, coconut has the potential of operating at $100 billion per annum.

"Lagos State government has done a lot and is doing a lot to boost coconut production, processing, commercialization and utilization in the state and the country at large. Lagos is the coconut hub in the whole of West Africa due to the interventions of the state government.

"Just recently, the governor approved the release of 50,000 coconut seedlings to Lagos farmers, so a lot of support has been given to coconut growers, processors and stakeholders. We are also certifying some of these processors to export their coconuts across the country," he noted.

In addition, Femi Adenekan, the District Governor of Rotary International, District 9112, stated that the project to plant 1000 coconut trees along the Atlantic Ocean's coastlines is an effort to preserve the environment.

"We are here to prepare members of the public ahead of our event on Sunday, the 21st of July where we plan to plant 1000 coconut trees along the coastal shores of the Atlantic Ocean.

"This is an initiative we have taken up to protect ourselves because we often think it is to protect the environment, but we all know the environment will remain the way it is, but we are the ones changing the environment, and if care is not taken, the environment will revolt against us.

"So we need to prepare ourselves against the calamity before humanity and this is why we are planting the 1000 trees along the coastal shores. We expect all members of the public to join us in this effort, but our target is to plant 10,000 trees throughout the year," Adenekan noted.

On his part, the District Chair, Public Image Committee of Rotary International, District 9112, M.r Ehi Braimah, said the event was to discuss how to protect the environment, stating the urgent need to save the environment against the devastating impact of climate change.

"What we are doing is to focus on one of the seven areas of focus for Rotary International, which is protecting the environment. We are planning to plant 10,000 seedlings of coconut, mango or any other seed all over the state, public institutions, coastal areas, private estates, schools and everywhere," he averred.

The Chair, Tree Planting Committee, District 9112 Rotarian, Rotary International, Gboyega Bada, said the District is determined to be strongly involved in helping to combat the challenges of climate change to have a safer and cleaner environment.

He added that the vision of the Rotary District on the tree planting for this year is achieving a safer and cleaner environment by planting 10000 seedlings of coconut, mango and other related crops that have economic, health and environmental benefits. *(Punch Nigeria)*

**GOVT DISTRIBUTES 3,40,000 COCONUT SAPLINGS IN KHULNA**

The government distributed a total of 3,40,000 coconut saplings free of cost worth around TK 4.68 cr. among 68,000 marginal farmers in the last financial year.

Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) officials said a total of 68,000 farmers got 3,

40,000 coconut saplings in four districts under Khulna agri zone consisting of Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira and Narail.

In Khulna, a total of 2,25,000 coconut saplings worth around Tk 3.09 cr. were distributed among 45,000 marginal farmers.

In Bagerhat, a total of 75,000 coconut saplings worth around Tk 1.09 cr. were distributed among 15,000 marginal farmers.

In Satkhira and Narail, 25,000 and 15,000 coconut saplings worth around Tk 34.38 lakh and 20.63 have been distributed among 5,000 and 3,000 farmers respectively.

DAE Additional Director of Khulna Region Mohon Kumar Ghosh said coconut farming is very popular in Bangladesh.

In order to meet the demand, the government distributes coconut saplings every year during the rainy season because rainy season is the best time for coconut farming, he said.

Once, before 80s, in the southern part of Bangladesh, a large number of coconut trees would have been seen, Mohon Kumar said, adding that the present government is trying to increase coconut trees with a view to meet the demand.

Side by side giving coconut saplings, we are advising the farmers so that coconut farming can be increased in this region, he added. *(Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha)*

**IT WAS NECESSARY FOR K2M TO HOST WORLD COCONUT DAY**

Between K2 million to K2.5 million will be needed to host the world coconut day in Port Moresby successfully.

"The event is done in a way that also provides a platform for business-to-business engagement (B2B).

"We actually have some private sectors players in the industry who want to engage with investors from overseas plus some farmer groups that have organized themselves for investments in coconut.

"We want to create that platform under the World Coconut day celebrations so they can have a business to business communication," Mr Aku said.

"The theme for this year's World Coconut Day is "Coconut for a Circular Economy: Building Partnership for Maximum Value"

World Coconut Day is celebrated on 2nd September every year to raise awareness about the importance of coconuts and promote the various benefits and uses of coconuts.

Promoting the health advantages of coconuts is the primary goal of the day's celebration. The day also seeks to raise awareness of concerns pertaining to coconuts, promote sustainable methods in coconut agriculture, emphasize the economic significance of coconuts, and highlight the variety of coconuts. A variety of activities will be offered at the event, such as:

1. Exhibitions from international and local exhibitors showcasing coconut products and innovations
2. Seminars on sustainable fanning practices, value addition, and market opportunities.
3. Competitions and awards for outstanding contributions to the coconut industry and,
4. Site visit for international delegation to Kokopo ENB to showcase some of KIK's key program activities.

*(Post Courier)*

**PAGUDPUD SEEDLINGS TO PLANT FIFTY THOUSAND COCONUTS**

In order to increase revenue and create a more environmentally friendly future, the Pagudpud local government unit is urging people and

organizations in this seaside town to plant more coconut seedlings.

Jose Morata, municipal environment and natural resources officer of Pagudpud, told the Philippine News Agency on Thursday that 50,000 coconut seedlings from the Philippine Coconut Authority will jumpstart the greening project while ensuring sustainable livelihood for residents through a revitalized coconut industry in the area.

"The PCA has granted 50,000 coconut seedlings for Pagudpud as requested by mayor Rafael Ralph Benemerito to revitalize our coconut industry. Target areas this year include the Integrated Social Forestry program and private individuals," he said.

Morata said a memorandum of agreement with the coconut farmers of Pagudpud is now being finalized for the growing of more coconut trees that could expand to around 82 hectares if the distance of planting is seven by seven meters.

Called the "tree of life", demand for coconut products is attributed to the versatile nature of the plant, every part of which, from roots to tips, has practical uses.

The PCA, an agency under the Department of Agriculture (DA), is spearheading the planting of more coconut trees nationwide as part of the country's poverty alleviation program.

The agency said hybrid coconuts, when utilizing hybrid technology with good agricultural practices, have the potential to yield 150-300 nuts per year.

Benemerito said a nursery is now in place in Barangay Caparispisan where coconut farmers can get their seedlings planted in the different villages.

PCA recommends intercropping coconuts with bananas to provide additional income for the locals while growing coconut trees.

This way, coconut farmers can have a source of income while waiting for three to four years for hybrid coconut trees to bear nuts.

Benemerito said an agro-industrial hub covering 11 hectares lot property of the local government unit is being constructed, which will soon house different processing facilities for the town's agricultural products, particularly coconut.

"Pagudpud has vast plantations of coconut and we are expanding it because a lot of products can be derived from it like virgin coconut oil, cooking oil, and many others," he said. *(Philippine News Agency)*

**IN CELEBRATION OF WORLD COCONUT DAY, FIRM DONATES K100,000**

Island Mobile Hire Cars (IMHC) is supporting the World Coconut Day celebrations as a silver sponsor with K100,000. IMHC Group managing director David Raim Rakadui said that as a service provider to Kokonas Indastri Koporesen (KIK), the company was proud to be the first private sector company to respond in support of this significant industry event. The event will be held in Port Moresby from Sept 30 to Oct 5.

"Our commitment to the coconut industry is strong, and we believe in giving back to the communities and sectors that contribute so much to our economy," Rakadui said.

KIK managing director Alan Aku said the support underscored the company's dedication to fostering growth and sustainability within the coconut industry.

"The World Coconut Day Celebrations aim to highlight the importance of coconuts in economic development, environmental sustainability, and cultural significance," he said.

"With this sponsorship, the event is set to be a resounding success, bringing together stakeholders from across the industry to

celebrate and advance the coconut sector." *(The National)*

## GUYANA COCONUT PRODUCTION WILL BE BOOSTED BY COSTA RICAN COCONUTS

Guyana's government is seeking to rejuvenate the country's coconut industry through the importation of high-yielding coconut varieties.

The initiative, aimed at boosting production and improving the quality of local coconuts, is part of a broader strategy to revitalize the agricultural sector after introducing approximately 60,000 Brazilian Green Dwarf coconut plants into the country.

Building on this initial step, the government plans to import an additional 50,000 coconut plants from Costa Rica. These plants are anticipated to contribute significantly to the industry's growth by offering superior genetic traits.

By introducing these high-yielding varieties, the government aims to equip local farmers with the necessary tools to increase production and improve the quality of their coconut crops. This, in turn, is expected to stimulate economic growth and create employment opportunities within the agricultural sector.

With a variety of goods made from the fruit, such as dried coconut, coconut oil, coconut water, and coconut milk, Guyana's coconut sector has a lot of promise. A flourishing coconut business may benefit foreign markets as well as domestic consumption. *(Qcostarica)*

## PANGASINAN TO SUPPLY AGRICULTURAL GRADE SALT FERTILIZER (AGSF) FOR PCA'S COCONUT FERTILIZATION PROGRAM

Pangasinan is set to supply agricultural-grade salt to the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) through a resolution authored by SP Member Nicholai Jan Louie Q. Sison.

The resolution, approved during the regular session on May 20, 2024, authorizes the Governor to enter and sign a MOA with PCA for the supply, handling, transport, and delivery of 4,180 bags of Agricultural Grade Salt Fertilizer under the PCA's Coconut Fertilization Project for CY 2024.

Bolinao Salt Farm has an available supply of approximately 3,000 metric tons of salt; hence, it can supply the required quantity of locally produced Agricultural Grade Salt Fertilizer for the PCA's Coconut Fertilization Program.

The Coconut Fertilization Project (CFP) intends to enhance coconut productivity by involving the rehabilitation of low-bearing palms through the application of Agricultural Grade Salt Fertilizer (AGSF).

The salt project marked significant milestones in the province's journey toward sustainable development, environmental stewardship, and economic revitalization.

Gov. Ramon V. Guico earlier said that the establishment of the Pangasinan Salt Center was in support of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s "Philippine Salt Industry Development Act," which aims to strengthen and revitalize the salt industry in the Philippines.

"We need to drastically reduce our dependency on imported salt and produce 100% of our consumption needs. We must even think of becoming a net exporter of salt in the future," the governor earlier said. *(Pangasinan News)*

## MORE THAN 6,000 COCONUT FARMERS IN CARAGA RECEIVE ASSISTANCE AGAINST RHINOCEROS BEETLES

Since the devastation of super typhoon Odette in 2021 in Caraga that destroyed coconut trees, the region's Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA-13) has made the necessary interventions to control the spread of the pervasive Rhinoceros beetles, locally known as "bakukang."

After the super typhoon hit, rhinoceros beetles were discovered in several parts of Caraga. They breed among the decomposing remains of fallen coconut palms.

"Among the interventions done by our agency is the application of Green Muscardine Fungus (GMF) in decaying coconut debris," PCA-13 Regional Manager Joel Oclarit said in an interview.

He said the application of GMF, an effective biological control agent, infects the larvae of Rhinoceros beetles.

"These pests usually breed in decaying coconut logs. The application of GMF is among the effective means of controlling the reproduction and spread of Rhinoceros beetles," he said.

As of last month, 2,869 kilograms of GMF had been applied to 95,635 decaying coconut logs in 188 villages in the region, benefiting 6,889 coconut farmers.

"The GMF is produced locally through our PCA Laboratory established in Cabadbaran City in Agusan del Norte," Oclarit said, adding that the laboratory was put up in the mid-1980s during the infestation of slug caterpillars in coconut trees in the area.

To date, the laboratory can produce 100 to 150 kilograms of GMF monthly, distributed free to coconut farmers in the region. *(Philippine News Agency)*

**COLLABORATING FOR MEANINGFUL IMPACT: WORKSHOP ON THE COCONUT VALUE CHAIN**

Unbeknownst to many, South Sumatra has a large untapped potential for coconut plantations capable of producing various sustainable products. In 2022, the region produced approximately 58,039 tonnes of coconuts. This workshop, held in Palembang and Banyuasin from July 9–10, 2024, and organized by UNDP, Earth-Centred Economy Coalition (KEM), and Supernova Konstelasi Accelerator, with support from the SDGs National Secretariat of Bappenas, aimed to explore and strengthen the coconut value chain.

The workshop, conducted under the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF), was designed to enhance the ecosystem for sustainable enterprises. It covered topics on sustainable investments, business practices, impact articulation, and collaborations across the coconut value chain. Over 60 attendees, including entrepreneurs, ecosystem enablers, and local government representatives, participated.

Greget Kalla Buana, from UNDP, noted that equipping entrepreneurs with knowledge on sustainable finance and business can help them access better capital, expand their markets, and adopt responsible business practices.

One success story shared was from Kulaku, a social enterprise based in Banyuasin that previously participated in the Youth Co incubation program. Kulaku integrates sustainability throughout its operations and supports community development through the "Beasiswa Tani Muda" (BTM) scholarship for farmers' children, promoting educational opportunities and ensuring continuity of sustainable practices.

Kulaku's partnerships, including with Dompet Dhuafa, Bank Indonesia, Sriwijaya University, and others, demonstrate the positive ecosystem impacts of impact-oriented businesses. This collaboration fosters not only profitability but also the sustainability of the coconut plantation ecosystem, creating economic benefits for local communities.

Lishia, from KEM's Executive Board, emphasized that with 95% of Indonesian coconut plantations being smallholder-owned, the organization prioritizes promoting coconut as a key commodity. KEM and Supernova have developed the Value Chain Collaboration Canvas

(VC3) to foster partnerships in sustainable high-value commodity supply chains like coconut, coffee, and cacao.

Despite its short duration, the workshop inspired participants and the organizing committee to turn grand ideas into actionable steps, strengthening sustainable enterprise ecosystems and realizing INFF's goals at the grassroots level. Continued efforts are essential to translate broad policy plans into meaningful local actions that drive decent work and economic growth. *(UNDP News)*

## PCA PALAWAN PREPARES FOR COCONUT WEEK

The local coconut authority opened its search this month for outstanding coconut farmers and farming organizations, who will compete in the 38th National Coconut Week celebrations from August 23-30.

Senior Agriculturist for Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Palawan Arlo Solano said that they have started looking for prospective entries in the national competition, which included the coconut jingle-making contest and the coconut video advertisement.

He said that they were still actively looking for participants in the PCA's annual competitions of outstanding coconut farmers, coconut farmers' organizations, and outstanding farming families.

However, the search for the cocoa premium categories were kicked off earlier in July, as Solano said that they needed a wide selection of coconuts to choose from, as the cocoa premium categories included cocolaki, the search for the biggest coconut; cocodami, for the most coconut in a single-bunch tree; cocokapal for the thickest coconut; and cocobigat for the heaviest coconut.

The provincial celebration for National Coconut Week will be held simultaneously across the country and will include a coconut tree-planting activity.

Solano said that this year's local celebration would center around those farmers who were still recovering from the loss of their crops during the heat index and Typhoon Odette. *(Palawan News)*

## HOTLINE NUMBER HAS BEEN ADDED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT COCONUT CULTIVATION ISSUES IN SRI LANKA

The Minister of Agriculture and Plantation Industries, Mr. Mahinda Amaraweera, advised the Coconut Cultivation Board to provide a hotline number where the farmers can be informed directly about any problems related to coconut cultivation including white fly disease.

Accordingly, the Coconut Cultivation Board has taken steps to introduce a hotline number started from August 05 to make it easy to inquire about any problem related to coconut cultivation.

This hotline number is 1916.

Accordingly, the chairman of the Coconut Cultivation Board Mr. Panduka Weerasinghe said that officials have been prepared to provide necessary answers to public problems by responding immediately to any problem reported through this phone number. *(Daily News LK)*

## FARMERS WANT MORE SAY ON COCO TRUST FUND USE

Coconut farmers say they are underrepresented on the body that determines the use of an industry trust fund sourced from assets acquired using the coconut levy.

"Farmers are nowhere on the Coconut Trust Fund Committee. So that has to be amended," Charles R. Avila, executive director for the Confederation

of Coconut Farmers' Organizations of the Philippines.

Republic Act No. 11521, or the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act, puts coconut levy assets into a trust fund that will finance the rehabilitation and modernization of the coconut industry.

The law tasks the Bureau of the Treasury with transferring P10 billion immediately to the trust fund, P10 billion in the second year; P15 billion in the third year; P15 billion in the fourth year; and P25 billion in the fifth year.

The use of the fund is guided by the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan.

Mr. Avila added that the government needs to amend the law.

"The law has infirmities. The coconut trust fund committee right now consists of officials led by the Department of Finance (DoF)," he said.

The trust fund committee is headed by representatives from the DoF as well as the departments of Budget and Management and Justice.

He added that pending any changes to the law, the trust fund committee should have an advisory committee which includes the Department of Agriculture, the Philippine Coconut Authority, and coconut farmers.

On the other hand, Mr. Avila said that production continues to be hindered by the age of the Philippines' coconut trees.

"We may be one of the top three producers in the world, we are supplying about 80% of global demand… but we may not be able to do that (further) if we do not plant more trees," he added.

He said that the government should also involve coconut farmer organizations in the replanting effort.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. ordered the PCA to draft a plan to rehabilitate the coconut industry, including the planting of 100 million coconut trees by 2028.

The rehabilitation plan aims to address the advanced age of the nut-bearing trees. The PCA is seeking to replant about 8.5 million trees this year. *(Business World)*

## OVER 7,000 FREE SAPLINGS DISTRIBUTED AT MADANI RAKYAT

More than 7,000 tree saplings of various types were distributed free of charge by the Pahang Department of Agriculture to the public during the three-day Eastern Zone MADANI Rakyat Programme (PMR) 2024 at Dataran Sayangi Kuantan.

Pahang Agriculture Department assistant director Mohd Ismawi Salimin said among the saplings given to visitors were three types of coconut trees, namely pandan coconut, MYD (Malayan Yellow Dwarf) coconut and Malayan Red Dwarf coconut.

Besides coconuts, mester saplings, ginger, and premium durians such as Musang king D197 and blackthorn D200 were also distributed. and according to Mohd Ismawi, durian saplings were the ones that ran out in less than an hour.

"Durian coupons are quickly sold out (to get saplings you need to get a coupon), when in just 30 minutes coupons are already given to visitors to get the saplings for free.

"Visitors have been queuing up to get it because outside, this sapling is sold at RM40 and that's why people are fighting to get it here. During these three days, we only allocated 400 of these premium durian saplings," he said.

Apart from durian, he said mester saplings were also in high demand with 600 fruit saplings

that looked like mangosteen been distributed to visitors.

Not only focused on fruit tree seedlings, Mohd Ismawi said his side also distributed 200 sets of urban agriculture and various types of vegetable seeds for free to visitors.

"The urban agriculture set is just like durian, it runs out quickly, the response is very encouraging. In all of these, the most we bring are coconut saplings because they are also in demand in the market besides durian. Some also asked about coconut tree saplings, but this time we didn't bring them.

"In addition, we also teach them how to plant and how to care for them so that the seedlings and saplings they get are not wasted," he said, adding that the department's purpose in distributing saplings and seeds for free is to encourage them to plant to reduce cost of living.

Considering it as a 'very worthwhile gift', civil servant Norsahida Ab Kadir, 37, said the free distribution of trees by the Pahang Department of Agriculture is the best step to attract young people to plant trees.

"Our family is there to plant a little in the yard outside the house. So, when there is a program like this, I don't want to miss the opportunity to try planting coconut trees," said the mother of four. *(Bernama)*

## SPIKING PRICES AND A DECLINE IN COCONUT PRODUCTION DUE TO HIGH TEMPERATURES

On a roadside in Panaji, Goa, Sameer Karangi, 31, a young coconut vendor, has only about 10 coconuts in his cart, a stark contrast to his usual giant pile. “Due to the coconut shortage in Karnataka, the prices have gone up and I can’t afford to buy much stock,” he says. Makabula Betagiri, another coconut vendor located about 50 meters from Karangi, says that though he has the funds to procure more stock, “good quality coconuts are in short supply.” Both of them get their coconut stock from Davanagere district in the bordering state of Karnataka, where drought conditions have reportedly affected coconut plantations and caused crop wilting.

Since March 2024, heatwaves have gripped the entire country. Some of the severely affected states, such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Kerala, are also the leading coconut producers in India.

### *How heat affects coconuts*

Coconut is considered an important plantation crop given that every single part of the coconut plant is valuable. The water and flesh of tender coconuts are widely consumed, especially during the summer. The flesh itself is used in several cuisines, and is used to make coconut milk, which is among the most popular plant-based milks today. The coconut fruit is used to make oil, which is used in cooking and various other applications. The fronds of the coconut tree are used in thatched roofs; the coconut’s husk is used to make coir, which has a wide array of applications. In subtropical countries, it has come to be called a tree of life or “kalpavriksha”, which translates to “wish-giving tree” in Hindi.

Plantation crops such as coconut, rubber, areca, coffee, and so on, are generally grown in ecologically sensitive areas such as hilly regions or coastal areas. In the recent past, it has been observed that these areas are the first to face the effects of climate change. Melting glaciers, thermal expansion, warmer ocean temperatures, and non-biodegradable waste in oceans, all result in the coastal areas being impacted by extreme weather conditions.

A 2013 study predicted that “Climate change will affect coconut plantation through higher temperatures, elevated CO2 concentration,

precipitation changes, increased weeds, incidence of pests and disease, and increased vulnerability of organic carbon pools."

According to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the ideal temperature for coconut growth and yield is 27 degrees Celsius, plus or minus five degrees, and relative humidity needs to be more than 60%. But between March and June 2024, the prime coconut growing belt was experiencing average temperatures upwards of 35 degrees Celsius, coupled with a low relative humidity of 30% to 50%. These conditions were far from ideal for coconut trees and resulted in a shortage of supply.

K.B. Hebbar, Director, ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) says, "The southern coastal regions where coconuts are mostly grown are even more sensitive to climatic changes. In Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka, the average temperature has gone up by 3-4 degrees Celsius this summer. We are also finding a reduced humidity."

The coconut supply shortage resulted in a rise in prices. Retail prices rose by Rs. 10, from Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 per coconut in some parts like Bengaluru and from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 in most parts of Goa. In April and May, the prices of tender coconut in Chennai had even gone up to Rs. 90 each. Prior to the heat wave this year, the average price per quintal (100 kilograms of coconuts) was around Rs. 2,400 whereas it currently stands at Rs. 2,750.

The temperature increase also raises pest populations. More than 900 species of pests are known to be associated with cultivated and wild coconut palm.

Ramesh S.V., senior scientist, biotechnology, at CPCRI, Kasargod, who studies plant biochemistry aspects of drought, salinity and elevated temperatures says, "We are seeing a huge difference in production and nut setting not only in the coastal belt but also in the traditional coconut growing belts." He adds, "We are also noticing that elevated temperatures have a great role to play in insect flare-ups. When temperatures go beyond a certain level, we have observed whitefly attacks."

***Problems with the yield***

Extreme heat also affects the quantity of water in the coconuts, says Kedarnath Chauhan, a coconut vendor in Goa. He says the produce now has thick flesh and little water. "The heat has dried up all the water," he says. He adds that if rains arrive, the quality of coconuts will be better. But with the recent changes in the region's climate, he is unsure of when that will happen.

Hebbar explains that a thick kernel is directly connected to the maturity of the coconut fruit. "Generally, after fertilization, the coconut requires around six and a half months to become tender coconut and 12 months to reach complete maturity," he says. Now, they observe that the coconuts are reaching maturity faster due to the external heat. Since coconut trees are tall and hard to climb, it is not possible for farmers to check the maturity levels of the fruit before plucking them, or to know whether the fruit has matured sooner than they had planned for.

Additionally, in the parts of Tamil Nadu where there was a severe drought, entire plantations were destroyed and the trees dried up. Farmers had attempted to save their trees by calling for water tankers to irrigate their fields, but the cost of water tankers was so high that they couldn't afford to sustain them. The price of a coconut tree for its wood fell from Rs. 2,500 per tree to Rs. 1,000 per tree because the timber began to crack without moisture, and farmers faced huge losses.

***Adaptations in cultivation***

Coconut buds are extremely vulnerable to high heat during pollination and fertilization.

However, a 2020 study found that if the temperature is high but the moisture content in the air and soil remains high, the plant can continue to flower and fruit as normal. Researchers are now looking at strategies such as mulching, inter-cropping, and agro-techniques to maintain soil moisture.

Another study finds that agronomic adaptations such as soil moisture conservation, summer irrigation, drip irrigation, and fertilizer application not only minimize losses in the majority of coconut-growing regions, but also improve productivity substantially. It also recommends genetic adaptation measures. "Growing improved, local, tall cultivars and hybrids under improved crop management is needed for the long-term adaptation of plantations to climate change, particularly in regions that are projected to be negatively impacted by climate change."

However, one hurdle that the scientists also face in conducting research on coconut trees is the height of the trees, which makes it harder to access. For this reason, the ICAR-CPCRI in Kasaragod has built a scaffolding-like structure that allows researchers to get to the top of the coconut tree and study various aspects of the tree, from the leaves to the flowers and fruits.

When asked about what else they are observing in their laboratory, Ramesh SV shares that, "In our controlled greenhouse conditions, we are observing a spurt in the expression of polyphenols in some cultivars of coconut trees. This is an adaptive mechanism of the plant that it brings in its solutes or biochemicals to try to combat drought or high-temperature conditions." *(Mongabay)*

### JAMAICAN COCONUT FARMERS ARE URGED TO REPORT LOSSES DURING HURRICANE BERYL

The Coconut Industry Board (CIB) is urging registered farmers to reach out to advisory officers within their region to report damage to farms, caused by Hurricane Beryl.

General Manager of the Board, Shaun Cameron, said that with telecommunications down and persons without power across sections of the country, farmers should reach out where they can with information.

Cameron said that the focus currently is on proper damage assessment, which is crucial to effectively planning recovery efforts for the sector.

"We are asking all the registered coconut farmers to reach out to their advisory officers in their region and provide them with any possible information based on damage done to their farms. They should provide the number of trees, the size of their farm and the location, as soon as possible," he said.

As of July 9, the damage across the island is still being assessed, and preliminary figures are not yet available, Cameron said. "We haven't got the official numbers yet. My team members are still assessing the damage, but based on preliminary information, we are estimating five to 10 percent damage, so far," he said. *(Loop)*

## TRADE NEWS

### INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Prices of tropical oils rallied this week, especially the lauric oils.

Coconut oil in Rotterdam market resumed quietness after a short-lived activity last week following 18 weeks of dullness. Last week's trade was concluded at $1,375/MT CIF. The market was firm during the week with sellers offering at the start at $1,472.50-1,495.00/MT CIF for positions from July/August through to November/December. Strong palm oil market

influenced firmness and by the weekend closed with levels topping $1,500-mark, for deferred positions, at $1,497.50-1,505.00/MT CIF.

Palm kernel oil market likewise was subdued this week, contrasting with last week's heavy dealings with a paying level at $1,270-1,330/MT CIF. Opening quotes were steadier at $1,340-1,360/MT CIF for positions from July/August through to November/December despite weaker cues from palm oil but thereafter stayed firmer for the rest of the week tracking the palm oil rebound. The market ended the week at $1,345-1,385/MT CIF.

For the third week in a row, the price premium of coconut oil vis-à-vis palm kernel oil continued below $200 and contracted again from respective levels last week across all positions. The weekly average has narrowed to $128.02/MT from $132.74 a week before. Premium per position are shown following: July/August $130.50 ($132.85); August/September $131.00 ($134.85); September/October $129.10 ($139.70); October/November $122.00 ($124.50); November/December $127.50 ($131.80).

At the CBOT soya complex market, soybean futures opened easier this week amid bearish USDA reports showing 68% of soybeans were in good condition, with 51% blooming and 18% at the pod setting stage. Both rates were faster than the average. The market though was able to recover shortly, sparked by bargain hunting and short covering. At the close, however, levels eventually settled lower on rumors of an oversupply in China as importers covered early on fears of new tariffs from the US.

At the palm oil section, the market bounced back after an easier start this week linked to rising stocks in Malaysia, strong ringgit, and weaker CBOT soybean oil. The market reversal was triggered by cargo surveyors' report that the country's palm oil export for the first half of July shot up 71.3% from last month at 771,660 MT amid a drop in production. The strong ringgit though managed to moderate gains during the week.

Prices of lauric oils for nearest forward shipment rallied anew this week. Coconut oil leaped $28.65 from week-ago at $1,453.85 to $1,482.50/MT CIF this week. Palm kernel oil jumped $30.50 from $1,321.00 to $1,351.50/MT CIF. Palm oil, however, slipped $1.00 at $1,016.50/MT CIF after holding steady for two weeks at $1,017.50/MT CIF. As a result, the price premium of coconut oil over palm kernel oil slightly narrowed from $132.85 in the preceding week to $131.00/MT presently. On the other hand, price premium over palm oil expanded from $436.35 to $466.00/MT. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## MARKET ROUND-UP OF COCONUT OIL

The coconut oil market in Rotterdam was back to zero activity. The market continued firm and closed with sellers offering $1,497.50 for July/August and August/September; $1,500 for September/October; $1,502.50 for October/November; and $1,505/MT CIF for November/December. Buyers showed interest only in September/October position the whole week and closed with bids at $1,452.50/MT CIF. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## SRI LANKA HAYLEYS SUBSIDIARY SIGNS WITH BOI TO EXPORT COCONUT WATER CONCENTRATE

Hayleys Nature Nest (PVT) Ltd, a newly incorporated subsidiary of Hayleys Plc, has signed an agreement with Sri Lanka's Board of Investment to produce frozen concentrated coconut water for the export market.

"Hayleys Nature Nest (PVT) Ltd has signed an agreement with BoI to establish a project to produce frozen concentrated coconut water for the export market, with an investment of US$5.378 million," the BOI said on social media platform X (twitter).

Sri Lanka is the fourth-largest exporter of coconut products to the world, according to its Export Development Board. "Among the most popular Sri Lankan coconut exports to the global market are desiccated coconut, virgin coconut oil and coconut water," it said.

Coconut accounts for approximately 12 percent of agricultural produce in the island, with the total land area under cultivation covering 409,244 hectares.

The country produces about 3,500 million nuts a year, but this could decline due to climate change impacts. *(Economy Next)*

## VN'S COCONUT RECEIVES PERMISSION TO ENTER CHINA, THAI EXPORTERS FEAR COMPETITION

After durian, fresh coconut is expected to be the quotas. Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) has had working sessions with the Chinese side, and they agreed to complete procedures for signing a protocol on phytosanitary requirements for Vietnam's fresh coconut exports to China. Next fruit to be exported to China under official.

Around 200,000 hectares of coconut growing area in Vietnam give total output of 2 million tons a year. The country ranks seventh in the world in coconut output. Growing areas are mostly located in coastal provinces of the central region and Mekong Delta.

Vietnam's coconuts are exported to 90 countries and territories, including Europe, the US, the Middle East, Japan and South Korea. In 2023, Vietnam's peeled fresh coconut and processed product exports brought turnover of $243 million.

Dang Phuc Nguyen, secretary general of the Vietnam Fruit and Vegetables Association (VFVA), said, with a population of 1.4 billion, China is one of the largest markets in the world. The protocol on Vietnam's official-quota export to China will be a great opportunity for Vietnam's coconut sector. With short geographical distance, short transport time and low costs, Vietnam's coconuts will be competitive in the Chinese market.

Tran Van Duc, president of Ben Tre Coconut Investment JSC, confirmed that China is a market with great potential as it consumes 2.6 billion fresh coconuts and 1.5 billion coconuts for processing each year. Chinese coconut output can satisfy only 10 percent of demand.

He said some Chinese partners have contacted him to learn about his company's production capacity. He said that all the Chinese requirements on material growing areas and packaging can be met, because his company has been exporting fresh coconuts to many other markets for years.

He estimated that if a protocol is signed and businesses can exploit their advantages, Vietnam can earn $300 million more from the Chinese market, and its coconut sector will be able to catch up with Thailand in several years.

### *Thai concerns*

Amid the information about Vietnam's fresh coconut exports to China, Thai media reported that the Thai coconut milk industry, valued at billions of dollars, may be shaken if it has to compete with Vietnam in China.

Narongsak Chuensuchon, CEO of NC Coconut, said both coconut and coconut milk are very popular worldwide, but China consumes more than 60 percent of Thai processed coconut output, with annual revenue of $550 million of bottled coconut milk.

He said that, like durian, Vietnam's coconut milk exports to China will compete with Thai

products in the Chinese market, and if Thailand cannot improve product quality, it may lose the Chinese market to Vietnamese.

Vietnam's durian exports to China continued to see a boom in the first six months of 2024, bringing turnover of $1.32 billion, a sharp increase of 45 percent over the same period last year.

Thailand dominated the Chinese durian market until Vietnam obtained the right to enter the vast market. As Vietnam has succeeded in exporting durian in large quantities to China, Thailand's market share in China has dropped significantly from 95 percent of China's imports in 2022 to 65.1 percent in 2023.

In the first four months of the year, Thailand's durian market share in China decreased further to 60 percent, while Vietnam's proportion in Chinese durian imports increased to 39.2 percent.

Meanwhile, Nguyen of VFVA warned that Thailand's coconut industry is still very strong. One Thai fresh coconut is selling for VND50,000 in China. Vietnam's coconut is cheaper with prices sometimes dropping to VND2,000-3,000 per coconut, so it is competitive in price. However, if Vietnam wants to enter the Chinese market, it needs to ensure the high quality of products and satisfy the requirements set by the market.

He said that once Vietnam exports fresh coconuts via official channels, fresh and dry coconut prices in the domestic market will increase, thus bringing higher benefits to farmers. *(Vietnam Net)*

## AN MSME COACHED BY BSI, AFLAHA COCONUT MANDIRI, EXPORTS COPRA TO INDIA AND BANGLADESH SUCCESSFULLY

PT Bank Syariah Indonesia Tbk (BSI) is consistently encouraging MSMEs (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) in South Sulawesi to continue growing and developing, enhancing their competitiveness to successfully export their products to other countries. One of South Sulawesi's agricultural products with strong potential as an export commodity is copra.

Copra is a derivative product made from dried coconut. BSI-mentored MSME, CV Aflaha Coconut Mandiri, has become one of the businesses that successfully exports copra to Bangladesh.

The owner of CV Aflaha Coconut Mandiri, Muhammad Adit Sopyan, stated that the business he started in 2016 has been able to export since two years ago. Adit revealed that there are two types of copra that are in demand in the international market, namely white copra and black copra. In 2022, Aflaha Coconut Mandiri made its first export of black copra to Bangladesh, shipping 46.24 tons valued at IDR 749.49 million. Additionally, Aflaha also exports white copra.

Adit explained that the company directly purchases coconuts from farmers in South Sulawesi. These coconuts are then processed into copra ready for export.

"The coconuts purchased must meet the required moisture content to make copra. We just need to check whether the moisture content is correct because there is a standard accepted by buyers," he added.

Looking ahead, Adit hopes that his company will not only export raw copra but also other processed coconut products, such as coconut oil. Therefore, as a BSI-mentored MSME, Adit welcomed the opening of the BSI UMKM Center in Makassar.

The presence of the BSI UMKM Center in Makassar can serve as a hub connecting MSMEs in South Sulawesi with international markets, facilitating MSMEs to reach a broader market.

"We won't just be sending raw materials; in the future, we can send products that are already in the form of oil. Hopefully, with the BSI UMKM Center in Makassar, it can become a place for education and a medium to connect with buyers from various countries and existing export destinations," he concluded.

BSI's President Director, Hery Gunardi, said that Indonesian MSMEs have the potential to compete in the global market while also positioning Indonesia as a pioneer in the global halal industry by implementing a halal lifestyle in every activity.

Hery stated that the halal industry is a promising sector with significant demand both in Indonesia and globally, including for MSME products.

Hery emphasized that BSI's support covers the entire value chain, from providing financing support for additional capital or business expansion, training and skill enhancement needed by MSMEs to grow larger, to networking.

Recently, BSI also held the BSI International Expo 2024, which not only showcased various mentored MSMEs but also connected them with buyers through business matching activities.

"BSI is highly committed to continuously supporting the MSME sector as one of the backbones of the economy to grow, compete, and level up," he concluded. *(Kontan)*

## NEW DRINK WITH COCONUT CHUNKS TO DEBUT IN EUROPE

The FoodNavigator-Europe on July 22 reports of new beverage launches and among those hitting the shelves this month across Europe is Hello Day! Magico. The new drink combines natural fruit juice and crunchy coconut chunks. The coconut chunks are no other than nata de coco, the report said.

The new drink, which is currently available in three flavors: mango, lychee and coconut, is produced by food and beverage company Agus. Based in Warsaw, Agus' portfolio includes beverages, snacks and dairy. The company says the new launch illustrates its strategy to grow, develop, and think outside the box. "Biting into and chewing springy coconut bits is at the heart of the beverage's pleasure, providing unexpected experiences," notes the company.

The drinks branding has been created by Italian agency Break Design: with 'magico' coming from the English words 'magic' and 'coconut' – or, quite simply, the word for magic in Italian. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## PHILIPPINES AIMS TO SELL MORE FOOD PRODUCTS TO CHINA

China is still an important market for Philippine agri-based products, including coconut snacks and processed fruits, according to Philippine Exporters Confederation Inc. (Philexport). Sergio R. Ortiz-Luis, Jr., Philexport president said 10 local exporters generated nearly USD1 million in sales from the recent business mission to Guangzhou, China.

The Department of Trade and Industry's Export Marketing Bureau (DTI-EMB), together with the Philippine Trade and Investment Center-Guangzhou and Philexport organized an outbound business mission to Guangzhou, China held from June 19-23. The delegation was composed of makers of processed fruits, coconut snacks, and herbal supplements.

Joining the business mission were Profood International Corp., Tropicana Food Products, Inc., Pasciolco Agri Ventures, Lionheart Farms, Soyuz Foods International Inc., Tropical Palm Herb Manufacturing, MFP Home of Quality Food Corporation, B&C Healthy Snack Foods Inc., Mira's Turmeric Products, and New Asia Oil Inc. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

# OTHER VEGEOIL NEWS

## HINDUSTAN UNILEVER REDUCING PALM OIL CONTENT IN SOAPS

India's biggest consumer goods maker Hindustan Unilever (HUL) is reducing the content of palm oil and its derivatives in soaps by 25%, part of a wider strategy to offset volatility in commodity prices as well as reduce environmental impact. The company said this is a global first.

The technology developed by HUL will be rolled out in other countries by parent Unilever, for which India is among the biggest soap markets worldwide. The maker of Lux and Lifebuoy said, the innovation, dubbed Stratos, took HUL almost five years to develop. It will replace palm with a proprietary mix including plant-derived polysaccharides, vitamin blends and natural fatty acids, which will help improve the product besides having 25% less palm oil and derivatives than currently present in a grade 1 soap. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## ISO PUBLISHES UPDATED FUEL SPECIFICATIONS FOR MARINE APPLICATIONS INCLUDING B100 APPROVAL

The International Standards Organization (ISO) recently announced the publication of ISO 8217:2024, an updated version of the specification for fuel use in marine applications, US trade association Clean Fuels Alliance America (CFAA) reported on June 04.

The new specification sets forth detailed requirements for marine fuels, including biodiesel blends up to B100, ensuring their suitability and safety for use in nearly every distillate and residual fuel grade. This marks a significant step forward in promoting sustainable fuel options within the maritime industry. By adopting the updated specification, ISO aims to facilitate the integration of low-carbon liquid fuels including biodiesel into the marine fuel supply chain, contributing to greater greenhouse gas emissions reductions and supporting efforts to combat climate change.

ISO 8217:2024 ensures that biodiesel blends up to 100% meet rigorous performance standards, maintaining engine efficiency and reliability. The specification addresses critical parameters such as viscosity, flash point, and sulfur content, guaranteeing that biodiesel blends perform on par with conventional marine fuels. The approval of ISO 8217-2024 is the result of extensive collaboration between industry stakeholders and technical experts to ensure that the specification meets the practical needs of the maritime sector while supporting a changing regulatory environment. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## US FDA REVOKES REGULATION ON THE USE OF BROMINATED VEGETABLE OIL IN FOOD

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced on it is revoking the regulation authorizing the use of brominated vegetable oil (BVO) in food. BVO is a vegetable oil that is modified with bromine. The agency concluded that the intended use of BVO in food is no longer considered safe after the results of studies conducted in collaboration with the National Institute of Health (NIH) found the potential for adverse health effects in humans. The rule is effective August 02.

"Reassessing the safety of chemicals that have been previously authorized for use in or with foods, as new, relevant data becomes available, is a priority for the FDA. We are committed to conducting reassessments to ensure that our original determinations of safety have held up over time. The removal of the only authorized use of BVO from the food supply was based on a thorough review of current science and research findings that raised safety concerns. We will continue to monitor emerging evidence on the chemicals we have targeted for reassessment, and in cases such as this, where the science no

longer supports continued authorized use, we will take action to protect public health," said Jim Jones, Deputy Commissioner for Human Foods. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

**INDONESIA PLANS TO DEVELOP COCOA, COCONUT SECTORS USING PALM OIL FUND**

Indonesia plans to use funds from its palm oil export levy to finance development of the country's cocoa and coconut sectors, the country's trade minister said.

Indonesia has since 2015 collected a levy to fund its palm oil biodiesel mandate, smallholder replanting program and palm oil research. "Initially we planned for separate agencies for cocoa and coconut, but is has been decided to merge them with BPDPKS," Trade Minister Zulkifli Hasan told Reuters. BPDPKS (Oil Palm Plantation Fund Management Agency) is the country's agency in charge of collecting a palm oil export levy and disbursing the fund.

"It will be a cross subsidy, for cocoa and coconut development, nursery and seedlings from the (crude palm oil levy)," he said. The plans would be implemented soon and the agency has sufficient money so there was no need to impose an additional levy on cocoa and coconut producers, he added. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

**WORLD RAPESEED PRODUCTION TO FALL SHORT OF DEMAND: UFOP**

Germany's vegetable oil trade group, UFOP, warns that global rapeseed production will fall short of meeting demand, and has called for additional planting of the oilseed in 2025, reported by FoodNavigator-Europe on July 5.

The International Grain Council (IGC) forecasts that the 2024/25 world rapeseed output is to drop 2% from last year to 87.2 million MT due to reduced productive areas and lower yields. Australia, a major producer, is expected to reduce harvest by 4.5% from the previous year to 5.4 million MT or 700,000 MT below earlier projections. Ukraine is anticipated to produce 4.9 million MT, short by 500,000 MT from earlier forecast due to fluctuating weather conditions. Western Europe, particularly France, Germany, and the United Kingdom, has suffered from adverse weather, including excessive rains and pests, leading to a 5.1% decline in EU rapeseed production, now expected to be 18.7 million MT.

The growing demand from the biofuels sector, driven by the phasing out of palm oil-based biofuels in Germany, France, and Sweden, is expected to influence rapeseed acreage and crop rotation strategies. *(UCAP Bulletin)*

## HEALTH NEWS

**REMEDIES: COCONUT OIL HEAL BURNS**

Because of its many potential health benefits, coconut has grown in popularity. Coconut oil—which is made from the meat of coconuts— In addition to being used in cooking, this rich, fatty oil is also found in prepared foods, cosmetics, and candies, according to Healthline. The versatility of coconut oil continues to pique the interest of both researchers and health enthusiasts, even though scientific data is still catching up to anecdotal claims.

When it comes to treating minor burns, coconut oil emerges as a promising natural remedy. Its unique composition of vitamins and fatty acids contributes to its potential healing properties.

***Benefits Of Coconut Oil***

- Soothing Properties: Coconut oil's mildness on the skin makes it an excellent choice for soothing burned areas.

- Rich in Vitamin E: This antioxidant vitamin plays a crucial role in skin health and repair.
- Fatty Acid Content: The fatty acids in coconut oil may help nourish and protect damaged skin.
- Antioxidant Effects: These properties can help combat inflammation and promote healing.
- Antifungal Properties: Coconut oil may help prevent infections in burned areas.
- Scar Lightening: Over time, it may help reduce the appearance of burn scars.

***How to Use Coconut Oil for Burns***

Because of its many potential health benefits, coconuts have grown in popularity. Coconut oil—which is made from the meat of coconuts— In addition to being used in cooking, this rich, fatty oil is also found in prepared foods, cosmetics, and candies, according to Healthline. The versatility of coconut oil continues to pique the interest of both researchers and health enthusiasts, even though scientific data is still catching up to anecdotal claims.

After the skin has cooled, gently apply a small layer of coconut oil to minor burns. In the event of severe burns or if you have any concerns, always seek medical advice.

The benefits of coconut oil go beyond just curing burns. It may also improve oral, cognitive, skin, and hair health, according to Healthline. But it's crucial to address these assertions objectively, taking into account both scientific studies and anecdotal evidence.

While coconut oil shows promise as a natural remedy for burns and other health concerns, it's important to approach its use with informed caution. As research continues to evolve, coconut oil remains an intriguing option for those seeking natural alternatives in their health and wellness routines. *(Herzindagi)*

**COLD-PRESSED VIRGIN COCONUT OIL: A RISING TREND IN WELLNESS**

Cold-pressed virgin coconut oil has emerged as a rising trend in the health and wellness industry, celebrated for its myriads of benefits and versatile applications. Extracted from fresh coconut meat without the application of heat, this method preserves the natural qualities of the oil, including its delicate flavor, rich aroma, and bioactive compounds. Unlike traditional extraction methods that use heat, cold pressing ensures that the vital nutrients and antioxidants in the coconut oil remain intact. This process results in a purer, more nutrient-dense oil that offers a range of health benefits.

Its rich content of medium-chain triglycerides (MCTs) makes it a favorite among those looking for natural energy sources and metabolic support. As a natural moisturizer and anti-inflammatory agent, it is also a popular ingredient in skincare and haircare products, making it a true all-rounder in the realm of natural health and beauty. George John, business head of KLF Nirmal Industries, lists some of the key benefits of cold-pressed virgin coconut oil.

Anti-microbial and anti-viral properties: Cold-pressed virgin coconut oil consists of a medium-chain fatty acid known as lauric acid, which helps the body fight harmful microorganisms, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi, significantly improving the overall immune system.

Cardiovascular health: Some researchers claim that the consumption of cold-pressed virgin coconut oil may positively impact heart health, as the medium-chain fatty acids in coconut oil may support healthy cholesterol levels while lowering LDL (bad) cholesterol levels. While detailed research is underway, it is evident that cold-pressed virgin coconut oil essentially improves overall cardiac health.

Skin and hair care: Cold-pressed virgin coconut oil contains a high concentration of moisturising fatty acids, making it a favorable natural remedy for skin and hair care. It's beneficial for improving skin hydration, reducing inflammation, and promoting wound healing. Its antifungal properties also help in managing conditions like athlete's foot and protect the skin from damage caused by free radicals.

Weight management: The medium-chain triglycerides (MCTs) found in cold-pressed virgin coconut oil have the potential to promote weight loss. MCTs are metabolized by the body more easily than long-chain fatty acids, and they also have a thermogenic effect, potentially supporting the body's calorie-burning process.

Cognitive health: There is a strong interconnection between MCTs found in virgin coconut oil and cognitive functions. The MCTs are a great source of readily available energy for the brain. Studies show that individuals with neurological conditions like Alzheimer's disease and mild cognitive impairment improve brain performance after MCT supplementation.

Oral health: Oil pulling, a traditional Ayurvedic practice, involves swishing coconut oil in the mouth to promote oral hygiene. Cold-pressed virgin coconut oil is a traditional and well-known choice for oil pulling and is believed to help reduce harmful bacteria in the mouth. *(Money Control)*

## COCONUT RECIPE

**COCONUT RASPBERRY ICYPOLES**

**Ingredients**

- 25 ml (1 tbsp + 1 tsp) maple syrup + 2 tbsp, extra
- 125 g (1 punnet) raspberries
- 270 ml coconut cream
- ¼ cup almond milk
- pinch cinnamon

Freezing time: 6-7 hours.

**Instructions**

1. Blitz 25 ml of maple syrup with the punnet of raspberries. Pour into your icypole moulds, filling them about one-third full. Freeze until firm.
2. In a bowl, mix the remaining maple syrup with the coconut cream, almond milk and a pinch of cinnamon. Distribute among the icypole moulds. Freeze for about one hour until partially set, then inset popsicle sticks, if using. Freeze again until firm.

**Cook's Notes**

Oven temperatures are for conventional; if using fan-forced (convection), reduce the temperature by 20˚C. | The writer use Australian tablespoons and cups: 1 teaspoon equals 5 ml; 1 tablespoon equals 20 ml; 1 cup equals 250 ml. | All herbs are fresh (unless specified) and cups are lightly packed. | All vegetables are medium size and peeled, unless specified. | All eggs are 55-60 g, unless specified. *(SBS Food)*

# STATISTICS

**Table 1. Monthly Export of Coconut Shell Charcoal by Selected Countries 2022 - 2024 (In MT)**

| MONTH | Indonesia | | | Philippines | | | Sri Lanka | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| January | 17,429 | 14,435 | 17,585 | 7,395 | 7,793 | 10,758 | 930 | 767 | 880 |
| February | 13,584 | 15,008 | 15,096 | 10,228 | 8,685 | 379 | 943 | 882 | 1583 |
| March | 16,531 | 16,907 | 15,793 | 11,694 | 11,824 | 11,615 | 1,050 | 348 | 1,358 |
| April | 13,549 | 11,384 | 11,982 | 9,429 | 11,517 | | 1,576 | 416 | 924 |
| May | 7,367 | 17,456 | 14,272 | 6,739 | 10,444 | | 1,211 | 810 | 1,035 |
| June | 11,796 | 16,603 | 14,211 | 10,517 | 8,168 | | 1,475 | 792 | 1103 |
| July | 10,866 | 17,676 | | 9,986 | 7,682 | | 1,398 | 892 | |
| August | 13,327 | 15,863 | | 10,438 | 7,878 | | 1,670 | 1,044 | |
| September | 13,896 | 15,613 | | 10,805 | 11,603 | | 1,378 | 1,355 | |
| October | 13,984 | 17,916 | | 9,181 | 12,370 | | 606 | 841 | |
| November | 14,712 | 16,499 | | 9,010 | 9,859 | | 659 | 764 | |
| December | 16,137 | 15,910 | | 8,268 | 10,218 | | 1,214 | 1,063 | |
| **TOTAL** | **163,178** | **191,270** | **88,940** | **113,690** | **118,041** | **22,752** | **14,110** | **9,974** | **6,883** |

Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia, UCAP, and Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

**Table 2. Monthly Export of Activated Carbon by Selected Countries 2022 - 2024 (In MT)**

| MONTH | Indonesia | | | Philippines | | | Sri Lanka | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| January | 2,184 | 1,440 | 1,191 | 5,873 | 5,466 | 4,006 | 3,918 | 3,441 | 4,958 |
| February | 2,239 | 1,430 | 1,540 | 6,229 | 4,203 | 3,888 | 3,529 | 4,035 | 4,712 |
| March | 2,327 | 1,415 | 1,212 | 8,171 | 5,859 | 3,759 | 4,424 | 4,311 | 5,707 |
| April | 1,926 | 1,361 | 1,370 | 7,455 | 5,334 | | 5,093 | 4,021 | 4,974 |
| May | 1,360 | 1,607 | 1,652 | 7,051 | 6,139 | | 4,796 | 5,518 | 4,489 |
| June | 2,032 | 1,637 | 1,219 | 6,498 | 5,710 | | 4,904 | 4,342 | 4,749 |
| July | 1,471 | 1,734 | | 7,430 | 3,752 | | 5,034 | 4,422 | |
| August | 1,866 | 1,786 | | 7,789 | 4,187 | | 4,890 | 4,231 | |
| September | 1,673 | 1,797 | | 7,246 | 5,543 | | 5,376 | 4,317 | |
| October | 1,440 | 1,575 | | 5,768 | 3,892 | | 5,276 | 4,303 | |
| November | 1,522 | 1,312 | | 4,963 | 4,741 | | 3,720 | 4,089 | |
| December | 1,581 | 1,700 | | 6,215 | 5,362 | | 3,870 | 4,509 | |
| **TOTAL** | **21,622** | **18,793** | **8,183** | **80,688** | **60,188** | **11,653** | **54,830** | **51,539** | **29,589** |

Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia, UCAP, and Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

**Table 3. Export Destination of Activated Carbon from India and Indonesia, January-May 2024**

| India | | | Indonesia | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Country of Destination** | **Volume (MT)** | **Value (US$ 000)** | **Country of Destination** | **Volume (MT)** | **Value (US$ 000)** |
| 1. U S A | 21,450 | 11,371 | 1. JAPAN | 2,149 | 1,675 |
| 2. SRI LANKA DSR | 11,130 | 6,713 | 2. CHINA | 1,530 | 2,106 |
| 3. BELGIUM | 7,620 | 4,353 | 3. TAIWAN | 878 | 1,565 |
| 4. TURKEY | 3,430 | 3,127 | 4. GERMANY | 698 | 1,217 |
| 5. GERMANY | 5,030 | 3,099 | 5. AUSTRALIA | 551 | 1,166 |
| 6. ITALY | 3,980 | 2,768 | 6. UNITED STATES | 487 | 867 |
| 7. RUSSIA | 4,500 | 2,452 | 7. NETHERLANDS | 286 | 470 |
| 8. JAPAN | 4,030 | 2,339 | 8. MALAYSIA | 141 | 241 |
| 9. GHANA | 3,430 | 1,892 | 9. KOREA, REPUBLIC OF | 66 | 65 |
| 10. U ARAB EMTS | 2,730 | 1,884 | 10. TURKEY | 44 | 81 |
| 11. OTHERS | 52,830 | 33,684 | 11. OTHERS | 133 | 212 |
| **Total** | **120,160** | **73,683** | **Total** | **6,964** | **9,664** |

Source: BPS-Statistics Indonesia and Department of Commerce, India

**Table 4. US Imports of Coconut Shell Charcoal based Activated Carbon, 2022-2024**

| Month | 2022 | | 2023 | | 2024 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Volume (MT)** | **Value US$'000** | **Volume (MT)** | **Value US$'000** | **Volume (MT)** | **Value US$'000** |
| January | 4,826 | 12,103 | 5,734 | 11,665 | 4,358 | 7,063 |
| February | 4,309 | 9,423 | 3,258 | 7,079 | 4,154 | 7,792 |
| March | 5,614 | 13,517 | 4,518 | 9,630 | 4,345 | 8,646 |
| April | 5,724 | 12,751 | 4,002 | 8,200 | 5,270 | 9,693 |
| May | 6,770 | 15,955 | 4,181 | 8,772 | 5,118 | 9,866 |
| June | 6,668 | 16,387 | 4,723 | 9,238 | 4,532 | 8,998 |
| July | 5,885 | 13,886 | 5,070 | 8,724 | | |
| August | 7,079 | 15,388 | 4,965 | 8,294 | | |
| September | 7,695 | 17,139 | 4,098 | 7,178 | | |
| October | 7,169 | 16,412 | 5,958 | 11,041 | | |
| November | 5,896 | 13,533 | 4,162 | 7,438 | | |
| December | 5,122 | 12,393 | 3,628 | 6,135 | | |
| **Total** | **72,757** | **168,887** | **54,297** | **103,392** | **27,777** | **52,058** |

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

# ICC PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

**Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy for a Resilient and Sustainable Coconut Agroindustry - Proceedings of the 50th COCOTECH Conference & Exhibition, 2022**

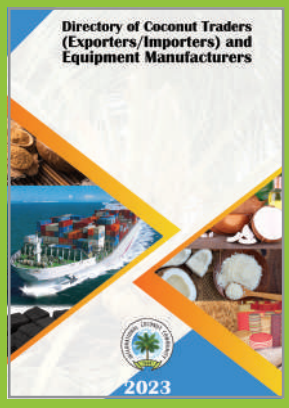
*Price: US$50*


**COCOINFO International Vol 30 No. 2, 2023 – A semi-annual, scientific and semi-technical based in order to disseminate useful information of the coconut sector, around the globe.**

*Annual subscription price:*
*US$35 (ICC Member Countries)*
*US$40 (Non-Member Countries)*

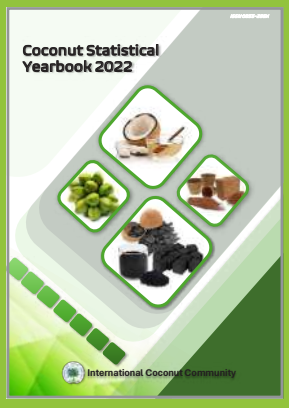

**Directory of Coconut Traders & Equipment Manufacturers**

*Price: US$50*




**Coconut Statistical Yearbook 2022**

*Price:*
*US$50 (ICC Member Countries)*
*US$60 (Non-Member Countries)*




**CORD Vol. 39, 2023 – An annual international journal on Coconut Research & Development**

*Price:*
*US$40 (ICC Member Countries)*
*US$50 (Non-Member Countries)*


**Cocommunity – Monthly newsletter of the International Coconut Community**

*Annual subscription price:*
*US$50 (ICC Member Countries)*
*US$60 (Non-Member Countries)*


** All prices are excluded from shipping charges*

**Order via website www.coconutcommunity.org or write e-mail to icc@coconutcommunity.org**
**Payment can be made by PayPal & wired bank transfer**

GOMA®

## FULLY AUTOMATED SCADA
based rigorous

# CLEAN IN PLACE (C.I.P) SYSTEMS



**Head Office:**
**GOMA GROUP OF COMPANIES**
Wagle Industrial Estate,Thane, Maharashtra 400604
CONTACT: +91 9322654236/ 5/ 2
E: export.pte@goma.co.in | W: www.goma.co.in


**GLOBAL PRESENCE**
Nepal | Sri lanka | Bhutan | Bangladesh | Vietnam | Iran
Indonesia | Malaysia | Malaysia | Egypt | Saudi | UAE | Kenya
Tanzania | Tanzania | Ethopia | Nigeria | Australia | Oman

# DESICCATED COCONUT PROCESSING MACHINERY

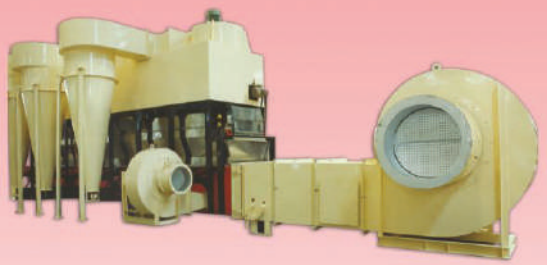
"Over 100 machines in operation worldwide"

## BAND DRYER (APRON/CONTINUOS TRAY DRYER)

for Desiccated Coconut Granules, Chips & Toasted D/C
Output Capacity : 1000 to 2500 Kgs/hr.
Two Stage and Three Stage Dryers.
Apron width : 2640mm and 3250mm

## COMBINATION DRYER

for Desiccated Coconut Granules, Chips,
Toasted D/C & Parings.
Output Capacity : 300 to 1000 Kgs/hr.



## VIBRATORY FLUID BED DRYER

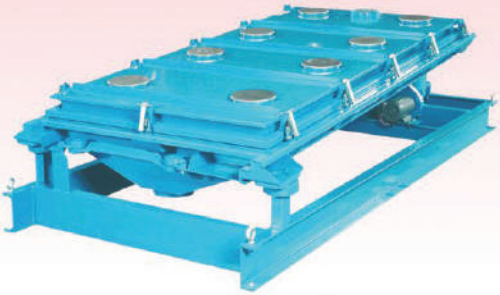
for Desiccated Coconut Granules & Parings.
Output Capacity : 300 to 1000 Kgs/hr.

## GRINDER

Output Capacity:
1000Kgs/hr.

## BLANCHER

Output Capacity :
1000 to 4000 Kgs/hr.



## NOVATEX SCREENER/GRADER

Output Capacity :
1000 to 1500 Kgs/hr.

**DESHELLING MAHINE**
Output Capacity :
250 to 300 nuts/hr.

**DEHUSKING MACHINE**
Output Capacity :
1200 nuts/hr.

**OIL EXPELLER**

**RADIATOR**
Extruded Fins or
Plate Fins Type

**STAINLESS STEEL PERFORATED APRON TRAYS**
Width: 2640mm & 3250mm

**STAINLESS STEEL CHAIN**


GEM

## GEMTECH PROJECTS LLP.

10/C, Middleton Row, 3rd Floor, Kolkata - 700 071, India
Tel: +91-33-2217 7328 (4 Lines) | Mobile: +91 9831173874, +91 9831131196 | Fax:+91-33-2217 7333
E-mail: info@coconutprojects.com | sg@gemforgings.com | www.coconutprojects.com

**INTERNATIONAL COCONUT COMMUNITY**
**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.

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 one 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, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Kiribati, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Phillipines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu, and Vietnam.

The subscription rates for the *Cocommunity* excluding of postage are: US$50.00 per year for ICC member countries, US$60.00 for non-ICC member countries.

*For subscription, please write to:*

**INTERNATIONAL COCONUT COMMUNITY**
8th Floor, Bappebti Building, Jl. Kramat Raya 172
Central Jakarta10430, Indonesia
or P.O. Box 1343, Jakarta 10013, Indonesia
Phone : (62-21) 3100556-57
Fax : (62-21) 3101007
E-mail : icc@coconutcommunity.org

www.coconutcommunity.org