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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS

"The Diverse Products of Cocos nucifera are Admired for Usefulness in Homes and Industries"



It is the usefulness of the *Cocos nucifera* that is an advantage for the industry amongst its sister tree crops known even in modern day agriculture sector. To get to the nut itself one has to remove the husk from the coconut revealing the shell that protects and contains the kernel and water. Significant quantities and volumes of coconut husk, shell and water would not reach a market for cash income to be generated for farmers as a result of the traditional copra making process that seeks out to harvest only the kernel for raw material using the shell mostly to burn for heating source to dry the kernel to produce what is referred to as copra. Copra can then be exported in bulk shipment or in many countries crushed and sold as crude coconut oil with world market prices at over US\$600 per MT and US\$1,000 per MT respectively.

During APCC 2015 visit in India of the coconut sector in southern provinces of Tamil Nadu and Kerala there was clear demonstration of whole nut processing in most areas with end products of very good quality. This was also evident at the Kerala Coir Trade Fair and Exhibits held at the time of the visit with many international traders visiting and negotiating purchases of the many categories of coir products.

China is the leading importer of nearly 50% of total global production of coir products with total world market value of US\$750 million. India obviously leads the exporting countries with Sri Lanka and Indonesia, these three make up nearly 80% of exports. India's monthly export volume of coir and coir product is over 260,000 MT valued at over US\$100 million. The good news is that demand for coir continues to grow. The challenge is in maintaining prices at levels that are attractive to sustain sales volumes as indicated by declines in second half of 2015 in Sri Lanka and in Indonesia for raw fibre.

Technology advancements in husk processing look at developing machinery for higher productivity and cost-effectiveness. Simple farm-based machines such as the de-husking and the decorticating machines are not only an improvement but appear to be at affordable prices. The coir industry continues to grow and with good quality products coming on to the market it should develop a positive outlook for the years ahead.

Revitalisation of the coconut sector globally would be an appropriate development agenda for the governments of coconut growing countries whose rural population are largely dependent on farm income. In the last few months, encouraging news was received of efforts in most Asian countries to source the best planting material available and the potential for specific end products to be determined by what material is planted.

If, over 100% increase each month is recorded by countries such as Sri Lanka and India in the production of virgin coconut oil is an indication, then similar or increasing trend of production is about to be experienced in short to medium term period ahead of us in other countries. The planting of new coconut trees has to be high amongst the national development priorities of coconut growing nations in Asia and Pacific regions to be able to keep up with the increasing demand for coconuts as raw material.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "URON N. SALUM".

URON N. SALUM
Executive Director, APCC

PREVAILING MARKET PRICES OF SELECTED COCONUT PRODUCTS AND OILS

Price of CNO increased in Philippines, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. The price of DC increased in Philippines and Indonesia, but decreased in Sri Lanka.

COPRA: The price of copra in Indonesia was US\$632 in October, which was higher than last month's price of US\$610. When compared to last year's data for the same month the price was US\$41 lower.

In the domestic market of the Philippines (Manila), the price increased by US\$ 24/MT compared to the price in September 2015, and about US\$ 62/MT lower compared to the price of US\$711/MT in October 2014.

COCONUT OIL: The average price of coconut oil in Europe (C.I.F. Rotterdam) for the month of October 2015 increased by US\$112 to US\$1,096/MT from US\$984/MT in September 2015. This price was lower by 2.1% when compared to the price of October 2014 accounted for US\$1,120/MT.

The average local price of coconut oil in the Philippines in October 2015 was US\$1,044/MT. This was US\$92 higher than the price in September 2015, and it was US\$40 lower if compared to the last year price for the same month which was US\$1,084/MT.

The average domestic price of coconut oil in Indonesia in October 2015 increased by US\$56 compared to the previous month from US\$1,014/MT to US\$1,070/MT. October 2015 price was 3.3% lower than the price of the same month of 2014 which was US\$1,106/MT.

COPRA MEAL: The average domestic price of the commodity in the Philippines at selling points was quoted at US\$203/MT. The price was US\$3 lower than price of the previous

month, and was US\$25/MT lower than the last year price for the same month.

The average domestic price of copra meal in Sri Lanka decreased by US\$22 compared to the last month price of US\$271/MT, and was lower than last year price of US\$261/MT for the same month.

DESICCATED COCONUT: The average price of desiccated coconut (DC) FOB USA in October 2015 was US\$1,968/MT. This price was US\$11 higher than the previous month's price and US\$657 lower than the price of the same month last year. In Sri Lanka, the domestic price of desiccated coconut in October 2015 was US\$1,745/MT or US\$14 lower than the price in September 2015. Meanwhile, the price of DC in the domestic market in the Philippines was US\$1,681/MT, which was US\$12 lower than the previous month's price at US\$1,669 and US\$944 lower than the price in the same month last year. Indonesian price in October 2015 was US\$1,839/MT, increased by US\$186 from last month's, but decreased by US\$500 from last year's price.

COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL: In Sri Lanka, the average price of the commodity in October 2015 was US\$304/MT. The price was lower than the previous month's price. The average price of charcoal in Indonesia for October 2015 was US\$371/MT, which was US\$16 lower than last year's price for the same month.

COIR FIBRE: Coir fiber traded in the domestic market in Sri Lanka was priced at US\$142/MT for mix fiber and US\$488 - 708 for bristle. The Indonesian price for mixed raw fiber was US\$310/MT in October 2015 which was higher than last month's price.

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

Products/Country	2015 Oct.	2015 Sep.	2014 Oct.	2015 (Annual Ave.)
Fresh Coconut				
Philippines (Domestic Husked)	156	147	204	188
Copra				
Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Europe)	712	685	769	731
Philippines (Domestic, Manila)	649	625	711	700
Indonesia (Domestic, Java)	632	610	673	680
India (Domestic, Kerala)	1,004	1,017	1,128	1,130
Coconut Oil				
Philippines (CIF Rott.)	1,096	984	1,120	1,085
Philippines (Domestic)	1,044	952	1,084	1,037
Indonesia (Domestic)	1,070	1,014	1,106	1,068
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,768	1,748	1,900	1,989
Desiccated Coconut				
Philippines FOB (US), Sellers	1,968	1,957	2,625	2,373
Philippines (Domestic)	1,681	1,669	2,625	2,173
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,745	1,759	2,248	2,224
Indonesia (Domestic)	1,839	1,653	2,339	2,127
Copra Meal Exp. Pel.				
Philippines (Domestic)	203	206	228	232
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	249	271	261	316
Indonesia (Domestic)	237	240	257	263
Coconut Shell Charcoal				
Philippines (Domestic), Visayas, Buyer	353	346	341	360
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	304	310	413	347
Indonesia (Domestic), Manado, Buyer	371	300	387	366
Coir Fibre				
Sri Lanka (Mattress/Short fibre)	142	138	214	173
Sri Lanka (Bristle 1 tie)	488	465	539	519
Sri Lanka (Bristle 2 tie)	708	776	638	712
Indonesia (Mixed Raw fibre)	310	283	398	337
Other Oils				
Palm Kernel Oil Malaysia/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	878	763	943	933
Palm Oil, Malaysia/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	575	506	719	631
Soybean Oil, (Europe FOB Ex Mill)	733	716	657	722

Rate of Exchange: October 30, 2015:

1US\$=P46.88 or Indo.=Rp13,596 or India=Rs65.28 or SL=Rs140.72
Euro=US\$1.10 n.q.: no quotes

MARKET ANALYSIS OF COIR

Coir industry has showed a significant growth in the last fifteen years after decreasing in 80s to 90s when the western market shifted to synthetic foam and fiber. Such promising trend was initiated by the unprecedented growth of demand in China in 2001 whose current share is more than 50% of the world import. Currently global trade of coir fiber and its value added products such as yarn, matting, rugs and carpet as well as geo textile is estimated worth US\$ 750 million. Approximately 79% of its total export are sent from India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia as the main producers, and the rest are shared by Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia. The strength of India in its domestic demand was well combined with the growth of its export which was only 1% of the world export in 1996, and increased to 11% in 2002 and then doubled to 25% in 2013. While Sri Lanka's export is dominated by semi-finished products such as mattress, bristle and twisted fiber, India emphasize more on value added products.

Exports of coir products from India continue to grow as the global market for coir and coir products is improving. The latest data from Coir Board of India show that in the period of April until August 2015, a total quantity of 269,273 MT of coir and coir products were exported from India globally. The export valued at Rs. 67,959.84 lakhs or equal to US\$ 103.73 million. Such export revenue increased by 1.9% from the previous year at US\$ 101.76 million. The revenue might still be improving due to a growing demand from importing countries, such as China and USA for coir and coir products from India.

India exports 14 coir product categories to the world market. These include semi finished products such as coir yarns, loom mats and mattings, and rubberized coir to finished products like geo-textiles, coir rugs and carpets. In the period of April until August 2015, exports of coir products from India were dominated by coir pith and coir fiber. The two coir products constituted for 86% of the total exports of coir products. Since the two coir products were very dominant, total export of coir products from India still went up though other coir products declined. There were only 4 coir products out of 14 products which increased including coir pith, and others decreased. Coir pith recorded the highest export growth accounting for 18% in volume and 30% in value. USA, Netherland, South Korea, Spain, and China were still the main destination of coir products from India with the shares of 18.67%, 16.85%, 16.09%, 8.88%, and 8.76% respectively.

Meanwhile, Japan is a major importer of Sri Lanka's coir products. Japan's import of coir products was dominated by coco pith which was mostly used as agriculture planting media, fertilizer, animal feed and sometimes bedding for the animal pens. In the period of January- July 2015 Japan imported 33,179 tons or 29.85% of the Sri Lanka's total export of coco pith at 111,153 tons. Coco pith was the largest value of Sri Lanka coir products which accounted for 41.03% of the total export. Other major markets of Sri Lanka coco pith included South Korea, USA, China, Mexico, UK, Iran, Spain, Turkey, Canada, Italy, and Morocco. They imported coco pith ranging from 12,307 tons to 2,166 tons during the period. The combined import volume of

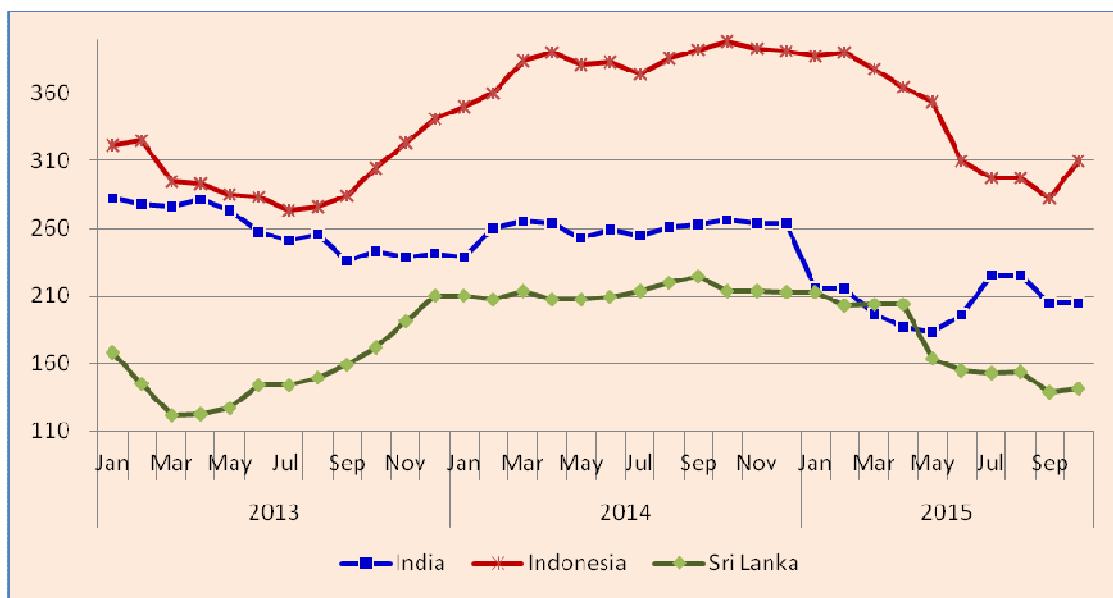
coco pith from those countries was 59,706 tons or 53.7% of Sri Lanka's total export of coco pith. Compared to the previous year, export volume of coco pith demonstrated a positive growth of 10%. Furthermore, in the same period, coir mats and rugs were among Sri Lanka coir products that showed a remarkable increase in volume. Coir mats and rugs were recorded to have the highest export increase in volume which increased by 28% compared to the same period of the previous year.

Unlike India and Sri Lanka, exports of coir products from Indonesia were dominated by an unfinished coir product, coir fiber. Export of coir fiber from Indonesia in the period of January-August 2015 was 23,092 MT, valued US\$ 7.9 million. China was the major importing country for coir fiber from Indonesia. China absorbed 22,391 MT or 97% of Indonesia's export of coir fiber. The export of coir fiber constituted 99% of total export of coir products from Indonesia in the observed period. The total export of coir products from Indonesia was 23,335 MT, valued US\$ 8.4 million. The total export volume rose by

13.13% compared to the volume of previous year for the same period.

After a stable market in 2014, price of coir fiber as base material for various coir products showed a decreasing trend in the first half of 2015. The decline was observed in main producing countries such as India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. In India, the price started to decline in January 2015. The price was cut by US\$ 49/MT from US\$ 264/MT in December 2014 to US\$ 215/MT. The price continued to decrease and reached the lowest level of US\$ 183 in May 2015. The price of mixed raw fiber in Indonesia started to decline in March 2015 and reached its lowest level in September 2015 at US\$ 282/MT. Likewise, the average price of raw fiber from Sri Lanka in 2015 showed a decreasing trend and even it started earlier than the previous two countries. The price of raw fiber from Sri Lanka started to decline in October 2014 and continued to shrink to the lowest level in September 2015 at US\$ 138/MT. The declining trend of coir fiber was mainly following the downtrend of global commodities prices due to a weak growth of global economy.

**Figure 1. Average Monthly Price of Coir Fiber
January 2013 – October 2015 (US\$/MT)**



COMMUNITY NEWS

SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION – THE PHILIPPINES / REP. OF FIJI:

The two countries signed a memorandum of understanding to cooperate in the development of Fiji's coconut industry. Under the agreement, stakeholders in Fiji will receive assistance from specialized partner agencies in the Philippines in the fields of high-quality planting material, inter-cropping practices, and export-oriented coconut product processing. (www.fao.org/economic/est/en)

COCONUT BOARD URGES FPOS TO FOCUS ON VALUE ADDITION

Given the price fall in copra and coconut oil, the Coconut Development Board has asked Farmer Producer Organisations (FPO) to focus more on value-addition to ensure a steady income.

FPO's can explore the possibility of extracting coconut milk and add value to it considering its demand in urban and rural markets, a senior official in the Board said citing the launch of Flavoured Coconut Milk. He pointed out that the US company 'So Delicious Dairy Free' produces 65 different products from coconut milk.

Initial experiments showed that extraction of 800 ml of milk is possible from an average nut and the processing does not require any high level technical procedure or training. By way of this value addition, he said that a farmer can ensure an income of Rs30-40 per nut rather than selling it at throw away price.

The processing technology neither involves any huge investment and FPO's can avail the know-how from CDB Institute of Technology at Vazhakkulam. Meanwhile, the coconut oil market both in Kerala and Tamil Nadu is in a steady line with slight fluctuation in prices quoting at Rs10,900 (Rs11,200) and Rs10,300 (Rs10,150) respectively. Copra

prices are also ruling at Rs7,350 (Rs7,550) and Rs7,300, in the same.

Thalath Mahmood, the new President of Cochin Oil Merchants Association, said that the market is expected to revive ahead of festival demand.

(<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com>)

INDIAN COCO BOARD LAUNCHES FLAVORED COCONUT MILK

The Coconut Development Board (CDB) in India has launched flavored vegan coconut milk in pista (Pistachio), rose and chocolate flavors. The launch of coffee and almond (badam) flavored coconut milk follow in the next phase. The flavored coconut milk, developed by CDB Institute of Technology in Kochi, will be made available in attractive glass bottles, Tetra packs, and pet bottles.

Coconut milk is a healthy, vegan and environment-friendly alternative to dairy milk, which has several nutritional advantages and serves as a superior source of several essential nutrients. Coconut milk serves as a much richer source of niacin, also called vitamin B-3 compared to regular milk. Niacin, along with other B-complex vitamins, helps metabolize nutrients in food so that it can be used for energy. It is also a rich source of iron and copper and is lower in sugar than dairy milk, which is beneficial to limit carbohydrates in diet. The flavored coconut milk has stabilized fat content of 3-5 percent and is rich in proteins. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

COCONUT TREE CLIMBING A REWARDING PROFESSION ALSO FOR WOMEN

A report from India's Kerala state says the Kudumbasree Kozhikode District Mission is planning to set up a district level unit of women coconut tree climbers soon. The plan to form the unit came after the district level anniversary celebrations of the mission held recently in Kozhikode where 15 women from the district took part in a coconut tree climbing competition. The unit will be formed by including all of them.

Priya Biju from Kattippara, who bagged the first place in the district-level competition and third place at the State level said coconut tree climbing was a "highly rewarding profession" even for women. She climbs around 40 coconut trees per day which ends by mid afternoon, allowing her time still to attend to family while at the same time making a living. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

NEERA OFFERS WINDFALL FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

Kerala is proving to be the magnet for migrant labour in an emerging sector.

Workers from other States are slowly and steadily establishing their dominance in the Neera production sector in Kerala, even as the Coconut Development Board (CDB) is finding it difficult to find takers from the local population for an immediate requirement of over 2,00,000 Neera technicians.

In the absence of trained tapping workers, entrepreneurs who had turned to Neera production are finding it difficult to meet the growing demand from the market, a report by the board says.

Highlighting the potential of the Neera sector, a CDB pressnote cites the example of Anarol Abdul Razak from Assam, a technician employed at a Neera production company operating from Kaipuzha in Kollam who earns a monthly income of Rs.44,000. The company employs as many as 30 other workers from Assam, Chhattisgarh, and Tamil Nadu.

The pressnote says an eight-week training course for Neera technicians conducted by the CDB offers placement.

A batch of 25 workers from Chattisgarh have completed training and are currently employed as Neera technicians at Perambra. Another batch of 28 workers from Nepal is undergoing training in Kozhikode.

CDB says coconut producers' societies are reporting increased earnings through the export of Neera and value-added products to Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia. The paucity of labour, however, is a

stumbling block to their efforts to tap the market.

The report says the demand for Neera technicians in Kerala is expected to go up to 10 lakh if 10 per cent of the coconut palms in the States are tapped.

With the average monthly income of a technician pegged at Rs.20,000, it offers a part-time employment potential for students.

The CDB is also exploring means to attract women to the Neera sector as tapping workers. (<http://www.thehindu.com>)

Rs 50 Lakh Granted for Neera Unit

The State Government has released 5 million rupees to the Kaipuzha Coconut Producer Company in Kollam for establishing Neera Processing Unit. The demand draft was handed over to Kaipuzha Coconut Producer Company Chairman Shajahan Kanjiravilayil by Coconut Development Board (CDB) Chairman T K Jose.

The aid was provided through the CDB, a scheme announced by the government for providing financial assistance to coconut producer companies that venture into Neera production.

The other coconut producer companies identified for financial aid are the Karappuram Coconut Producer Company, Alappuzha; Kuttiyadi Coconut Producer Company, Kozhikode; Thirukochi Coconut Producer Company, Ernakulam; Vadakara Coconut Producer Company, Kozhikode; Perambra Coconut Producer Company, Kozhikode and Kadathanad Coconut Producer Company, Kozhikode. (<http://www.newindianexpress.com>)

SRI LANKA – IMPORT POLICY:

To provide relief to the domestic coconut industry, the government increased the special commodity levy applicable to edible oil imports by LKR 20/kg (USD 0.14). Effective 25 September, the new levy on crude edible oils amounts to LKR 110/kg (USD 0.78) and that on refined oils to LKR 130/kg (USD 0.93). (www.fao.org/economic/est/en)

COCONUT FARMERS FORM COOP TO BUILD COCO PROCESSING PLANT IN BATANGAS

A group of coconut farmers in San Juan, Batangas has formed a cooperative to build a P91-million coconut processing plant under a public-private partnership model intended to turn out products for exports, increase their incomes, and replant seedlings to replace old coconut trees. Proponents hope to enlist 3,500 farmers as coop members but so far about 300 have signed up. The project is supported by the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) which has committed to donate a P30-million processing plant, according to Cristanto Gualberto II, General Manager of the San Juan Coconut Producers & Processing Cooperative (SJCPPC).

A memorandum of agreement was signed between PCA and cooperative officials last August 27, 2015 during the Coconut Week Celebration. The total project's capital cost requirements are to be raised from equity of coconut farmers/coop members (P23.15 million or 25.5 percent); PCA grant for processing plant (P30 million or 30 percent); and loans and investments (P37.67 million or 41 percent).

Gualberto said the proposed processing facility is designed to process 20,000 nuts at two shifts a day, a volume that is less than 11.5 percent of the total coconut production of the town. It will have a daily output of 1,430 liters of virgin coconut oil (VCO) which will be exported to a committed buyer in Japan. This partner Japanese company reportedly has a standing offer to buy the plant's 20 metric ton VCO output per month. At the same time, the plant will have processing by-products such as coco water, coconut shell, paring cake, paring oil, coco flour, and coconut charcoal which have ready markets. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

COCONUT SHELL PROCESSING PLANT OPENS IN MINDANAO

Jacobi Carbons Philippines, Inc., a unit of Sweden's Jacobi Carbons AB, has opened its biggest processing plant at the Phividec Industrial Estate with an annual target

capacity of 20,000 metric tons of granulated charcoal for export. The facility includes a charcoal granulation plant and multiple activation kilns with grinding and pulverizing capacity, specializing in impregnation and water/acid washing.

Jacobi Carbons AB Chief Executive Officer Anders Skeini said the coconut shell processing plant, the company's first in the Philippines, will help strengthen the company's international sales and delivery performance. "This facility, with its size and sophistication, represents the state of the art in carbon activation technology, and will give us greater flexibility to assure a consistent supply of high quality activated carbons for our customers," said Mr. Skeini in an interview at the sidelines of the inauguration of the plant.

Jacobi Carbons, a coconut shell activated carbon manufacturer and distributor, was established in 1916 and was fully acquired in 2014 by Japan's Osaka Gas Chemicals Co., Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Osaka Gas Co., Ltd. It maintains other plants in Sri Lanka, India, China and Vietnam. Jacobi produces a full range of activated carbon products that are used in various purification processes, including drinking and processed water filtration, food products, air and gas, and recovery of precious metals. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

FRANKLIN BAKER EXPANDS COCO MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN DAVAO

Franklin Baker Co. of the Philippines (FBCOP), the country's pioneer in desiccated coconut production, is investing in the development of an integrated coconut processing plant in the former CJ-Toyota production facility in Darong, Davao del Sur. The plant will provide the biggest production capacity increase across its existing product range, including desiccated coconut, virgin coconut oil, and coconut water. In addition, the new facility is designed to expand FBCOP's product range to include new product formats such as retail packs, coconut flour, coconut milk and cream.

The company plans to commission its new manufacturing facility at the end of this year, with coconut milk and coconut water lines becoming operational in the early part of 2016, according to Cesar Galvez, FBCOP Vice President for Operations. Galvez said that FBCOP has spent considerable time and resources in the planning, design, and construction management of the new facility including optimized process flows, the identification of state of the art equipment, skills training, systems set-up and detailed market research to ensure that the right product configuration is matched to market demands. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

UCPB-CIIF FINANCE'S LOANS TO COCO FARMERS REACH P276 MILLION

UCPB-CIIF Finance and Development Corp. released P53.8 million in new loans to coconut farmers in September, bringing its nine-month total to P276.55 million. The loans financed alternative livelihood activities of coconut farmers such as cash crop cultivation, livestock raising, agricultural commodities trading and village-based processing of coconut by-products to enable them to augment their income and build their self-reliant capabilities.

"Given our high collection rate of 97 percent, we believe the coconut farmers are generating sufficient additional income from the livelihood projects we are financing not only to repay their loans but also to save and to improve their quality of life," UCPB-CIIF Finance President Edgardo Amistad said. UCPB-CIIF Finance is the social enterprise development arm of the United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) Group and the Coconut Industry Investment Fund (CIIF) companies. It engages in development lending.

The UCPB Group and the CIIF companies organized UCPBCIIF Finance in November 1994 to create an effective channel for delivering credit to coconut farmers, who have difficulty tapping formal sources of financing owing to their small size and the relatively higher risks of their micro-

enterprises. Since it started its development lending operation 21 years ago, UCPB-CIIF Finance has infused P7.4 billion in loans into the rural economy, benefitting 390,223 coconut farmer households in 63 coconut-growing provinces of the country. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

ROXAS GROUP JV WITH SIGMA XYNERGIES TO ESTABLISH COCONUT PROCESSING

Listed Roxas and Co. Inc. has formed a joint venture with Sigma Xynergies Inc. for the establishment of a coconut processing facility in South Cotabato, estimated to cost around P881 million. The joint venture firm, Roxas Sigma Agriventures, will operate the plant in Tuguegarao, South Cotabato within the Soccoksargen, an area rich with coconut plantations of good quality. The plant is targeted to be operational by the fourth quarter of 2016. "Once operational, the facility will be able to process at least 200 metric tons per day of coconuts to produce coconut water concentrate, coconut milk, coconut cream, and virgin coconut oil (VCO), mostly for export," said RCI Chairman Pedro E. Roxas. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

COCONUT PRODUCT EXPORTS UP 6.5% AT RS. 600 CRORE

Coconut products exports has registered a 6.5 per cent increase in the first five months of the current fiscal, touching Rs. 6000 million.

Shipments to US rise

Significant increase was recorded in exports of virgin coconut oil, activated carbon, dry carbon and coconut oil during the period between April and August.

The United States emerged as the major importer of Indian activated carbon importing 27,125 tonnes followed by the UK.

The dry coconut exports was 7,700 tonnes and of this Pakistan imported 7,289 tonnes, a release issued by the Coconut Development Board said.

The export of virgin coconut oil stood at 431 tonnes against 90 tonnes during the corresponding period last year.

Of this, the US alone imported 288 tonnes.

Desiccated coconut exports during the period were 1,053 tonnes with Iran emerging as the major importer.

Coconut oil

On coconut oil exports, the figure was 2,998 tonnes with the UAE importing 734 tonnes followed by Myanmar, the US, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Singapore. Export of husked coconut was 13,402 tonnes with a major portion moving to the UAE.

Imports

During the first five months, the country also imported Rs. 1430 million worth coconut products and the major items included copra expeller cake, coconut fatty acid, coconut shell charcoal, etc. (<http://www.ramexpo.in>)

COCONUT WATER CONSUMPTION ROSE 60% IN TEN YEARS

According to Canadean, global coconut water consumption has risen by 60% over the last ten years, driven mostly by Asia and Latin America. Coconut water has only recently taken off in North America and Western Europe – in the USA volumes have leapt from less than half a million litres to nearly 200 million litres in 2014. This is where most of the branded volumes of this potassium rich drink end up. Most of the coconuts are sourced from Brazil or Thailand, countries who have consumed the drink for many years. Much of the volume sold in countries such as India is unpackaged, or straight from the coconut, sold by street vendors.

Coconut water is heralded as being low in fat, calories and sodium and therefore good for rehydration after moderate exercise. It also has more potassium than a banana which is good for curing a hangover.

PepsiCo and Coca-Cola investing in the coconut water trend

Canadean's latest data reveals that in 2014 a total of 587 million litres of coconut

water were sold worldwide with consumption expected to rise by a further 15% in 2015. PepsiCo and Coca-Cola have both invested in this movement with their brands O.N.E and Kero Coco and Zico respectively. Emma Wright, Canadean Analyst, said, "The trend is only set to continue as more and more of the world is turning towards healthy low calorie soft drinks alternatives."

Many new companies have joined the market, with existing older companies entering new markets or creating new pack sizes. Not one to be left behind Innocent, owned by Coca-Cola, known for its juices and smoothies and for promoting a healthy lifestyle, has this year launched its own brand of coconut water in order to diversify its product range and offer something new to consumers. Ferolito, Vultaggio & Sons one of the leading companies in iced/rtd tea drinks has also released its own brand CocoZona. (<http://www.newfoodmagazine.com>)

BUILDING THE VITA COCO WATER BRAND

Coconut water is still an unknown for a lot of consumers, so tasting and samplings are vital to educate consumers, said Giles Brook, European CEO, Vita Coco. The brand started in New York City and now reaches 24 countries across the world, as well as being the top selling coconut water in the US. It is considered a pioneer of the coconut water category and that has meant educating consumers, said Brook.

"We built the brand the hard way, bottom up," he said. "In the first two, three years we were going to 30- 40 consumer shows. Because we realise you can't just slap a product on a billboard and expect people to understand it. We went to lots of shows, festivals, stuff like that, we wanted to talk to consumers about what is coconut water, what are the benefits, and there was a huge amount of sampling as well." The brand has drawn on an emotional connection with consumers. But one of the biggest challenges for coconut water is persisting in talking to consumers who may not even like the

beverage to start with. On the first test, people are not always convinced by the taste. The conversion comes on subsequent tastings.

Brook says it is important to respond to negative consumers, and send out alternative products to try. Vita Coco has coconut water with pineapple, offering a different flavour for those who don't like the taste of coconut water but want the benefits. "When somebody has a bad experience, we make sure go back and do absolutely everything we can to change that perception," said Brook. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

KERALA CHUTNEY POWDER'S DEMAND RISING ABROAD

The export of Kerala's traditional coconut chutney powder is on the rise. For the last fiscal, it has touched \$85,949 value or about Rs.56 lakh, the Coconut Development Board (CDB) says.

The figures for coconut chutney exports have been constantly rising over the past few fiscals, a report prepared by the CDB shows.

From an export worth Rs.41.57 lakh in 2012-13, the chutney is expected to fetch Rs.67 lakh by the end of this calendar year, a quarter before the fiscal ends.

The CDB report, prepared by Deepthi Vijayan, shows the United Arab Emirates leads in Kerala coconut chutney's imports at a total of \$33,923, followed by the US at \$17,501. The bulk of the export was to the Middle East countries, where a lot of Kerala-origin people live.

The coconut chutney powder is a combination of roasted, grated coconut, roasted dals and spices and can be prepared from coconut milk residue, desiccated coconut or dry coconut.

It is rich in protein and fibre and usually served with rice or idli or dosa.

"This product has high potential in terms of innovation, traditionalism and value addition with medium investments. The exporters can make use of it," Vijayan said. (<http://www.siasat.com>)

COCONUT BOARD FORESEES RISE IN PRICE NEXT MONTH

The Coconut Development Board (CDB) predicts that the decrease in price of coconut oil and copra observed in recent days is expected to get reversed from the beginning of November, mainly due to a decline in production of coconut in major southern States because of poor monsoon this year.

At the same time, demand for coconut oil from north Indian markets is increasing because of the festive season, says the CDB in a statement on Friday.

"In Kerala, a spurt in demand for coconut is expected with the Sabarimala pilgrimage season starting by mid-November."

The statement said that export of coconut value-added products recorded an increase of 5 per cent in the first half of this fiscal compared to the corresponding period last year, which shows that more coconut is diverted for the manufacture of value-added products.

At the same time, the import duty on crude edible oils was hiked from 7.5 per cent to 12.5 per cent and that of refined edible oils from 15 per cent to 20 per cent from September. That will bring down edible oil imports, which will lead to a rise in demand of domestically produced edible oils such as coconut oil, which in turn will push up the prices of the latter oils, the statement said.

Also, arrival of coconut, copra and coconut oil are expected to be low from Kerala and Tamil Nadu, because of the start of northeast monsoon in full swing from next week.

The CDB calls upon farmers to engage in primary processing of the produce. Coconut producer companies should concentrate on manufacture of good quality, non-adulterated branded coconut and virgin coconut oil. Further, there is great potential for coconut milk, which ensures three to four times income from coconut.

The statement says it is high time that the farmers focussed attention on value-

addition to tap the new opportunities emerging and earn better price for the produce. (<http://www.thehindu.com>)

COCONUT WATER WILL KEEP GROWING

Leading market research and analysis provider to the beverage industry, Canadean, said that last year 587 million litres of coconut water were sold globally. It predicted that consumption was to rise by a further 15% in 2015. Global consumption has risen by 60% in the last 10 years mainly to Latin America and Asia. Growth in the US has only occurred relatively recently with volumes jumping from less than a half a million litres to almost 200 million litres in 2014. Coconut water's health positioning will continue to boost the category, as more and more people seek healthier versions of soft drinks, said Emma Wright, analyst, Canadean.

PepsiCo and Coca-Cola are both present in the coconut water scene, with the brands O.N.E. (PepsiCo) and Kero Coco (PepsiCo) and Zico (Coca-Cola). Wright says existing beverage companies are eyeing up expansions into coconut water. In April, juice and smoothie company Innocent (owned by Coca-Cola) entered the category with its own brand of coconut water. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

PRODUCTION GLITCHES DAMPEN THE PROSPECTS OF NEERA

It has been over one year since the State Government launched the commercial sale of Neera, the unfermented coconut inflorescence sap.

However, the non-alcoholic drink is yet to 'tap' its full potential in the Gods Own Country, due to low production and shortage of tappers. According to officials of the Coconut Development Board (CDB), of the 1700-odd youths who were imparted training on Neera tapping last year, 1,201 have taken up other jobs. Currently, the CDB is increasingly relying on migrant labourers and women for Neera production. Stung by shortage of tappers, the coconut producer companies (CPCs) under the CDB have been imparting training to youths not only from far-

away states like Chhattisgarh and Assam, but also those hailing from Nepal.

"The CDB is also trying to lure women into the vocation by including it in the 'green collar' category of the employment guarantee scheme. A total of 28 labourers from Nepal are undergoing an eight-week-long training programme under the Kozhikode CPC. Already, there are 25 tappers from Chhattisgarh working under the Perambra CPC," said CDB officials. According to statistics available with the CDB, the CPCs under the Board have produced around 11 lakh litres of Neera in the past one year, and earned a total revenue of Rs 10.5 crore. Currently, the CPCs are producing an average of around 34,000 litres of Neera every week from just 3,272 coconut palms. They are also planning to raise the production to one lakh litres within one week, by imparting training to youths from North Indian states," said CDB Chairman T K Jose.

According to CDB officials, there are 467 registered Coconut Producer Federations in Kerala under 27 Coconut Producer Companies, which currently require at least 2 lakh Neera technicians. If 10 per cent of the palms in the State are used for Neera tapping, it would provide 'green collar' jobs to at least 10 lakh persons. On average, one Neera technician earns Rs 30,000/month," said the officials. (<http://www.newindianexpress.com>)

MARKET NEWS

PHILIPPINE COCONUT PRODUCTS EXPORT DOWN IN SEPTEMBER

UCAP preliminary figures show export of coconut products in September reached 141,608 MT in copra terms, clipping by 24.5% a similar month last year total at 187,524 MT and by a milder 8.9% from prior month unofficial data at 155,443 MT. Despite the fall, this month volume surpassed the past eight-month average (January-August) at 124,298 MT by 13.9%, and with all products but copra meal besting their respective monthly average shipment.

Coconut oil export which totaled 76,582 MT shrank by nearly a third (32.5%) last year tonnage at 113,492 MT but topped by 9.0% the monthly average at 70,278 MT. More than half (51.6%) of this month's overseas purchases was delivered to the United States at 39,501 MT while Europe absorbed 42.2% at 32,281 MT. Japan took in 4,800 MT representing 6.3%.

Copra meal external trade at 22,280 MT nearly halved (-43.9%) last year total at 38,713 MT. The product also fared poorly with respect to the monthly average at 30,978 MT, posting a 28.1% deficit. There were only two importers reported, namely Korea and Vietnam. The former controlled 56.6% of the market at 12,600 MT and the latter accounted for the remaining 43.4% at 9,680 MT.

For the first time this year, desiccated coconut shipment posted sharp gain over last year. At 10,801 MT, this month overseas sales rocketed 160.8% from 4,141 MT year-ago and dwarfed by 66.4% the monthly average at 6,491 MT. Oleochemicals export similarly rallied to 3,350 MT as copra, eclipsing prior year at 926 MT by almost three folds (+261.8%) and beating the monthly average at 2,674 MT by 25.3%. Meanwhile, as of this writing, no export of copra has been reported as against 49 MT logged last year.

The cumulative export for the nine-month period ending September stood at 1,135,998 MT in copra terms, trimming by 6.8% same time last year total at 1,218,243 MT. Breakdown is as follows, in MT: copra 295 (353 last year), coconut oil 638,804 (663,481), copra meal 270,104 (406,422), desiccated coconut 62,730 (94,201), oleochemicals as copra 24,743 (19,103). (*UCAP Bulletin*)

SRI LANKA DESICCATED COCONUT EXPORT DOWN IN JUNE

Figures from Sri Lanka's Coconut Development Authority show the country's export of desiccated coconut sharply dropped by 33.3% to 3,258 MT in June this year from 4,881 MT in a similar month last year. The shipment was worth USD9.284 million, a rapid decline by 28.5% from last year at USD12.982

million. Average traded price at USD2,849.47/MT FOB rose by 7.1% from prior year at USD2,659.78/MT. The cumulative January-June figure at 13,914 MT slumped by 46.5% from a comparable year-ago period data at 26,007 MT.

Export in June went to 36 countries. The top eight importers held volumes above 100 MT and collectively accounted for 76.9% of total trade. Leading the pack was Iran with 744 MT (22.8% share), followed by United States with 558 MT (17.1%), Spain 264 MT (8.1%), U.A.E/Dubai 261 MT (8.0%), Pakistan 214 MT (6.6%), Germany 186 MT (5.7%), Saudi Arabia 175 MT (5.4%), and Iraq 104 MT (3.2%). The remaining 28 countries which aggregately accounted for 23.1% of total sales took in volume ranging from a low of 1 MT to a high of 96 MT. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

SRI LANKA VIRGIN COCONUT OIL EXPORT UP IN JAN-JULY...

Figures from Sri Lanka's Coconut Development Authority show the country's export of virgin coconut oil shot up by 181.8% to 7,940 MT in January-July this year from 2,818 MT in a similar period year-ago. Shipment value at USD47.078 million more than tripled the previous year at USD15.569 million. Average traded price at USD5,929.09/MT FOB was up by 7.3% from prior year at USD5,524.84/MT.

Export during the seven-month period went to at least 39 countries. Top buyer was the United States at 3,170 MT (39.9%), followed far behind by Japan at 1,282 MT (16.1%). The next six importers held volumes above 200 MT and collectively accounted for 37.7%, namely Australia 845 MT, Germany 762 MT, United Kingdom 623 MT, Canada 289 MT, Netherlands 239 MT and Sweden 234 MT. The remaining 31 countries which aggregately accounted for 6.5% took in volume ranging 1-91 MT.

...BUT ACTIVATED CARBON DOWN

Figures from Sri Lanka's Coconut Development Authority also show the country's export of activated carbon shrank

15.9% to 18,572 MT in January-July this year from 22,091 MT in a similar period year-ago. However, revenue at USD42.099 million declined only slightly by 4.7% from USD44.165 million. Average traded price at USD2,266.79/MT FOB climbed by 13.4% from prior year at USD1,999.23/MT.

Export during seven-month period went to 47 countries with the United States as top importer at 5,792 MT (31.2%). Trailing behind were Turkey at 1,246 MT (6.7%), Japan 1,109 MT (6.0%), Germany 893 MT (4.8%), South Africa 814 MT (4.4%) and United Kingdom 807 MT (4.3%). Eighteen countries also took in significant volume ranging 120-753 MT and jointly accounted for 38.0%, namely China, Finland, Sweden, Italy, Netherlands, Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Estonia, Belgium, Australia, South Korea, France, Ukraine, Russia, Greece and Canada. The remaining 23 countries which aggregate contributed 4.5% took in volume ranging from 1 MT to 88 MT. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

PERFORMANCE OF PH'S TOP NON-TRADITIONAL COCO EXPORTS IN JUNE

Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority show an increasing number of non-traditional coconut products generating monthly export revenue of at least USD100,000, thus qualifying in the sector's top exports list. For the month of June, 13 non-traditional coconut products made it to the list with the top five, namely virgin coconut oil, coconut water, glycerin, baled coir and coco milk powder having earnings of over USD1.000 million.

Top grosser VIRGIN COCONUT OIL generated USD19.501 million from shipment of 4,061 MT. This month volume rocketed 105.4% from year-ago at 1,977 MT. The United States was the biggest outlet cornering 3,004 MT (74.0% of total sales), followed far behind by Canada at 522 MT (12.9%), Germany 180 MT (4.4%), Japan 115 MT (2.9%). Smaller volumes went to United Kingdom at 91 MT, Singapore 75 MT, and a dozen others which jointly held 72 MT.

COCONUT WATER, the second biggest non-traditional export, grossed USD8.441 million from sale of 7,401,766 liters. Export volume jumped by 86.3% from prior year at 3,973,926 liters. Two key country destinations were the United States at 3,427,782 liters (46.3%) and United Kingdom at 3,097,955 liters (41.9%). Limited volumes went to Netherlands at 452,051 liters, Japan at 131,937 liters, and nine others which shared 292,042 liters.

GLYCERIN which took the third spot turned in USD1.816 million from trade of 3,603 MT. Current month load increased 13.3% from year-ago at 3,181 MT. Japan was primary destination capturing 1,875 MT (52.0%), trailed by China at 1,091 MT (30.3%). Lower volume went to Russia at 193 MT, North Korea 165 MT, Thailand 104 MT, and four others with combined uptake of 173 MT.

Ranked fourth, BALED COIR reported proceeds of USD1.549 million from deals amounting to 949 MT. Volume represents a cut by 65.9% from year-ago at 2,781 MT. There were only two country destinations: United Kingdom at 518 MT (54.6%) and Japan at 431 MT (45.4%).

COCO MILK POWDER landed fifth with turnover of USD1.173 million from overseas purchases of 260 MT (118 MT year ago). Japan was still the leading buyer cornering 69 MT (26.4%), followed by Netherlands at 51 MT (19.6%), Taiwan 50 MT (19.3%), France 26 MT (9.9%), United States 24 MT (9.2%), China 14 MT (5.3%), Denmark 13 MT (4.9%), North Korea 10 MT (3.9%) and Australia 4 MT (1.6%).

BATH SOAP was sixth top export with receipts of USD967,061 after trading 593 MT (397 MT). Thailand was market leader with 168 MT (28.2%), followed by Vietnam at 130 MT (21.8%), Malaysia 125 MT (21.0%), Saudi Arabia 84 MT (14.1%) and 12 others with aggregate uptake at 88 MT.

COCONUT MILK LIQUID came in seventh with income of USD773,776. Tonnage at 496 MT rocketed by 127.0% from

a similar month year-ago at 219 MT. The United States was the main market at 230 MT (46.3%), trailed by Japan at 168 MT (33.9%), Australia 58 MT (11.6%), and Germany, France, New Zealand, Netherlands with combined intake at 40 MT.

ALKANOLAMIDE was top eight non-traditional export with delivery of 185 MT (nil year-ago) valued at USD307,877. There were only four country destinations: Mexico at 104 MT (56.3%), Indonesia 38 MT (20.6%), China 35 MT (18.7%), and Singapore 8 MT (4.4%).

COCO FLOUR took the ninth spot with turnover of USD293,995 from business of 183 MT, higher by 15.0% from 159 MT a year ago. There were six country importers: Kuwait with 77 MT (42.2%), United States 50 MT (27.0%), Australia 36 MT (19.5%), South Africa 13 MT (7.2%), Japan 5 MT and Canada 2 MT.

SHAMPOO garnered the 10th slot contributing USD279,436 from transactions involving 74 MT (98 MT). Major buyers were Mongolia at 41 MT (54.8%) and Taiwan 20 MT (26.9%), while Australia, Malaysia, United States, and United Arab Emirates shared 13 MT.

Completing the top 13 were nata de coco, coco dust/peat and fresh coconuts. NATA DE COCO earned USD276,523 from selling 353 MT. The quantity is 3 MT more than last year at 350 MT. Japan was chief importer responsible for 313 MT (88.6%). Other destinations were Malaysia 25 MT, Northern Marianas Islands 9 MT and Singapore 6 MT.

COCO DUST/PEAT turned in USD220,627 from shipment of 785 MT (300 MT). China was principal market at 649 MT (82.8%) with South Korea as the only other outlet at 135 MT (17.2%).

FRESH COCONUT revenue was USD167,905 from export of 600,948 pieces. Shipment shot up by 52.8% from 393,370 nuts year-ago. China was the biggest buyer at 203,470 (33.9%), followed by South Korea at 115,423 (19.2%), Hong Kong 111,200 (18.5%), Lebanon 77,040 (12.8%), United

States 22,675 (3.8%) and six others which collectively held 71,140 pieces. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

U.S. IMPORT OF LAURIC OILS DOWN IN JULY 2015

Oil World figures reveal U.S. import of lauric oils in July this year totaled 60,500 MT, a sharp drop by 22.1% from 77,700 MT in the same month year-ago. Of this total, coconut oil accounted for 71.1% or 43,000 MT (57,200 MT in the prior year) while palm kernel oil contributed the remaining 28.9% or 17,500 MT (20,500 MT).

The Philippines remained top supplier of lauric oil to the U.S. during the month with shipment of 35,400 MT (32,400 MT) of coconut oil, the equivalent of 58.5% of total lauric oil import. Shipment from Malaysia was responsible for 19.8% or 12,000 MT (21,800 MT), of which 11,900 MT (17,500 MT) was palm kernel oil and 100 MT (4,300 MT) was coconut oil. Indonesia contributed 18.3% or 11,100 MT (22,900 MT), of which 6,100 MT (20,100 MT) was coconut oil and 5,000 MT (2,800 MT) was palm kernel oil. Purchases from other countries totaled 2,100 MT (700 MT) consisting of 1,500 MT (400 MT) coconut oil and 600 MT (300 MT) palm kernel oil.

January-July total import at 489,800 MT was 1.2% higher than same time last year figure at 483,800 MT. Coconut oil was 314,400 MT (321,200 MT) of which 59.7% or 187,800 MT (194,700 MT) came from the Philippines. Palm kernel oil was 175,400 MT (162,600 MT) of which 60.7% or 106,400 MT (116,300 MT) originated from Malaysia. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

COMBINED EXPORT OF WORLD'S MAJOR DESICCATORS DOWN IN JUNE

A collated country data from the Philippine Statistics Authority and Sri Lanka's Coconut Development Authority show combined export of desiccated coconut in June this year of the world's major producers, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, precipitously dropped by 52.6% to 7,284 MT from 15,369 MT at the same time last year.

Export from the Philippines at 4,026 MT, which accounted for 55.3% of combined volume, slumped by 61.6% from 10,488 MT while shipment from Sri Lanka at 3,258 MT was slashed by 33.2% from 4,881 MT year-ago. Computed average traded price of Philippine desiccated coconut at USD2,446.71/MT FOB tumbled 4.3% from USD2,555.77/MT year-ago while Sri Lankan desiccated coconut recorded a price leap by 7.1% to USD2,849.47/MT FOB from USD2,659.78/MT previously.

The combined export for the period January-June 2015 at 45,610 MT was appreciably lower by 48.6% compared to same period year-ago total at 88,818 MT. Export from the Philippines at 31,696 MT shrank by 49.5% from 62,811 MT. Shipment from Sri Lanka contracted by 46.5% from 26,007 MT to 13,914 MT. In terms of market share, however, the Philippines was responsible for 69.5% and Sri Lanka 30.5%. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

GOVERNMENT DONATION TO BOOST YOUTH BUSINESS IN KORO ISLAND

The donation of an electronic coconut scraper to the Sinuvaca Young Women's Club on Koro Island will go a long way in developing the club's virgin oil business. The electric coconut scraper was presented to the club by the Ministry of Youth and Sports director, William Naisara. Club Assistant President, Salanieta Latianara, in receiving this donation said that the electronic coconut scraper worth \$1,400, would cater to the high demand for virgin coconut oil from Koro. "The reason we asked for this assistance was because we have a virgin oil business in place and it can be a lengthy process scraping coconuts using the normal scrapers that we have," Ms Latianara said. She said there were 28 members of the club and only six coconut scrapers used to produce 40 liters of virgin coconut oil in a month.

"We are now supplying virgin coconut oil at 40 litres a month to Coconuts Fiji and with this electric coconut scraper it would really speed up production and help meet the

demand of our buyer," Ms. Latianara said. She said revenue generated from their virgin coconut oil business will facilitate their long term goal of funding the building of flush toilets in the village. "Our target is to raise \$5,000 to \$6,000 within the next five years," Ms Latianara said. Mr Naisara said the Ministry was committed to the development of the lives and welfare of youths especially those living in the rural and maritime zones. "We hope that this assistance will be fully utilized and fulfill its purpose and that the young women at the receiving end of this assistance will benefit greatly," Mr. Naisara said. (www.thejetnewspaper.com)

COCONUT WATER MARKET 2015 TO GROW AT A CAGR 25.24% FORECAST BY 2019

The Global Coconut Water Market - Market Research Report 2015-2019 undertaken by Technavio's analysts forecast the global coconut water market to grow at a CAGR of 25.24% in terms of revenue over the period 2014-2019. Technavio's report, Global Coconut Water Market 2015-2019, has been prepared based on an in-depth market analysis with inputs from industry experts. It covers the landscape of the global coconut water market and its growth prospects in the coming years. The report covers the present scenario and growth prospects of the global coconut water market for the period 2015-2019. The report also covers the segmentation of the global coconut water market. The market size and forecasts provided are calculated based on the revenue measured in \$ terms and volume in gallons for two categories of products ie., sweetened coconut water and unsweetened coconut water. The study has considered the sales of packaged coconut water from the following geographies – US, Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Peru, Colombia, Argentina, Venezuela, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, the UAE, the UK, Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand,

Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. The report also discusses the key distribution channels through which the coconut water sales occur globally, including hyper markets and super markets, convenience stores, specialist retailers and others including vending machines, gas stations, discounters, cash and carry retailers etc. Apart from this, the major drivers that influence the growth of the market, the challenges faced by the vendors and the market at large as well as the key trends that are emerging in the market are discussed. (www.onlineheraldnews.com)

COCONUT TECHNOLOGY NEWS

CPCRI DEVELOPS COCO-SAP CHILLER

The Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in Kasaragod, India has developed a gadget that not only prevents fermentation of neera, the sap tapped from coconut spathe, but also maintains its hygiene during the long process of tapping. CPCRI's Plant Physiology, Biochemistry and Post-harvest technology Department Head, K.B. Hebbar, who developed the device, noted that most of the neera tapped through the traditional method of tying an earthen pot to the tree overnight will be partially fermented even if it is served early morning. This is because the tapping process takes nearly 8 to 10 hours. Partial fermentation will result in alcoholic content and also spoil the taste and give it a bad smell. The traditional tapping method also results in contamination due to the falling of insects, pollen and dust particles, Dr. Hebbar said.

The new portable device called the 'Coco-sap Chiller' has a container comprising a plastic pouch surrounded by ice cubes for chilling the sap when it starts trickling in. The device, which will be installed atop the tree and connected to the spathe, will ensure that the chilling effects last for 10 to 12 hours, Hebbar said. The Coco-sap Chiller is gaining popularity in the states of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Goa. Twenty companies

have signed agreements with the CPCRI for mass production of the device, which costs Rs1,200, Dr. Hebbar said. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

COCONUT BOARD TO DEVELOP PEST-RESISTANT COCO HYBRIDS

In another development, the Coconut Development Board is all set for hybridization at its farm situated near Udumalpet in Tamil Nadu state, to come out with pest-resistant varieties. Attack by pests such as red palm weevil and rhinoceros beetle has been one of the biggest factors that reduce the coconut yield. "We plan to come out with 'dwarf x tall' variety by hybridization of tall varieties such as Chittur Tall and West Coast Tall with dwarf varieties such as Malaysian orange, Malaysian green, Malaysian yellow and Chavakkad orange," said R. Deepthi, Manager at the Board's farm.

Planting of 6,000 mother saplings of the said dwarf and tall varieties has been done in the farm. Deepthi said the developed hybrid varieties will be able to give nuts meant for tender coconut, raw coconut, and copra, and will be sold at subsidized rates to farmers. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

COCONUT HUSK ASH AS A FERTILIZER FOR COCONUT PALMS ON PEAT

Deejay Farms demonstrated experimentally that coconut husk ash is an excellent mineral fertilizer for immature coconut hybrids on developed peat, providing potassium (K) in particular. Coconut husk ash performed as well as potassium chloride (KCl) in a proportion of 2-2.5 to 1. At four years, 99% of coconut palms fertilized with husk ash, 92% of coconut palms fertilized with KCl and 26% of control palms were sexually differentiated. The cumulative yield in the first two harvesting years more than trebled between control palms (26 nuts per tree) and the palms fertilized with KCl (93 nuts per tree) or husk ash (105 nuts per tree). This is an important result, given the intensity of K deficiency and the increasing cost of imported fertilizers. Although coconut husk ash will never totally replace K fertilizer, it can recycle a substantial proportion of nutrients in a

coconut plantation. It now remains to optimize its use on an estate level, by examining the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of its mass production and determining conditions for maximum efficiency.

BIO-DIESEL NEWS

PHILIPPINES UNLIKELY TO INCREASE BIODIESEL MANDATE BY END-2015

Under the Philippine Energy Plan 2012-2030, the Energy Department targets to increase the biodiesel blend to 5% by the end of this year from the current 2%. By 2020 and 2030, the target is to raise the blend to 10% and 20%, respectively. Zenaida Y. Monsada, officer-in-charge for the Energy Secretary, said last week that mandating the higher blend could not be done this year. "We are still waiting for the results of the study and the final recommendation of the National Biofuels Board (NBB)," Ms. Monsada said.

The NBB, which consists of representatives from the Energy, Agriculture, Agrarian Reform, Science, Labor, and Environment Departments; the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA); and the Sugar Regulatory Administration is mandated by the Biofuels Act of 2006 to review and implement biodiesel blends. "We still don't have results of the study but the decision of NBB on whether we can mandate the increase can be done this year," Ms. Monsada said, adding that implementation could happen maybe next year. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

PHILIPPINES – BIODIESEL POLICY:

The Philippine Palm Oil Development Council welcomed government plans to increase mandatory blending of diesel with biodiesel from 2 percent to 5 percent, as it would pave the way for the development of the country's nascent oil palm sector, industry officials said (see also MPPU Feb.'14). A higher blending rate is anticipated to boost demand for palm oil, a cheaper biodiesel feedstock than coconut oil. Reportedly, for the time being, the transition to the higher

blending rate remains conditional on the findings of a commissioned study and the final recommendations of the National Biodiesel Board. (see also MPPU Jan'15). (www.fao.org/economic/est/en)

OTHER VEGEOIL NEWS

PALM OIL IMPORTS BY INDIA JUMP FOR NINTH MONTH

Palm oil purchases by India climbed for a ninth month as traders and refiners increased shipments to meet an expected surge in demand during festivals.

Imports jumped 12% to 783,734 metric tons in September from a year earlier, the Solvent Extractors' Association of India said in an e-mailed statement on Wednesday. That was less than the 800,000 tons median estimate in a Bloomberg survey published this week.

Total vegetable oil purchases, including those for industrial use, climbed 16% to 1.22 million tons, while shipments in the 11 months through September surged 22% to a record 12.9 million tons, it said.

India, which depends on overseas supplies to meet more than 50% of its cooking oil needs, is buying record quantities this year as the first back-to-back shortfall in monsoon rainfall in three decades threatens its oilseed crops.

Rising Indian demand for palm oil may help reduce stockpiles in Indonesia and Malaysia and drive further gains in prices.

"India is being used as a dumping ground for excessive supply of edible oils in the world market," the association said in the statement.

"Excessive imports have put tremendous pressure on local prices, which are at a level where Indian oilseeds growing farmers are in distress and losing interest in oilseed crop. Country's dependence on imported oil has further increased to nearly

70%, an alarming situation for the country's food security."

India buys palm oil from Indonesia and Malaysia and soyabean oil from the US, Brazil and Argentina. Demand typically climbs during major Hindu festivals from September through November, when people consume more fried foods and sweets.

Shipments may surge to a record 15 million tons in the year starting 1 November with palm oil accounting for as much as 10 million tons, according to Paul Bloemendaal, commercial director at Ruchi Soya Industries Ltd., the nation's biggest refiner.

Palm oil imports climbed 19% to 8.42 million tons in the 11 months through September while purchases of soft oils including soybean and sunflower oils surged 32% to 4.35 million tons, according to the extractors' association.

Palm oil rallied into a bull market last month after entering a bear market just a month earlier helped by a weak Malaysian currency and a strengthening El Nino.

Futures for delivery in December jumped 2.8% to close at 2,320 ringgit (\$553) a ton on Bursa Malaysia Derivatives on Tuesday. The exchange is closed for a local holiday on Wednesday.

India's soybean oil imports almost doubled to 321,062 tons in September from a year earlier, while sunflower oil purchases dropped 49% to 68,216 tons, the association said. Canola oil purchases were 32,495 tons, it said. (<http://www.thejakartapost.com>)

CPO EXPORT VOLUME MAY SURPASS TARGET THIS YEAR: INDUSTRY GROUP

Palm oil producers are optimistic that they will exceed their export target this year of over 20 million tons as shipments in three quarters have shown significant growth, thanks to growing overseas demand.

The Indonesian Palm Oil Producers Association (Gapki) estimates that total crude palm oil (CPO) export volume may reach

around 22 million tons this year on the back of high demand for the commodity from countries such as India, those in the eurozone and China.

"Given the achievement [until the third quarter], we're optimistic that we can achieve more than what we're targeting to achieve this year," Gapki Executive Director Fadhil Hasan told *The Jakarta Post* recently. Indonesia, the world's top producer of palm oil, has exported 18.8 million tons of CPO from January through September this year, a 25.5 percent increase from 15 million tons in the same period of last year, according to Gapki data.

With exports of 500,000 tons per month during the last quarter of the year, the 20 million ton target could be met. Meanwhile, in September alone, CPO export volume reached 2.34 million tons, an increase of 11.4 percent month-on-month from 2.1 million tons in August. The higher-than-expected export volume in September was hugely driven by growing demand for palm oil in export destination countries despite global economic uncertainties, Fadhil said.

India's import of Indonesian palm oil surged 71.9 percent to 611,020 tons in September from 355,490 tons in August on the back of its national buffer stock program amid low CPO prices and growing demand from its food industry. In the January-September period, India's import of Indonesian CPO increased 28 percent year-on-year (yoY) to 4.16 million tons from 3.25 million tons.

The country's palm oil shipments to the EU also significantly increased owing to higher demand for the union's biodiesel needs.

Imports of Indonesian CPO from the 28-member bloc grew 41.2 percent to 373,560 tons in September from 264,550 tons in August.

Meanwhile, despite its domestic economic slowdown, China has seen its import of Indonesian palm oil surge 59 percent to 2.54 million tons in the third quarter

from 1.59 million tons in the same period last year.

The huge increase in China's demand for Indonesian CPO was mainly caused by lower domestic palm oil output while national demand continued to grow. Palm oil demand from the US, meanwhile, dropped 46 percent to 50,620 tons in September from 93,650 tons in August as its production of soybean, which is also used as a vegetable oil substitution for palm oil, significantly increased.

Fadhil said that while Indonesia's palm oil export volume was on the rise during the last three quarters, the export value might not significantly increase as CPO prices hit a six-year low last month.

Global CPO prices hit an average of US\$526.9 per metric ton in September, a 2.3 percent decline from \$539.3 per metric ton in August.

Fadhil said, however, that he expected CPO prices to hit around \$570 to \$600 per metric ton in October on the back of state-owned oil and gas firm Pertamina's plan to absorb more biodiesel and speculation that El Niño might reduce oversupply in producing countries. (<http://www.thejakartapost.com>)

INDONESIAN CPO FUND HELPED BOOST PALM OIL PRICE

The recently launched Indonesian crude palm oil (CPO) fund has helped palm oil prices bounce back to a higher level, to the benefit of the local palm oil industry. Indonesian Oil Palm Estate Fund Agency (BPDP) President Director, Bayu Krisnamurthi, said the CPO fund, which started its work on Aug. 24, had raised CPO prices in three indices, the Indonesia Commodity and Derivatives Exchange, the Malaysia Derivatives Exchange and the Rotterdam market. He also added the government's policy on the CPO fund has started to make an impact and it has gradually lifted prices of CPO in the three indices.

The CPO fund program, which collects levies from palm oil exporters in Indonesia, was introduced in the middle of July. The fund

is used for various purposes, such as providing biodiesel subsidies to support the government's B-15 program, a 15% minimum palm oil content in diesel for state-owned oil and gas giant Pertamina, and B-25 subsidy program for state-owned electricity firm PLN. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

MALAYSIA, INDONESIA TO ESTABLISH CPOPC

Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to spearhead the establishment of a Council of Palm Oil Producing Countries (CPOPC), aimed at ensuring price stability, and develop the downstream industry of the commodity. Malaysian Minister of Plantation Industries and Commodities Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas said both countries contributed 85 percent to the global palm oil market. He added that CPOPC will also jointly promote the benefits of the oil palm industry and derivatives.

Speaking after attending the Malaysian-Indonesia bilateral meeting on oil palm industry last week, Uggah said that at the meeting both countries agreed to harmonize the standards of the Indonesian Sustainable Palm oil (ISPO) and the Malaysian Sustainable Palm Oil (MSPO). The CPOPC will also promote environmentally sustainable practices in the oil palm industry and improve cooperation in research and development within it to unlock potential across the value chain. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

MALAYSIA LIKELY TO DOUBLE PALM OIL EXPORTS TO US IN 5 YEARS

Malaysia's palm oil exports to the US have the potential to double in five years as the country continues to import vegetable oils and fats to supplement local demand despite being a major producer of vegetable oils. Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah said Malaysia's exports of palm oil to the US increased 162 percent from 477,899 tons in 2009 to 1.25 million tons last year. He pointed out that the US imported 4.3 million tons of oils and fats last year with palm oil accounting for 28 percent of the total.

Uggah was in the US last week leading a 2-day palm oil promotion mission. At the sidelines on the Global Oils and Fats Forum USA 2015, he said Malaysia is now closely working with local and international research institutions to carry out scientific studies on the benefits of palm oil. The Malaysian Palm Oil Board is currently working with Ohio State University Medical Centre, Anderson Cancer Centre, University of Texas and Wayne State University. These studies focus on the use of tocotrienols, the vitamin E found in palm oil, in the prevention of cancer and stroke as well as the fight against liver and kidney diseases. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

SCIENTISTS IDENTIFY GENETIC DEFECT IN OIL PALMS

A group of scientists, funded by the Malaysian Palm Oil Board, set out to understand why certain oil palms that had been cloned from prized, high-yielding plants in the 1980s were not producing normally. Researchers led by Robert Martienssen from Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in the U.S. studied four groups of commercially important, cloned oil palms, and found that an inactive DNA sequence, which they dubbed Karma, was less methylated than in normal palms. This prevented the formation of normal flowers.

A simple and inexpensive epigenetic test will be able to identify bad karma and allow growers to destroy worthless palms at the plantlet stage, saving both time and money for growers, boosting yield and alleviating pressure on land resources. Previously, growers had to wait until an oil palm reached maturity which takes around six years before knowing if a plant would produce fruit or not.

Normal oil palms are highly productive, producing more vegetable oil per hectare than any other oil-producing crop, meaning they are widely used in the food industry, as well as in cosmetics and for biofuels. The WWF claims palm oil can be found in around 50% of processed food products, such as margarine,

bread, ice-cream and baked products. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

US-MALAYSIA PALM OIL PLAYERS URGED TO EXPLORE NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Palm oil industry players from both the United States and Malaysia are strongly encouraged to explore opportunities within existing and new areas in the palm oil sector in the US. Malaysian Palm Oil Council (MPOC) Chairman Datuk Lee Yeow Chor said the organisation would offer its best assistance to address specific needs in bringing together new buyers, as well as sellers, and further enhance palm oil trade between the two countries. Palm oil has been playing an important role in the US and its import is expected to remain strong going forward.

Speaking at the ninth edition of the Global Oils and Fats Forum USA 2015 (GOFF) recently, Lee said the Americas region, and particularly the US, is an important market for Malaysian palm oil. Malaysia is ready to pass its knowledge and expertise in trans free formulations to the US and other end users in the region, as the adverse effects of trans fatty acids from partially hydrogenated oils is already well known, Lee added. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

PCA ALLOCATES P24 MILLION FOR OIL PALM IN 2016

The Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) will allocate around P24 million for the oil palm sector from its budget next year. "For 2016, the PCA's proposed budget was considerably reduced; thus, oil palm sector was allocated only P23.658 million," said Marianita N. Eroy, Senior Science Research Specialist at the PCA-Davao Research Center.

Based on the Department of Budget and Management's 2016 National Expenditure Program, PCA's budget next year will be P1.29 billion, down 70% from this year's P4.1 billion. PCA's oil palm sector spending next year under the Smallholder Oil Palm Plantation Development Project (SOPDP) will

be mainly for planting materials and farmers' training. "Oil palm is part of the mandate of the PCA; thus its development is being pursued parallel to coconut. Given the limited government resources and the share of the sector compared to coconut, it may seem to be left behind, but is actually receiving proportionate attention," said PCA Administrator Romulo N. Arancon, Jr. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

DID YOU KNOW.....

STUDY REVEALS BENEFITS OF COCONUT OIL FOR SKIN OF PRETERM INFANTS

A recent study in India was devised to give scientific authenticity for a traditional practice in the country of massaging newborns' skin with coconut oil. The study, published in the *Journal of Tropical Pediatrics* in September 2015 was titled "Topical Oil Application and Trans-Epidermal Water Loss in Preterm Very Low Birth Weight Infants - A Randomized Trial." The researchers' objective was to determine coconut oil's protection against trans-epidermal water loss (TEWL). There have been many attempts at resolving preterm and term birth water loss among newborns that are more along the technical lines of Western medicine's hospital hardware. This was the first study that focused on the traditional Indian method of massaging the infants with coconut oil.

The researchers randomly divided 72 newborns with very low birth weights at 12 hours of age into two groups of 37 each. The median gestation period (pregnancy term) was 32 weeks, which means that most if not all of them were born before the normal gestation period of nine months. One group was given coconut oil topically applied twice daily without massage. In order to create comparisons, both groups were monitored for trans-epidermal water loss (TEWL) every 12 hours. After seven days of applying coconut oil to the test group, swabs were taken from all infants outer bodies to determine and compare skin quality and bacterial levels.

The researchers discovered the coconut oil treated infants had significantly lower TEWL than the group that was not treated topically with coconut oil. Those coconut oil treated newborn infants were without skin bacterial colonization and displayed an overall better quality of skin than the untreated group. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

NEERA CAN CURE LIVER DISEASE, SAYS STUDY (MATHRUBHUMI)

A study has found that Neera, a product manufactured from coconut palms, can be used in the treatment of liver diseases. The study was conducted by the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. The study instills hope in both patients with liver disease as well as coconut cultivators. Neera will be mainly beneficial in liver diseases caused by alcohol consumption. The findings has found that liver diseases were completely cured by using Neera. The study team comprised Dr. S Sandhya, Scientist at the Inorganic and Physical Chemistry department of Indian Institute of Science, Dr. M. Ratheesh, Assistant Professor in Bio Chemistry at Pala St. Thomas College and researcher Swenya P. Jose.

THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF COCONUT MILK

Benefits of Coconut Milk:

Following are some of the health benefits of coconut milk:

1. Helps to maintain blood sugar places: Glucose intolerance may cause manganese deficiency in your body. Coconut milk is a rich source of manganese. Whole grains, legumes and nuts are some excellent sources of manganese.
2. Keeps skin and blood vessels flexible and elastic: Copper is very important mineral for most of the bodily functions. Copper and vitamin C help to maintain the flexibility and elasticity of the skin and blood vessels.
3. Aids in building strong bones: Coconut milk is not rich in calcium, but it is rich in phosphorus. Phosphorus is an essential nutrient that body needs for strengthening

bones. It is must to take phosphorus with calcium particularly to prevent bone loss because it supplies phosphate to the body.

4. Helps to prevent anemia: Lack of iron is the most common nutrient deficiency among the people throughout the world. Iron deficiency in body does not allow the body to develop enough hemoglobin for keeping sufficient oxygen levels in red blood cells, resulting in anemia. Each cup of coconut milk supplies the body with nearly a quarter of daily value of iron.

5. Relaxes muscles and nerves: Whenever you feel muscle cramps or muscle soreness, have some food along with coconut milk. It is rich in magnesium and can help you in relieving the problem. One of the functions of magnesium is it acts as a gate block in many nerve cells. If magnesium is not present in body, nerve cells become very active because of calcium that activates nerves. Excess contraction of muscles is caused by over active nerve cells.

6. Helps in Controlling Weight: This can be a good news for people who are trying to reduce weight. Coconut milk makes you feel full very quickly because of high concentrations of dietary fiber.

7. Decreases the risk of joint inflammation: Selenium is an important antioxidant. It controls the free radicals and thereby helps in relieving the symptoms of arthritis. It is observed that people with low levels of selenium may suffer from rheumatoid arthritis.

8. Helps in lowering high blood pressure: People who are concerned with their blood pressure will not face any problem for reaching the foods containing potassium. Potassium helps in lowering blood pressure levels in the body.

9. Helps in maintaining healthy immune system: Coconut milk helps in warding off colds and coughs by keeping the immune system healthy. It supplies vitamin C to the body which boosts the immune system.

10. Promotes the health of prostate gland: Zinc plays a vital role in promoting the health

of prostate gland. A preliminary study showed that it slows down the activities of cancer cells. I hope the above mentioned information helps you in understanding the relation between health and coconut milk. It can also be consumed by people with cow's milk allergy. It is free from gluten and soy. Hence people who are allergic to these substances can also drink coconut milk. (www.celestialhealing.net)

THE HEALING POWERS OF COCONUT OIL

Here's why coconut oil based products are scoring big with beauty buffs across the world

Everyone is loving coconut oil at the moment. Not only is it great for hair, skin and even teeth, it's an intensive moisturiser with antibacterial properties. You can also use coconut oil for baking and rehydrate with its water. Celeb fans include the Kardashian sisters and actresses Emma Stone and Gwyneth Paltrow, who take their make-up off with the stuff. So it's no surprise sales of coconut products are on the up -stores in the US have posted a 64% increase in sales of coconut products this year.

Keeps skin flake free

"Coconut oil, whether used alone or as part of a body oil, lotion or scrub, leaves a silky feel and keeps skin smooth, elastic and hydrated, thanks to its medium-chain fatty acids and proteins," says skincare expert Margaret Weeds.

And because of its molecular -structure, it's easily absorbed - a study in an international journal of dermatology showed that pure virgin coconut oil helped decrease water loss in people with atopic dermatitis.

To keep skin flake free, lavish your body with products that has ingredients like coconut butter. For problem dry skin, use a pure, virgin coconut oil - it comes solid at room temperature but warms and melts on body contact, say experts.

Great for hair

Coconut oil penetrates the hair shaft easily because of its small molecular

structure. "This means it can hydrate and soften hair, preventing breakage and reducing protein loss," says hairdresser Lee Stafford.

"It's also great for scalp health as it has soothing and cooling properties."

For an intensive conditioning treatment, warm some perfectly pure coconut oil, then comb through hair and leave in overnight.

Coconut water also hydrates your hair and thanks to its potassium, calcium and proteins, it leaves your locks stronger.

Combats ageing

Used in a facial moisturiser, its natural antioxidants help combat ageing by preventing free radical damage. "It also has antibacterial and antimicrobial properties, which can help to treat acne and eczema," says skincare expert Katie Torade.

Try moisturiser with coconut oil. If you have skin prone to redness, try non-irritating oil products. And for protection from winter, use comfort cream, it combines coconut oil and milk with "anti-cold" Arginine extract.

Whitens teeth

Oil pulling - that's pulling, pushing and sucking coconut oil through teeth - is said to help lift off stains and whiten. It's antibacterial too.

"Bacteria in the mouth are covered with a lipid membrane. When it comes into contact with coconut oil, they naturally adhere to each other," explains nutritionist Alex Thompson

Clean up

"Coconut oil is a great cleanser because it's easily removed, clears congested pores and isn't greasy, plus it contains around 50% lauric acid, an antimicrobial fatty acid," says Weeds.

For the face, try coconut cleansers. It's designed for sensitive skin - even if you're prone to flushing and rosacea - and the oil helps break down waterproof mascara. In the shower, there are hydrating skin scrubs with poppy seeds and sugar to exfoliate, that is recommended for very dry skin.

Of course, you can always lie back and bathe in coconut oil, so your skin is soaked with intense, skin-healthy nutrients.

Make-up your mind

More and more make-up products are incorporating coconut oil and water in their formulas.

There are foundations with coconut oil. Use coconut water to replenish your skin's moisture.

Look for eye shadows containing coconut oil to nourish the skin on your eyelids so they don't look crepey. Coconut oil also helps soften, protect and smooth lashes. (<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com>)

COCONUT RECIPE

"Coconut Fish Soup"

Ingredients:

- 1 kg fish fillets
- 7 cups water
- 2 tsp salt
- 1 large onion
- Black pepper
- 1 chilli (optional)
- 2 cups coconut cream
- 1 tbs lemon juice
- Lemon slices for garnish
- Chopped spring onion

Method:

- Put fish in a large saucepan with water, salt, pepper, onion and chilli. Bring slowly to simmering point and simmer until fish is cooked. Cool and strain off stock.
- Heat again just before serving, stir in lemon juice and coconut cream. Do not boil after coconut cream has been added.
- Garnish with slices of lemon and copped spring onion. Serves 6 (*Coconut Cuisine*)

STATISTICS

Table 1
SRI LANKA: Exports of Mattress, Bristle and Twisted Fibers, 2013-2015
(In MT)

Month	Mattress Fiber			Bristle Fiber			Twisted Fiber		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
January	2,548	3,838	1,713	317	1,045	697	2,540	4,039	3,286
February	3,678	4,449	2,630	605	1,050	853	3,912	5,729	5,854
March	5,028	5,730	2,476	1,346	1,520	744	3,598	6,108	5,957
April	4,494	4,283	998	697	1,144	911	3,687	4,741	4,488
May	3,921	2,785	1,539	485	1,608	1,237	3,190	6,118	3,986
June	3,989	2,759	1,411	388	1,487	1,158	2,204	6,577	7,022
July	4,799	3,309	1,317	743	2,086	1,193	3,433	9,047	7,453
August	5,370	2,504		717	1,684		5,100	7,561	
September	3,384	2,187		1,048	1,278		3,446	8,059	
October	6,216	1,734		1,544	1,145		3,365	7,898	
November	6,219	1,311		1,314	1,137		3,918	5,896	
December	3,496	1,431		1,047	1,224		3,013	2,970	
TOTAL	53,142	36,320	12,084	9,204	16,409	6,793	41,406	74,744	38,046

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

Table 2
SRI LANKA: Monthly Export Prices of Mattress, Bristle and Twisted Fibers,
2013-2015 (US\$/MT, FOB Colombo)

Month	Mattress Fiber			Bristle Fiber			Twisted Fiber		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
January	312	319	369	562	442	489	428	772	426
February	332	278	336	563	410	495	358	354	346
March	321	316	390	407	383	545	362	387	351
April	324	329	508	448	421	418	358	396	352
May	320	395	466	643	363	354	414	400	373
June	363	412	473	539	349	354	408	395	335
July	328	428	417	523	359	416	350	367	340
August	303	470		482	430		325	390	
September	299	405		473	450		358	375	
October	287	393		386	515		405	377	
November	302	422		380	358		397	397	
December	242	431		390	330		332	470	
Average	311	383	423	483	401	439	375	423	360

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

Table 3
SRI LANKA: Exports of Yarn, Twine and Pith, 2013-2015
(In MT)

Month	Coir Yarn			Coir Twine			Fiber Pith		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
January	73	115	346	297	524	529	6,804	13,794	11,306
February	44	194	251	747	718	650	12,895	14,095	19,415
March	92	245	302	528	740	526	13,510	17,442	18,443
April	176	210	195	402	605	286	10,547	12,312	15,872
May	46	311	186	469	1,066	389	13,150	15,687	16,361
June	186	275	192	262	750	336	10,755	13,626	12,461
July	245	99	331	336	663	609	12,417	14,059	17,295
August	438	163		318	844		12,848	13,419	
September	177	204		478	842		13,081	13,147	
October	103	246		553	481		15,399	13,023	
November	174	93		541	620		11,880	9,688	
December	248	50		797	369		10,625	6,885	
TOTAL	2,002	2,205	1,803	5,728	8,222	3,325	143,911	157,177	111,153

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

Table 4
SRI LANKA: Monthly Export Prices of Yarn, Twine and Pith, 2013-2015
(In US\$/MT, FOB Colombo)

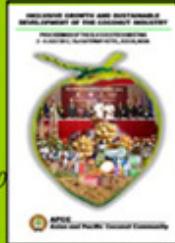
Month	Coir Yarn			Coir Twine			Fiber Pith		
	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015	2013	2014	2015
January	770	639	737	932	985	1,188	303	303	294
February	1,012	651	739	1,139	512	1,066	305	285	267
March	666	661	669	1,018	545	1,057	299	292	291
April	675	943	720	708	533	1,059	320	290	282
May	1,306	727	846	1,106	624	896	322	311	310
June	855	918	675	1,123	727	1,425	334	346	354
July	817	816	708	1,044	790	1,117	319	343	340
August	615	725		1004	755		307	322	
September	648	738		792	610		320	320	
October	658	685		843	798		325	339	
November	568	845		866	839		322	327	
December	562	1,034		920	768		298	343	
Average	763	782	728	958	707	1,115	315	318	308

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka

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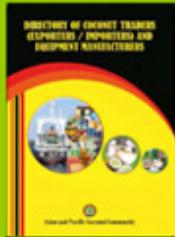
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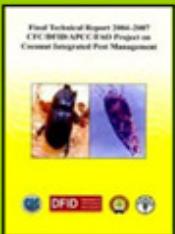
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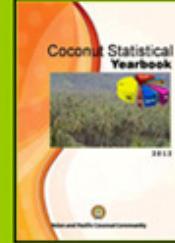


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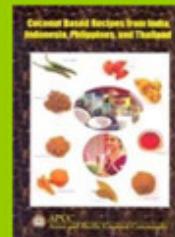
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