



The Cocommunity

Monthly Newsletter of the Asian and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC)

Vol. XLIII No. 6

ISSN 0215 - 1502

1 August 2013



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

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

The subscription rates for the *Cocommunity* inclusive of postage are: US\$50.00 per year for APCC Member Countries, US\$ 60.00 for Non-APCC Member Countries.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS

“Prospects of Value-Added Coconut Products in the Pacific Region”



The Pacific region is endowed with tremendous coconut based resources. The agro-climatic condition in the Pacific region is highly suitable to growing coconuts. Adverse conditions can lead to reduction in yields in certain periods of time lasting for two or more years but the coconut palms are so resilient to stresses due to climate change like draught, cyclones and flooding that they remain as the dominant crop in the Pacific landscape.

Because of under utilization and low prices, the Pacific region has a surplus of raw materials including unharvested or uncollected nuts. Due to their remote locations and poor infrastructure facilities, many areas are not readily accessible. Under these circumstances, many fallen mature nuts are just left in the fields or in the bushes. It is obvious that the main motivation to harvest, collect or gather coconuts in the field is price. If the price of whole nuts or copra increases, the farmers and their household members respond positively and collect or gather the nuts for the market.

Copra and to some extent, crude coconut oil are still the main products that are traded in the Pacific region. There is very little value-addition and the Pacific region is viewed mainly as a source of raw materials. This makes the region vulnerable to the fluctuations of prices of vegetable oils in the global fats and oils market. Price volatilities in the last decades have left the small coconut farmholders to remain poor due to very low prices of copra. Copra production has in many instances, become unprofitable or non-competitive. There is therefore the challenge to move away from copra and add value to the coconut products.

The processing of value-added coconut products and their exports in the Pacific region is influenced by several cross cutting issues. These include the availability of infrastructure and logistic services, appropriate technology and good management practices, competitiveness, and market development, both at the domestic level and in niche markets outside the country, among others.

While the raw materials in the Pacific region are comparatively low priced, attention must be given to ensure that the value-added products coming from the Pacific region must be competitive to those of other coconut producing countries in Asia. This suggests that to be sustainable, refined, bleached and deodorized (RBD) cooking oil to be produced from copra and crude coconut oil must be competitive with the much lower priced imports and competing products like palm oil, soybean oil, canola oil and others.

The way forward may be in speciality virgin coconut oil (VCO) and its derivative products for niche markets in New Zealand, Australia, USA and Europe including the domestic market. Certified organic VCO and VCO-based products from Women in Business in Samoa, Pure Fiji Ltd in Fiji, Kokonut Pasifik in the Solomon Islands, Wainyaku Estate in Taveuni Fiji are good examples of successful initiatives in value-added coconut products for niche markets. The local market must likewise be developed and domestic utilization of coconut products must be vigorously promoted.

Although there may be some opportunities to explore desiccated coconut, coconut milk, coconut sap sugar, coconut vinegar, coconut shell charcoal briquettes and coconut shell charcoal-based activated carbon including coir products and coconut timber and wood processing, as well as coconut biodiesel projects, investments in these areas have to be thoroughly evaluated and location-specific project feasibility studies must be conducted to ensure competitiveness and sustainability. The need to scale up existing coconut processing ventures in the Pacific region should also be given attention to ensure economies-of-scale, efficiency, better quality control, profitability and long-term sustainability.


ROMULO N. ARANCON, JR.

PREVAILING MARKET PRICES OF SELECTED COCONUT PRODUCTS AND OILS

Price of Copra increase while prices of DC decrease and CNO are varied in different countries.

COPRA: The price of copra in Indonesia (Surabaya) was US\$525 in July, higher than previous month's price of US\$460/MT which is higher than 2013 average price of US\$483. When compared to last year's data for the same month, the average price of copra has decreased by 11.9%.

In the domestic market of the Philippines (Manila), the average copra price was at US\$516/MT. The price increase by 5.95% over the price in June 2013 and about 18.7% lower when compared to the price of US\$635/MT in July 2012. In the Philippines, out of the eight copra market centers, the highest price at US\$505/MT was recorded in Southern Tagalog, and the lowest price at US\$361/MT was in N. Mindanao.

COCONUT OIL: The average price of coconut oil in Europe (C.I.F. Rotterdam) for the month of July 2013 decreased by US\$38 to US\$874/MT from US\$912/MT in June 2013. The price is somehow lower by 16% when compared with the price in July 2012. The price of June 2013 is higher than the average price of 2013 which is US\$842 per MT.

The average local price of coconut oil in the Philippines in July 2013 was US\$831/MT. This was US\$5 lower than the price in June 2013, and it was also US\$28 higher if compared to the average price in 2013 at US\$803.

The average domestic price of coconut oil in Indonesia in July 2013 increase to US\$887/MT from US\$816/MT in June 2013. The price in July 2013 was 5.4% lower than price of July 2012 which was US\$938/MT.

COPRA MEAL: The average domestic price of the commodity in the Philippines at selling points was quoted at US\$205/MT. The price of the commodity was higher to the average price of the year.

DESICCATED COCONUT: The average price of desiccated coconut (DC) FOB Manila, Philippines in July 2013 was US\$1,698/MT. This price was US\$154 lower than that of the previous month's price and US\$208 higher than the price of the same month last year. In Sri Lanka, the domestic price of desiccated coconut in July 2013 was US\$1,717/MT or US\$75 lower than the price in June 2013. Meanwhile, the price of DC in the domestic market in the Philippines was US\$1,696/MT, which was US\$82 lower than the previous month's price at US\$1,778/MT and US\$206 higher than the price in the same month last year. Indonesian price was US\$1,517/MT, decreased by US\$28 from last month's, and increase by US\$367 from last year's price.

COCONUT SHELL CHARCOAL: In the Philippines, the average price of coconut shell charcoal was US\$344 for July 2013. Meanwhile, in Sri Lanka, the average price of the commodity in July 2013 was US\$356/MT. The average price of charcoal in Indonesia for July 2013 was US\$373/MT, which was US\$33 higher 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\$144/MT for mattress short fiber and US\$421 - US\$649/MT for bristle. The Indonesian price for mattress (mixed) fiber was US\$273/MT in July 2013.

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

Products/Country	2013 July	2013 June	2012 July (Annual Ave.)	2013
Fresh Coconut				
Philippines (Dom. Husked)	125	134	125	127
Copra				
Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Europe)	561	556	680	538
Philippines (Dom. Manila)	516	487	635	475
Indonesia (Dom. Java)	525	460	596	483
India (Dom. Kerala)	823	769	640	810
Coconut Oil				
Philippines (CIF Rott.)	874	912	1,040	842
Philippines (Domestic)	831	836	1,033	803
Indonesia (Domestic)	887	816	938	803
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,899	1,981	1,447	1,901
India (Domestic), Kerala	1,207	1,124	1,145	1,199
Desiccated Coconut				
Philippines FOB (US), Sellers	1,698	1,852	1,490	1,755
Philippines (Domestic)	1,696	1,778	1,490	1,739
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	1,717	1,792	1,110	1,716
Indonesia (Domestic)	1,517	1,545	1,150	1,497
Copra Meal Exp. Pel.				
Philippines/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	205	n.q.	n.q.	163
Philippines (Domestic)	219	185	169	162
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	367	379	191	326
Indonesia (Domestic)	186	197	160	204
Coconut Shell Charcoal				
Philippines (Domestic), Visayas, Buyer	344	348	360	350
Sri Lanka (Domestic)	356	360	353	345
Indonesia (Domestic) Manado, Buyer	373	382	340	364
Coir Fibre				
Sri Lanka (Mattress/Short fibre)	144	144	143	138
Sri Lanka (Bristle 1 tie)	421	430	470	463
Sri Lanka (Bristle 2 tie)	649	656	640	653
India (Geo Textile)	1,129	1,111	1,010	1,090
Indonesia (Mixed Raw fibre)	273	283	315	301
Other Oils				
Palm Kernel Oil Malaysia/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	840	820	1,086	821
Palm Oil, Malaysia/Indonesia (CIF Rott.)	835	845	1,020	839
Soybean Oil, (Europe FOB Ex mill)	1,003	1,082	1,243	1,113
Palm Kernel Oil, RBD (CIF NY)	858	851	1,120	838

Rate of Exchange: July 29, 2013:

1US\$=P43.32 or Indo.=Rp10,285 or India=Rs59.3302 or Rs=131.63
Euro= US\$1.32691 n.q.: not quoted n.a.: not available

MARKET ANALYSIS OF ACTIVATED CARBON

Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, India, and Thailand are the main producing countries of activated carbon derived from coconut shell charcoal [CSC]. In 2012, the total export of CSC activated carbon from Sri Lanka [30,271 MT] was lower by 14.2% when compared to the volume in the previous year at 35,260 MT. The average price ranged between US\$2,052 - US\$2,516 per MT [FOB Colombo]. The average price of 2012 was US\$2,265 per MT which was 5.9% lower than the average price of the previous year at US\$2,131 per MT. Besides exporting activated carbon, in 2012 the country also exported CSC and coconut shell/shell flour at 6,919 tons and 698 tons, respectively.

The Philippines exported 22,558 tons of coconut shell-based activated carbon as of June 2013. This was higher by 30.6% than the figure in 2012 at 17,560 MT. This significant growth of export is the result of better coconut production this year. The country also shipped coconut shell charcoal to overseas market at 18,291 tons in the period of January - June, 2013. This was slightly higher [4.2%] when compared to the same period of 2012 which was 17,560 tons. In June 2013, the total export of CSC activated carbon to China was 1,710 tons which accounted for about 37.1% of the total export placing China as primary market. In this month, the country earned an income of US \$7.4 million from the trade. The Philippine's export price for coconut shell charcoal in June 2013 was US\$352 per MT, slightly up by 1.1% when compared to the same price of last year which was US\$348 per MT. The charcoal mostly went to China, Sri Lanka, India and Japan. These top four countries absorbed almost 75% of the Philippines export of CSC in this period.

Indonesian export for the CSC activated carbon in 2012 was 25,225 tons which was an

increase by 5.1% compared to previous year at 24,003 tons. The market destinations included 16 importing countries. The Asian market was the main locus in which Japan, Korea, Taiwan and China are the main the buyers. Other importing countries are the USA, Germany, Australia, South Africa, Netherlands, New Zealand, Italy and Belgium. Indonesia generated an export earning of the trade at US\$35.39 million in 2012, an increase by 11% against US\$31.87 million of previous year's earning.

In the period of January-April 2013, Indonesian total export of CSC activated carbon was 5,566 tons which significantly decreased by 31.3% over the export figure at 8,097 tons in the corresponding period a year ago. The average export price of Indonesia's activated carbon was US\$1,496 per MT. The price ranged between US\$1,450 - US\$1,619 per ton. Besides CSC activated carbon, in the same period of January - April 2013 Indonesia also exported of 18,109 coconut shell charcoal tons to the world market at an average price of US \$444/MT. The export volume significantly increased by 35.9% when compared to the export performance in the same period of 2012.

It is noted that in 2012 among the three main exporters of coconut shell charcoal and activated carbon, Sri Lanka was the biggest exporter of activated carbon and the least for coconut shell charcoal export. On the contrary, Indonesia was the biggest exporter of coconut shell charcoal and the least of activated carbon. The highest ratio of export volume of coconut shell charcoal to activated carbon belongs to Indonesia, followed by the Philippines and then Sri Lanka with the ratio of 1.89; 1.32 and 0.23 respectively. This means that Sri Lanka has the highest efficiency in processing their raw material than others.

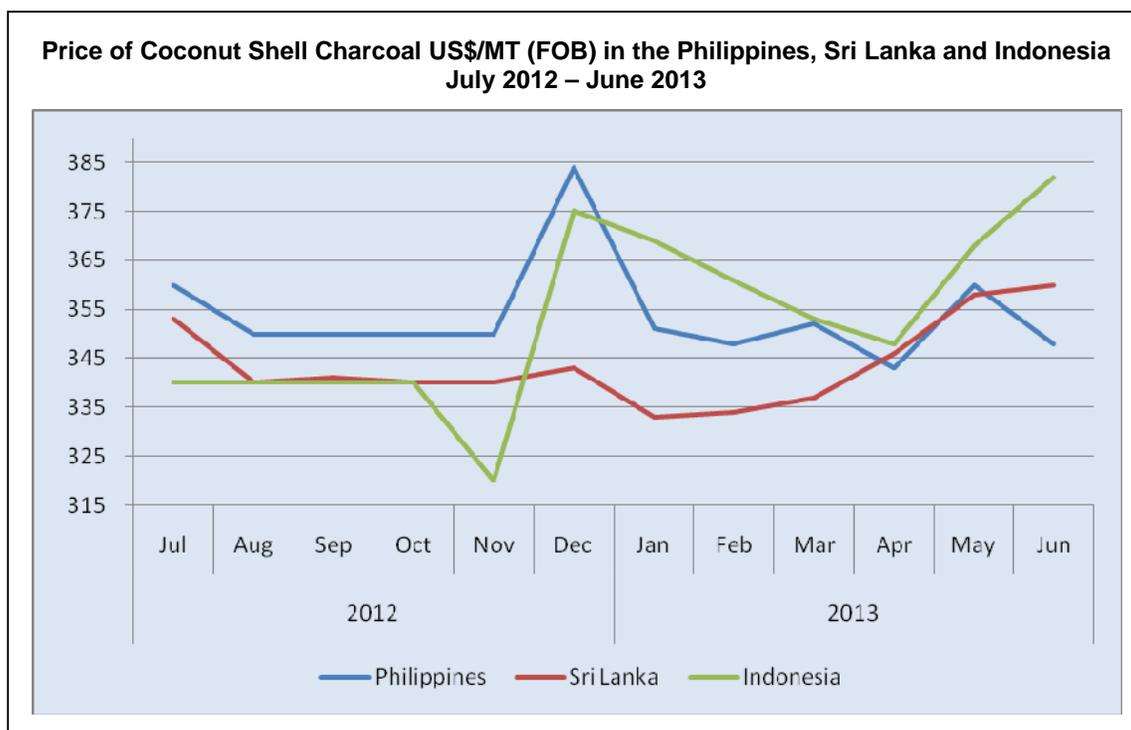
Instead of exporting coconut shell charcoal, Sri Lanka has opted to process its charcoal into activated carbon for export to gain a better added value.

Coconut shell charcoal (CSC) based activated carbon has a robust market demand in the world market. It is widely used in many industrial applications such as in the purification of air, gas, liquids, and in gold recovery. It is also used in the preparation of chemicals and pharmaceuticals as well as in the preservation of fruits and vegetables, and many others. The total import demand of CSC based activated carbon is increasing at a rate of 7.73% per annum in the last five years and is predicted to increase by 10% to 25% per annum through 2013 to 2018. The growth and opportunity in international activated carbon market have put some major activated carbon players to expand their production operation and raw material sourcing to other countries.

China, Japan and the Netherlands are major importers of Indonesia coconut shell charcoal export. China absorbed 32% of the country coconut shell charcoal export, Japan

27% and the Netherlands 19%. The rest was taken by India and Sri Lanka. The coconut shell charcoal is then processed into activated carbon of which some parts find their way back to Indonesia. It was recorded that in 2012 Indonesia imported 6,650 tons of activated carbon from various countries such as Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Japan and India.

The price of coconut shell charcoal in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Indonesia within the observed period of July 2012 to June 2013 in general had begun to increase since February 2013 after hitting the lowest especially in Indonesia in November 2012 which was recorded at US\$320 per MT. The significant hike of price was shown in the following month which was in December 2012. In December the Philippines had the highest price which was US\$384 per MT then followed by Indonesia which was US\$375 per MT. Sri Lanka somehow showed a relatively stable price during the observed period. The average price of CSC in the three countries in the period of January - June 2013 was lower than the average price of last year.



COMMUNITY NEWS

MOU FOR COCONUT PLANTING AND REPLANTING PROJECT-PHILIPPINES

The Visayas State University (VSU) and the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) have signed a memorandum of undertaking for a coconut planting and replanting project. The MOU was signed by VSU President Jose L. Bacusmo and PCA Administrator Euclides G. Forbes. Bacusmo said the project aims to increase coconut production and farm productivity in the province of Leyte and in the Eastern Visayas region. Eastern Visayas is the second largest coconut-producing region in the country. It produced an average of 1.7 billion nuts yearly from 2009 to 2012.

As agreed, PCA will provide P2.6 million for the purchase of 100,000 selected quality coconut seedlings at a pick-up price of P26 per seedling from VSU. PCA will coordinate with the VSU coconut plant breeders and nursery in charge on mother tree and seed nut selection as well as on establishment and maintenance of the coconut nursery. The agency will also evaluate eligible coconut farmer-recipient, including the farms to be planted or replanted; distribute seedlings to eligible coconut farmer-recipient; provide technical assistance to farmers on farm establishments, field planting, care and maintenance and pest/disease management; and regularly monitor planted/replanted sites. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

SRI LANKA, CUBA TO IMPLEMENT MOU ON COCONUT DEVELOPMENT

Sri Lanka's Minister of Coconut Development and Janatha State Development Jagath Pushpakumara and Cuban Minister of Agriculture Gustavo Rodriguez Rollero have affirmed their resolve to work together and draw up an action plan for the effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Coconut Development.

A Sri Lankan delegation led by Minister Pushpakumara visited Cuba from 24th – 29th June 2013. The visit mainly focused on the implementation of the MoU on Coconut Development signed between Sri Lanka and Cuba during the state visit of President Mahinda Rajapaksa to Cuba in June 2012. Chairman of the Coconut Research Board, Prof. H.P.M. Gunasena, Director of the Coconut Research Institute, Dr. Jayantha Gunathilaka and Chairman of the Coconut Cultivation Board, Sarath Keerthiratne accompanied the Minister.

The Cuban Minister briefed them on the current status of the country's coconut sector and its significance for the people and economy of Cuba. Both Ministers also agreed that the MOU on Coconut Development would facilitate the exchange of delegations, sharing of knowledge and experience, technology transfer, promotion of cooperation and opportunities in scientific, research and technological sectors between the two countries.

The Chairman of the Coconut Research Board, Prof. Gunasena proposed the setting up of focal points by the two Ministries in order to implement the activities and review progress of action under the MoU. The Sri Lankan delegation as part of the programme made a 3-day field visit to the eastern region of Baracoa which is home to the largest coconut plantations, coconut processing and research facilities in Cuba.

In Baracoa, the delegation was able to get a firsthand knowledge on the current status of the coconut production and processing sectors and gather information and views of the grower communities involved in cultivation and processing of coconut. It also enabled them to share their knowledge and experience with the officials in charge of coconut cultivation and industry in Baracoa.

During the visit, they also stopped at other coconut growing regions such as Guantanamo, Granma and Ciego de Vila and exchanged views and observations with the provincial authorities on matters of interest in the field of Agriculture.

Following their return to Havana, the Minister and the delegation held a wrap up meeting with the Cuban authorities overseeing coconut, fruit, and food production as well as processing, industrial, marketing aspects etc. and agreed on a joint plan of action to implement the provisions of the MoU with the collaboration of their respective Embassies. (<http://www.colombopage.com>)

THAILAND GOV'T ACTS ON COCONUT PEST CONTROL, SUPPORTS COCONUT REPLANTING

Mr. Wittaya Athip-anant, Deputy Director General of Department of Agriculture Extension disclosed that he had received the report from the Provincial Extension office informing about coconut pests devastation covering an area of 1,376,138 rai in 44 provinces. Therefore, the Department assigned the Office of Agricultural Commodity Development to train 65 officers on the reproduction of *Bracon hebetor* in order that they can utilize it to control the devastation caused by coconut pests.

In addition, Mr. Aphichart Jongsakul, Secretary General of the Office of Agricultural Economy, recently disclosed that the Board of Administrative Committee for FTA Fund had allocated funds to support the coconut replanting program esp. in senile coconut plantations in the main coconut producing provinces such as the area of Prachaub Kiri Khan, Chumphon, Surat Thani, and Nakorn Sri Thammarat provinces. This program aims at finding the solution for continuous decrease of coconut production caused by coconut pest devastation such as Black Headed Caterpillars and coconut hispine beetle (*Brontispa*).

INDIA CDB TO IMPLEMENT INTEGRATED COCO FARMING TO BOOST PRODUCTION

A report from *The Hindu Business Line* says the Coconut Development Board in India will be implementing an integrated farming program in coconut holdings to improve production. The Laying out of Demonstration Plots (LODP) project will be started in four southern States through select Coconut

Producer's Societies (CPS) only. The Board has earmarked Rs4.38 crore for implementing a fresh LODP program in the four States during 2013-14. In Kerala, 40 best CPS have been selected from around 2,300 registered with the Board for the program in 1,000 hectares. Selection of best CPS is also being carried out in Tamil Nadu in 500 hectares, Andra Pradesh 300 hectares and Karnataka 700 hectares. The scheme is being implemented by the Board on a cluster basis in a contiguous area of appropriate size of 25-50 ha.

The integrated farming program aims at increasing the production and productivity of coconut from unit holdings by proper and timely adoption of scientific practices in a farmer-participatory mode. The Coconut Board is providing agricultural inputs for the scientific management of unit holdings. The program is aimed to facilitate the adoption of appropriate coconut-based farming systems in a cost-effective manner and thereby improve the production and productivity to generate better incomes for farmers. Critical inputs such as fertilizers, green manures and plant protection chemicals are being provided besides planting materials for intercrops.

MODIFIED COCONUT PALM INSURANCE POLICY LIKELY - INDIA

With few takers for the Agriculture Insurance Company's (AIC) Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme (CPIS) in the State and other parts of the country, the Coconut Development Board (CDB) has proposed to bring out a modified insurance policy.

The scheme, which was introduced during 2009-10, has negligible number of buyers in the State. Only 694 growers opted for the scheme covering 95,746 palms covered under the scheme in 2012-13, according to Agriculture Insurance Company and Coconut Development Board officials here.

The Agriculture Insurance Company launched the scheme for 18 coconut growing districts of the State to provide insurance to coconut growers against natural calamities. A

few number of growers in Tiptur, Honnali, Davangere, Harappanahalli, Jagalur and Challakere opted for the scheme.

The scheme entered the fifth year this year (2013-14) and the Coconut Development Board has proposed some modifications to the scheme to the Union Ministry of Agriculture, to increase area coverage well as to make it cost effective. It was proposed to include areas or regions under the scheme to ensure coverage to all palms or entire palm plantations, the officials said.

The coverage of one or two palms was not cost effective for the Coconut Development Board or the Agriculture Insurance Company since assessing the damage to a few palms was time consuming and financially unviable, the officials said.

The other suggested modifications include the extension of the scheme for three years instead of one, and increase the insurance amount from Rs. 600 per coconut palm to Rs. 2,000.

"It is economically unviable to us to assess the insurance claims of one or two trees in some remote villages. Areas or region-wise coverage of all palms will make the scheme cost effective," the officials said.

Coconut trees are spread over 4.86 lakh hectares in Karnataka. While the annual production is 3,056 million tonnes of coconuts, the productivity per hectare is 7,100 coconuts. (<http://www.thehindu.com>)

SRI LANKA TO MAKE COCONUT AUCTIONS ONLINE

Sri Lanka Minister of Coconut Development and Janatha State Development Jagath Pushpakumara said that the national coconut auction would soon be made online.

Addressing the 19th Annual Congress of the Coconut Growers' Association at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, the Minister said that the institutes under the Ministry of Coconut Development have been computerized

already and soon the auctions will be introduced online.

He further said that the government would block all possibilities of individuals with vested interests meddling with the coconut price.

The Coconut Development Authority (CDA) conducts copra and fresh coconut auctions regularly with the objective of ensuring remunerative nut prices to all stakeholders. CDA holds the auctions at 10 am every Thursday of the week. (<http://www.colombopage.com>)

AN INTERFACE ON THE PROSPECTS NEERA AS A HEALTH DRINK - INDIA

Coconut Development Board convened a meeting with leaders of farmer movements attached to major political parties in Kerala on prospects of Neera at Kochin on 12th April 2013. The meeting started with a briefing by CDB officials on prospects of Neera and the initiative of CDB in permitting Neera tapping and the proposed modus operandi conceived by the Board. Neera committee members Dr. V.K. Raju, Kerala Agriculture University and Shri. Babu Joseph, farmer representative, Neera Committee made presentations. Shri. T K Jose IAS, Chairman, CDB spoke on the need for permitting Neera tapping, the current price situation in coconut and the down fall of the sector owing to non remunerative prices. Chairman CDB also stressed the need for urgent initiatives in regard of Neera taking into account of the fact that the domestic economy will be totally open for ASEAN countries from April 2014 and the market will be flooded with such products from major coconut producing countries like Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand. Farmer representatives were apprehensive of how Neera tapping can be implemented in a foolproof manner. The farmer movements suggested an Anand model functioning with active farmers and Neera technicians as stakeholders. Meeting arrived at the consensus that Neera should be taken out of the purview of Abkari act or else Neera should be given a separate definition in the Abkari act and Neera and toddy may be

maintained as separate products. The meeting was attended by representatives from KAU, farmer movements of major political and officials of CDB. (*Indian Coconut Journal*)

**PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY,
HORTICULTURE, NAGALAND VISITED
BOARD'S MDIC AT DELHI**

Shri Neiba Krone, Hon'ble Parliamentary Secretary for Horticulture, Government of Nagaland visited Market Development cum Information centre, Coconut Development Board, Delhi on 16th April 2013. The Parliament Secretary was briefed about coconut cultivation techniques, prospects of coconut cultivation in Nagaland and the various government programmes for the development of coconut industry. The Minister was accompanied by Shri Thomas Thailu, Nodal Officer, Monitoring Cell, Department of Planning & Co-ordination, Government of Nagaland.

Scientific coconut management technologies, possibilities of intercropping and integrated farming were briefed to the Minister. He was further briefed about the objectives and financial assistance under different developmental schemes of the Board, including new initiatives like FoCT, CPS formation, etc. for the benefit of the farmers, unemployed youth and SHGs, the association of Board in massive are expansion programme, seedling production, training to farmers and rural youth for successful cultivation of the crop in the State.

Shri Neiba Krone appreciated the efforts of the Board in the implementation of farmer oriented schemes and hoped that the farmers of Nagaland would be encouraged to avail the benefits of these schemes for improving rural economy of the State. Shri Neiba Krone was received by the office staff befittingly. (*India Coconut Journal*)

**KERALA APPROVES TAPPING SWEET
TODDY FROM COCONUT**

The Kerala Government has given its nod for tapping *neera* or unfermented sap from coconut across the State. Neera, sweet

toddy that is a non-alcoholic drink, is got from the immature inflorescence of coconut.

A decision in this regard was taken at the stakeholders meeting convened by State Excise Minister K. Babu in Thiruvananthapuram. The move could prove handy for the ailing coconut sector.

Neera tapping will be done in units of 1,500 coconut trees in each district across the State initially as a pilot project, it was decided at the meeting.

In Kollam, Pathanamthitta and Thiruvananthapuram districts, where no toddy tapping is taking place now, more than one unit will be allowed to tap *neera*.

The Abkari laws that govern sale of liquor would be amended for production of *neera*, the Minister told the meeting. The Minister pointed out that permission for producing *neera* would be given only to companies and federation affiliated to the Coconut Development Board.

Toddy tappers would be given preference to tapping coconut tree for *neera*. Besides, *neera* technicians would be given membership in the Toddy Tappers Welfare Fund Board, the Minister said.

A committee appointed by the Kerala Government had recommended allowing tapping of *neera* with regulations. The committee was constituted to study the possibilities and prospects of starting *neera* business in Kerala. Moreover, the Coconut Development Board has been demanding for long that *neera* production be started to help revive the coconut sector.

The inclusion of this in the Kerala Abkari Act had led to misconceptions about Neera, thereby limiting its tapping in the State.

The Board was of the view that *Neera* should be within the purview of the Abkari Act as it is unfermented sap containing no alcohol.

The technological advances made in the processing and packaging of Neera ensure that it remains a zero alcoholic drink.

It also suggested starting neera tapping and production, processing and packaging under the auspices of Federations of Coconut Producers Societies. (sajeevkumar.v@thehindu.co.in)

JAMAICA PRODUCERS GROUP TO PRODUCE COCONUT WATER

Jamaica Producers Group (JPG) plans to enter the coconut-water market in order to monetise its existing 100 acres of coconuts.

The conglomerate already has retail channels set up for its snack operations, which could be leveraged for the distribution of the beverage, but it may need supplies equivalent to about 400 acres of coconuts to make the venture viable.

"I am a passionate believer in coconut water," said Chairman Charles Johnston, responding to a query at Jamaica Producers' annual general meeting in Kingston.

"Actually, we have over 100 acres of coconut planted, and I think we need another 300 acres to get up to factory size. In the meantime, I would like to push management to start without that by contracting other farms to supply us. But, we have a good quality team and I think we can make the best quality coconut water in the world," Johnston said.

Producer's businesses largely span Jamaica and Europe. Last year, the group earned more than half of its total J\$6.79 billion in revenues from sales in The Netherlands, which falls under its juice-focused JP Europe division. Jamaica earned roughly one-quarter of revenues at J\$1.6 billion.

Coconut water is highly perishable, but Johnston said JP has technology available to lengthen the life of the product. "We have the technology in Europe to extend the shelf life of juice and, therefore, we have all the components to make excellent coconut water," he said.

JPG's rival in the food sector, GraceKennedy Limited, already retails a canned, pulp-based coconut-water product under the Grace brand that is produced for the company in Thailand. GraceKennedy has the

only unchilled and canned product on the market. Otherwise, the market is populated by chilled products that are bottled domestically by a growing number of small and micro-business operators.

Coconut water is naturally sweet, but taste varies according to the quality of the nut. The product is bottled without additives and is consumed as a healthy, refreshing drink. The market has expanded dramatically in recent years, but its scope is largely untracked. Its size in volume sales or turnover remains unknown.

Jamaica produced an estimated 96.4 million coconuts in 2012, slightly higher than the previous year, according to data from the Economic and Social Survey Jamaica (ESSJ) published by the Planning Institute of Jamaica. Coconut production has been hobbled by the lethal yellowing disease, which destroys trees, according to the ESSJ. (<http://jamaica-gleaner.com>)

COCONUT IS ONE OF THE TIPS FOR STAYING HEALTHY AND HAPPY WHILE FASTING IN INDONESIA

The holy month of Ramadhan is a special time of contemplation and reflection. Many use it as a time to "detox", with fasting from food and drink an ideal way to help clean their bodies of the processed and junk foods they have consumed over the past 11 months.

Now, celebrities are just regular folks like you and me, except for bigger bank balances and household name recognition. They also have their tips on fasting safely, which several of them share with us here.

Happy Salma, actress-TV host: For Happy, proper fasting means not giving in to food temptations as soon as it is time to eat. "For me, Ramadhan is about controlling all our emotions and greediness, not just in our behavior, but also our food choices." She says she considers the fasting month a time to become healthier and detox. "So I stay off fried food, or else I have a tendency to get mouth ulcers. I make sure to eat lots of fruits and vegetables, and drink water." To break the fast, she most enjoys drinking coconut

water and eating clear vegetable broth. She avoids spicy food except for once in a while, but never during the breaking of the fast because it leaves her feeling nauseous.

Luna Maya, entertainer: The Bali native can now add full-fledged director to her resume after the release of the movie *Pintu Harmonika* this year. Recently returned from a “really enjoyable” trip to Tibet, Luna said she always looked forward to eating kolak, the sweet compote of starchy vegetables and fruits and coconut milk that is a breaking-of-the-fast traditional food. “I drink a lot of water and I don’t eat a big meal to break the fast, just hot sweetened tea,” she said. She continues to exercise during the fasting month with Pilates – “it’s not too strenuous” – and keeps her pre-dawn meal to water, fruit juice and fruit.

Dewi Sandra, singer: In the past year, Dewi has embraced a more spiritual path in life, including deciding to wear the hijab. She says she strives to keep everything in moderation during the month in giving her organs a rest from their usual daily routine. “The most important thing to me is water. If there are dates at the time to break the fast, that’s great, but just don’t overdo it with food, that’s never been my thing ... To me, it’s most important to eat enough, rest enough and exercise enough.” However, although it is still a long way away, she is looking forward to the feasting that will follow during the Idul Fitri holidays in August. “Mom’s cooking is always the best, and because my own mother is no longer around, I am really grateful that my mother in law can make great Betawi-style opor (coconut chicken stew), rendang (beef stewed in spices and coconut milk) and semur (a sweet soy sauce savory dish).” (*The Jakarta Post*, 10 July 2013)

COCONUT QUEENS OF TENKUDAK, BALI, INDONESIA

Scaling coconut palms and harvesting their bounty into coconut oil has been a chore for the men and women of Tengkidak village in Tabanan for as long as anyone can remember.

At 48 years of age, rice and livestock farmer Purwati has spent more hours than she cares to remember over a wood fired stove cooking off coconut meat to render its oil to be used in food preparation and a myriad of other applications.

However, a recent pilot project focusing on producing virgin coconut oil, or VCO, has freed her from the stove and the daily search for firewood.

“I used to spend at least five hours a day cooking the meat for the coconut oil. It was a lot of constant work and I could not leave the stove, so I could not do anything else. These days, making VCO gives me a far better income for much less work,” Purwati, a member of the Tengkidak Women’s Farmer Cooperative, says. The cooperative was established under the Bali Mandara program that seeks to find new ways to farm and improve farming viability across the island.

It takes 15 mature coconuts to render a liter and a half of common coconut oil, which is mostly sold at traditional markets and village warungs. Hours of hot and dangerous work yields just US\$1.30 per liter for the oil.

A liter of VCO, on the other hand, sells for well over \$10, says 25-year-old Made Ary Sarasmita, a pharmacist and the facilitator of the 2-month-old VCO pilot project. The program is already showing excellent results for the women farmers, says Sarasmita, who with her colleague, 29-year-old chemist I Wayan Karta, has spent several weeks promoting virgin coconut oil to spas and the health conscious at the Bali Arts Festival in Denpasar and will launch the organic product in Jakarta next week.

The project comes under the provincial government’s Bali Mandara program.

“Bali Mandara is a provincial government initiative to enhance farming techniques across the island. There is the Simantri program of diversified farming and also the women’s farming collectives,” says Sarasmita, who, along with Karta, is an ambassador for the program.

“When we came here to this village of my grandfather, the women farmers were growing coconuts, rice, corn, coffee, cocoa and bananas. Our goal from the first was to discover ways to increase the potential for viable farming for these women. At that time they did not know of VCO — they had the product, coconuts, but did not know how to develop this into a high quality product, so we gave them training,” says Sarasmita.

Another member of the cooperative, Wayan Budiasih, says training given under the Bali Mandara government program for VCO production has freed up her time enormously and increased her income. She is clearly proud of the virgin oil her women’s group is producing and bringing to the market.

“We started learning about VCO in May. In the past, I always made heated coconut oil. That meant hours and hours at the stove. But making VCO is far easier. We desiccate the coconut on our machines, mix it with water and then let it stand and the oil rises naturally. It takes a couple of days for all the oil to rise, but we just leave it in a cool place and can get on with other jobs around the farm,” says the 48-year-old Budiasih.

Budiasih is also an evangelist for virgin coconut oil. “VCO is better because there are so many benefits; there are clear benefits. I had a cold and drank the VCO to get well. It also cured my stomach ache. VCO is healthy and you can drink it and it tastes good. It’s also good for the skin and for massages. And the income is much better. So far I have made 10 liters of VCO,” says Budiasih, who can earn more than \$100 for her 10 liters of VCO compared to just \$12 from traditionally rendered coconut oil. “With our coconuts and this training we are learning how to add value to our product,” she adds.

Building a market for the VCO produced by the cooperative has so far been done via the Bali Arts Festival trade fair, which introduces local products to the public, and by the gold standard of advertising, word of mouth, says Sarasmita.

“The women’s cooperative is already seeing good sales from Kuta and from as far away as Klungkung. It’s been word of mouth and people make the trip here to buy the VCO. The women farmers are also learning marketing skills and they have plans to visit spas across Bali hopefully to introduce their product,” says Sarasmita of the VCO that retains much of its vitamin and mineral content during the cold press rendering of the coconuts.

The head of the village, Made Subagiastra, says all local farmers grow coconut trees around their rice fields, so there is no fear in his mind of running low on the raw materials for making VCO.

“Here we have many coconut palms. Every farmer has at least 10 coconut palms, so every woman in our village can make an income from producing VCO. This is a very good project for our village,” says Subagiastra.

With the VCO pilot project appearing to be success, Sarasmita and her colleague, I Wayan Karta are setting their sights on replicating the project on the impoverished island of Nusa Penida, just off Klungkung’s coastline.

A native of the small island, Karta says chemical analysis of Nusa Penida’s coconuts show they are of the highest mineral and vitamin content, making a VCO project there highly feasible. (*The Jakarta Post*, 11 July 2013)

MARKET NEWS

COMBINED EXPORT OF WORLD’S TOP DESICCATORS DOWN IN MARCH

According to collated country data from the Philippine Coconut Authority and Sri Lanka’s Coconut Development Authority, combined export of desiccated coconut from the Philippines and Sri Lanka, the world’s major desiccated coconut producers, dropped sharply in March by 9.7% to 11,367 MT from

12,593 MT in a similar month last year. Export from the Philippines, which accounted for 84.7% of combined volume, significantly climbed by 15.4% to 9,626 MT from 8,345 MT while shipment from Sri Lanka at 1,741 MT declined steeply by 59.0% from 4,248 MT year-ago. Computed average traded price of Philippine desiccated coconut was USD1,520.06/MT FOB (USD2,463.41/MT last year) as against Sri Lankan product at USD1,918.04/MT FOB (USD1,661.70/MT).

The cumulative figure for January-March 2013 at 33,898 MT was appreciably lower by 12.9% from 38,903 MT in the same period year-ago. Export from the Philippines at 29,005 MT rose by 9.6% from last year at 26,472 MT, while shipment from Sri Lanka at 4,893 MT contracted markedly by 60.6% from 12,431 MT. In terms of market share, however, the Philippines was responsible for 85.5% and Sri Lanka 14.4%. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

TOP NON-TRADITIONAL COCO EXPORTS IN MARCH 2013

Data from the Philippine Coconut Authority show 11 nontraditional coconut products generated export revenue of more than USD100,000 during the month to qualify for the top non-traditional export products category. Leading the pack was GLYCERIN which earned USD2.058 million from export of 2,147 MT. Volume during the month significantly dropped by 42.0% from 3,704 MT year-ago. Japan was the biggest outlet cornering 1,648 MT or 76.8% of total sales. Much smaller volumes went to China at 237 MT, Spain 56 MT, Malaysia 26 MT, Hong Kong 11 MT and two other countries with combined uptake of 6 MT.

VIRGIN COCONUT OIL was the second biggest nontraditional export with gross export receipts of USD1.324 million from sale of 330 MT. Total load was down sharply from last year at 857 MT by 61.5%. Canada was the market leader capturing 246 MT (74.4%), followed far behind by United Kingdom at 32 MT (9.7%), France 31 MT (9.3%), Australia 9 MT (2.6%) and Malaysia 7 MT (2.0%). Four other countries jointly held 7 MT.

COIR & COIR PRODUCTS took the third spot with income of USD1.208 million from delivery of 3,656 MT. Quantity was more than five times the previous year at 689 MT. Brazil was leading destination at 2,878 MT or 78.7%, followed by Korea at 567 MT (15.5%), Singapore 166 MT (4.5%), United States 23 MT, Saudi Arabia at 14 MT and three other countries which together bought 8 MT.

COCONUT WATER came in fourth with gross export receipts of USD523,617 from trade of 426,516 liters. Shipment during the month slumped by 71.7% from 1,507,331 liters of the previous year. Australia was primary destination capturing 146,308 liters or 34.3% of total business. Smaller volumes went to United States at 60,398 liters, Pakistan at 45,630 liters, New Zealand at 44,605 liters, Singapore at 36,746 liters, China at 27,000 liters, United Kingdom at 25,920 liters, Qatar at 19,550 liters, Korea at 14,256 liters and Bahrain at 5,697 liters; while two other countries shared 406 liters.

ACID OIL landed fifth with turnover of USD339,796. Tonnage at 645 MT reflected an exaggerated growth of more than 5folds (+5.4%) from 101 MT in prior year. China was the only country destination.

FRESH COCONUT was sixth top export with proceeds of USD283,130. Shipment during the month at 581 MT swelled to more than three times the previous year at 171 MT. China was key destinations at 378 MT (65.1%) trailed by Malaysia at 103 MT (17.9%), while limited volume went to Hong Kong at 60 MT (10.3%), Japan at 19 MT (3.3%), United States at 18 MT (3.1%) and Canada at 2 MT.

COCONUT MILK POWDER was in seventh place and turned in USD269,923 from transactions involving 153 MT. Export during the month rose by 13% from the previous year at 135 MT. The volume went chiefly to Korea which cornered 102 MT (66.6%) while Singapore handled the balance 51 MT (33.3%).

NATA DE COCO with turnover of USD264,567 after trading 318 MT (541 MT) filled in the eight place. This was primarily

shipped to Japan with total at 299 MT (94.0%). Limited volume went to Singapore and Hong Kong at 6 MT apiece and Guam at 4 MT. Three other countries shared 3 MT.

COCONUT VINEGAR occupied the ninth place with shipment of 361 MT (34 MT year-ago) valued at USD239,837. Saudi Arabia was the leading importer responsible for 164 MT (45.4%), followed by United States at 100 MT (27.7%), Australia at 43 MT (11.8%), Korea at 34 MT (9.5%) and Oman at 13 MT (3.5%). Seven other countries shared the remaining 8 MT.

ALKANOLAMIDE held the tenth position with returns amounting to USD224,891 from the sale of 146 MT (30 MT a year-ago). China was principal buyer responsible for 75 MT (51.3%), trailed by Taiwan at 26 MT (18.0%), China at 22 MT (15.0%), Israel at 11 MT (7.4%) while 2 other countries shared the remaining volume of 12 MT. Completing the top eleven non-traditional exports was SHAMPOO which contributed USD163,514 from shipment of 61 MT. Export volume was slightly lower by 19.2% from 76 MT a year-ago. Singapore was the main outlet capturing 36 MT or 58.0%. Smaller volumes went to South Africa at 12 MT (19.9%), UAE at 6 MT (9.8%), and Netherlands at 5 MT (8.2%), while five other countries shared the remaining volume of 2 MT. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

SRI LANKA DESICCATED COCONUT EXPORT DOWN IN APRIL

Figures from Sri Lanka's Coconut Development Authority show the country's export of desiccated coconut sharply dropped by 34.4% to 1,874 MT in April from 2,856 MT in a similar month last year. The shipment was worth USD3.688 million, likewise a substantial drop by 22.7% from last year at USD4.773 million. Average traded price at USD1,967.97/MT FOB contracted by 17.8% from prior year at USD1,671.18/MT. The cumulative January-April figure at 6,767 MT rapidly declined by 55.7% from a comparable year-ago period total at 15,287 MT.

Export in April went to 31 countries across the globe. The top six importers held

volumes above 100 MT and collectively accounted for 51.2% of total trade. Leading the pack was United Arab Emirates/Dubai with 189 MT (10.1% market share), followed by Saudi Arabia with 187 MT (10.0%), Iran with 182 MT (9.7%), Egypt with 154 MT (8.2%), Pakistan with 135 MT (7.2%) and United States with 112 MT (6.0%). The remaining 25 countries which aggregately accounted for 48.8% of total sales took in volume ranging from a low of 1 MT to a high of 76 MT. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

OILSEED CROPS IN INDIA SEEN CLIMBING

Oilseed output in India, the world's second-biggest cooking oils importer, may increase this year as the best start to monsoon in more than a decade spurs sowing of soybeans and peanuts, according to a government official.

Production will increase from 30.72 million metric tons in the year ended June 30, Agriculture Commissioner J.S. Sandhu said in an interview in New Delhi, without giving a precise estimate for output this year. A bigger harvest may help India cut reliance on cooking oil imports, he said.

Rising production may boost exports of oilseed meals and trim imports of palm and soybean oils to meet a supply gap. India is the world's biggest cooking oil consumer after China and meets more than half of its demand through imports. It buys palm oil from Indonesia and Malaysia and soybean oil from the U.S., Brazil and Argentina. (*The Jakarta Post, 12 July 2013*)

U.S. IMPORT OF LAURIC OILS UP SHARPLY IN APRIL

Oil World figures reveal U.S. import of lauric oils in April totaled 82,900 MT, a steep leap by 134.2% from 35,400 MT in the same month year-ago. Of this total, coconut oil accounted for almost two-thirds (65.6%) or 54,400 MT (18,500 MT in the prior year) while palm kernel oil contributed the remaining 34.4% or 28,500 MT (16,900 MT). The increase in lauric oil import was largely on account of coconut oil which registered a

massive growth of 194.0% or 35,900 MT in absolute number; palm kernel oil increment was at 68.6% or 11,600 MT.

Bulk of lauric oil supply during the month came from the Philippines consisting of coconut oil at 48,100 MT (12,900 MT) and representing 58.0% of the pack. Shipment from Malaysia was responsible for 31.8% or 26,400 MT (14,800 MT) of palm kernel oil only. Last year, however, the country delivered 4,100 MT of coconut oil and 10,700 MT of palm kernel oil. Indonesia contributed 9.8% or 8,100 MT (7,200 MT) of which 6,000 MT (1,400 MT) was coconut oil and 2,100 MT (5,800 MT) was palm kernel oil. Purchases from other countries totaled 300 MT (500 MT) of which 200 MT (200 MT) was coconut oil and 100 MT (300 MT) was palm kernel oil.

January-April total at 293,900 MT was 24.9% higher than same time last year figure at 235,300 MT. Coconut oil was 199,600 MT (139,400 MT) of which 74.6% or 149,000 MT (98,800 MT) came from the Philippines. Palm kernel oil was 94,300 MT (95,900 MT) of which 90.3% or 85,200 MT (85,400 MT) originated from Malaysia. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

GOOD BUSINESS FOR YOUNG TENDER COCONUT TRADERS IN THE MONTH OF RAMADHAN

Ramadhan, is a blessed month for Muslims and also for the coconut traders. They enjoy an increase in demand and price rises up to more than double. Sudan, a coconut trader in Jakarta said that he can sell off a truck load of young tender coconut in two days. A truck is usually loaded 4,000 to 5,000 coconuts which he bought from Lampung, a province in easternmost tip of Sumatra. One young coconut he bought from local farmer in Lampung about US\$ 0.16 and then sold for USD 0.38 in Jakarta. Zainuddin, another trader who lives in Lampung said that the price could even climb up three times to USD 0.48 per nut. He can earn net income of USD 200-250 per day after paying the cost for the truck for USD100.

High demand of young tender coconut in Ramadhan seems to give good opportunity

to coconut farmers and traders. Zainuddin added that such good situation of the business only prevails during the month of Ramadhan because there is a lot of demand of young tender coconut in big cities especially Jakarta. Young tender coconut is refreshing drink which is preferable for breaking the fast. He added that he already in the business for two years. Every Ramadhan he sends three trucks of young coconut daily to West Jakarta but in normal day he only sends one truck. Though the demand for young coconut is high, he loads also mature coconuts which he sold for cooking purposes.

Zainudin feels that he is lucky to have a piece of land close to main road so he can collect all the coconuts he bought from farmers on it until enough volume for the truck to load and send it. Usually he sends other agricultural products such bananas and jack fruits, but this time because of the market situation then he focuses on coconuts only.

AT NEW YORK FOOD SHOW, COCONUT ITEMS FROM INDIA COME OUT OF THE SHELL

Coconut products from India have received an good response at the Summer Fancy Food Show 2013 held in New York City. The show is North America's largest food exhibition.

K. Muralidharan, Director, Coconut Development Board, showcasing the Board's TMOC (market promotion) scheme, said it received many enquiries for Indian coconut products especially tender coconut water, coconut cream, coconut milk, low fat coconut milk, coconut milk powder, virgin coconut oil and RBD oil.

The board had displayed many value-added products such as desiccated coconut powder, coconut milk powder, tender coconut water in cans/tetra packs and varieties of coconut oil in its stall, he said.

The focus of the event was to synergise the efforts of the Export Promotion Councils/ trade bodies to highlight the 'Brand India' concept and present a single 'India Pavilion' image. As an Export Promotion Council, the

board is mandated to explore the potential of Indian coconut products in the international market through participation in international fairs, he said.

The advertisement posters highlighting the goodness of Indian coconut and coconut food products were exhibited in the board's stall, which attracted thousands of visitors from various countries. VVD & Sons Pvt Ltd, Tamil Nadu, also participated in the show under the banner of the Coconut Board.

The board's participation in the 59th edition of Summer Fancy was arranged by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO). Many organisations, both from Government and the private sector, are participating under the banner of the 'India Pavilion'.

Apart from coconut products of edible and non-edible nature, the display profile covered spices, rice, ready-to-serve meals, confectionery products, bakery products, pickles, jam, honey, sesame, Indian snacks and other grocery items. (*The Hindu Business Line*)

COCONUT TECHNOLOGY NEWS

DOA-THAILAND CONCLUDED CHEMICAL TRIAL TO ELIMINATE BLACK HEADED CATERPILLAR

Mr. Damrong Jirasutas, Director General of Department of Agriculture disclosed the Department study on Coconut Trunk injection to prevent and control a recent coconut pest; Black Headed Caterpillars (BHC) which have severely affected coconut growing areas in Koh Samui, Koh Phangan of Surat Thani province and in Tap Sakae district, Prachaub KiriKhan province. Black Headed Caterpillars are still present in main coconut producing areas of Prachaub Kirikhan province.

The Trunk Injection trial was conducted for one year by using Emamextin Benzoate. He explained that after trunk injection for 15, 30, 60 and 90 days, the nut samples were taken for residue analysis. It was found that

there was not any residue in coconut endosperm (meat and water) of young and mature nut except in coconut water sample taken from a coconut palm of 8.6 m high that was injected by Emamextin benzoate solution for 30 days. The residue in that coconut water sample was 0.00017 mg/L. The result from this experiment also showed that the residue of Emamextin benzoate was found only in coconut leaves after 90 days of application. There was no chemical movement from leaf to fruit. Therefore, the DOA recommendation for application of Emamextin Benzoate to protect and eliminate BHC by trunk injection is 30 mm/palm. Injection should be done only to the coconut tree above 12 meters high. Application for Aromatic Green Dwarf varieties (Nam Hom) is strictly prohibited.

The DG said that trunk injection is the best solution at present because it can protect and eliminate BHC for more than 3 months in which the life cycle of this pest can be cut as a result it will decrease BHC devastation effect. However, Bio control and BT spraying should be done after the trunk injection.

Last June 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand held a seminar for public hearing on the application of pesticide (Emamextin Benzoate solution) injection in coconut trunk. The key officers and key farmer representatives attended this seminar. The experiment result of Emamextin application by the Department of Agriculture was presented in the seminar. It was explained that the Black Headed Caterpillars can be destroyed by trunk injection with appropriate Emamextin solution while there is no chemical residue which will endanger human being.

TRAINING PROGRAM ON MINIMALLY PROCESSED TENDER COCONUT - INDIA

This training program is of one day duration and covers process demonstration for minimally processed tender coconut. Sessions on food packaging, quality standards, food safety management system and schemes implemented by the Board for technical and financial support for processing

and marketing of coconut products are also covered in the training program. The Technology Demonstration Centre (TDC) has conducted training programs for entrepreneurs, Coconut Producer Societies, Federations, farmer groups covering a total of 45 participants from various districts of Kerala. (*Indian Coconut Journal*)

TENDER COCONUT PUNCH CUM SPLITTER AND HAND OPENER

Tender coconut punch cum splitter and hand opener, was developed by Apex Design Center, Coimbatore. A refined punch cum splitter and tender coconut opener which can punch and split 300 to 500 tender coconuts per hour has been launched and is available in the market @ Rs.4500.

A pilot study on development of a nutraceutical preparation using nut water was sanctioned to Amrita School of Pharmacy, Kochi wherein tender coconut water was fortified with different concentrations of guva extract, pomegranate juice and amla extract and analyzed for their nutraceutical properties. The formulation containing tender coconut water with 10% pomegranate juice and added vitamin C and B-carotene was found to have high nutritional value, good acceptance as well as stability and antioxidant potential of 4 months. Pomegranate provided best fortification with good taste. (*Indian Coconut Journal*)

NEERA: TOMMORROW'S HEALTH DRINK

Neera, a natural and non-alcoholic beverage also called Sweet Toddy or Palm Nectar is a sap extracted from Inflorescence of various species of Toddy palms. High in nutritional value and an instant thirst quencher, it is rich in protein, vitamin C, phosphorus, calcium and iron with carbohydrates mainly sucrose. Neera has the tendency to bring down body temperature by dissipating heat and is an ideal coolant for during the scorching summers. It has a nearly neutral pH. Considered to be a health drink, Neera, also helps to improve digestion & cure digestive troubles and is good for general health. The drink acts like a tonic for asthmatic, anaemic &

leprosy patients. Last but not the least, Neera is also a good appetizer.

Kerala is known as the land of coconut and the word Kera itself means coconut tree. Coconut production plays an important role in the state economy and culture of Kerala. According to Kerala State Planning Board figures, the area under coconut cultivation fell from 898,000 hectares in 2005-06 to 770,000 hectares in 2010-2011. Production too dipped from 6,326 to 5,287 million nuts, and productivity from 7,046 to 6,862 nuts per hectare during the same period. Today Kerala produces roughly 45 per cent of India's coconuts. Coconut farming has become a loss-making venture due to low price and root wilt disease and hike in labour price.

A palm can be tapped for six months at a stretch in a year and allowed for the next six months for normal tender nut or coconut production as a health restoration measure for the palm. Hence usually 50 per cent of utilizing their palms for value added products like Neera, Jaggery, Tender nut and Traditional Coconut, Copra and Oil Production.

If a tapper can tap 12 palms daily and each palm yields on an average 1.5 litres of sap per palm per day, the total inflorescence sap would be 18 litres per day. On processing 9 litres, a final product will be obtained. This can be made into 51 bottles of 175 ml each. Being a health drink, a bottle could be sold at Rs. 25. The total income per day will be Rs. 1275 and it adds upto Rs. 38,250 per month. The total cost of production per month would be Rs. 20,000, considering the labour wages and expenditure for tapping as Rs. 10,500/- per month for 12 palms (@ Rs.350/- per day). Monthly income from 12 palms is Rs. 18,250 (ie., Rs. 1521/- per palm/month) after deducting the tapping and processing cost. It is much more than produced from any cash crop of the state.

Neera is highly susceptible to natural fermentation at ambient temperature, even within a few hours of extraction from palms. The real challenge is to arrest fermentation by

organic methods. But the scientists from Kerala Agriculture University (KAU) have successfully developed a method to check fermentation. The health drink extracted using the method can be preserved for more than three months (alcohol-free product) under refrigerated condition, says Kerala Agriculture Secretary K.R. Jyothilal. The health drink, Neera, was developed by a team of KAU scientists headed by Dr. Jayaprakash Naik, Associate Director, Regional Agricultural Research Station, Pillicode.

MINIMALLY PROCESSED TENDER COCONUT - A NATURAL FORM OF PACKING

Tender Coconut Water (TCW) is the most nutritious wholesome beverage that the nature has provided. TCW possesses therapeutic properties and is fast becoming a health and a lifestyle drink. Over the last decade tender coconut water has captured a portion of the soft drink market in the country.

Sensing the potential offered by coconut in its natural form, a number of entrepreneurs have started to venture into this line. Since tender coconut water is a health drink and if it can be made available to the consumer in the natural form with minimal level of processing, it will have a ready market within the country and outside. Export potentialities of the product are immense. Setting up of such minimally processed tender coconut water units will be highly beneficial to the coconut farming community as a whole.

Tender coconut in its natural form contains essential electrolytes and high content of potassium than average sports drink. It is a good source of calcium, sodium, magnesium manganese and other minerals. At every stage of our lives, there are times when we become dehydrated causing us to lose electrolytes found in our body. We need to replace fluids and electrolytes regularly to help avoid headaches, muscle cramping, and fatigue. Tender coconut water contains some of the same electrolytes found in blood, and is a good source of potassium. Throughout history, coconut water has been used to prevent and treat dehydration and it has been

shown to be more effective than plain water for hydrating. Coconut water is a natural source of hydration, with much lower calories than many other fruit juices.

Tender coconut water: characteristics and composition

Coconut fruit is filled with the sweet clear liquid "coconut water" when the coconut is about 5 to 6 months old. Tender coconut water has been called the "fluid of life" due to its medicinal benefits such as oral rehydration, treatment of childhood diarrhea, gastroenteritis and cholera. It is high in electrolyte content and has been reported as an isotonic beverage due to its balanced electrolytes like sodium and potassium that help restore losses of electrolytes through skin and urinary pathways. The constituents of tender coconut water are water 94% (w/v), sugars such as glucose, fructose and sucrose around 5% (w/v), proteins around 0.02% (w/v) and lipids only about 0.01% (w/v). It is rich in minerals such as potassium, calcium, magnesium and manganese. Mostly coconut water is consumed fresh in tropical coastal areas due to its short shelf-life. Once exposed to air, it loses most of its nutritional characteristics and deteriorates.

Process for minimally processed tender coconut

Minimally processed tender coconut is a partially de-husked tender coconut. A portion of the tender coconut is de-husked in an aesthetic manner to get a definite shape. The trimmed tender coconut is dipped in a preservative solution to retain its bright white colour. The finished product is then wrapped with food grade cling/shrink wrapper with appropriate labeling.

Minimally Processing:

Minimally processing technique has been applied to fresh fruits and vegetables to increase their functionality without greatly changing their nutritional properties.

Demand of minimally processed fruits and vegetables has increased rapidly in Europe and USA.

Process from farm level to processed form

a) Selection from farm:

Medium sized tender coconuts are plucked from the farm. It should be handled carefully so that no damage or cracks are seen in tender coconuts. While loading and unloading proper care must be taken. If it gets damaged brown scar will be seen while trimming and this cannot be treated.

b) Transportation:

Carefully selected and handpicked 7-8 months old tender coconuts has to be brought to processing plant and stored in well ventilated place.

d) Trimming and shaping

Selected coconuts are taken for trimming and shaping.

e) Preservation drying:

Coconut has to be dipped into the freshly prepared solution for a minimum of 10 minutes and not exceeding 15 minutes. Post dipping, the coconut has to be air dried, preferably on a perforated and sanitized stainless steel tray.

f) Packing and loading

The resultant nut can be preferably shrink wrapped or cling wrapping is also possible.

Quality check has to be done by physical observation with check points for damage or colorization.

The wrapped coconut can be packed in a carton box of suitable size or placed on a crate box of suitable size of placed on a crate. Care has to be taken to avoid any damage.

The processed coconut should be stored in a clean and cool room. The preferred temperature for storage is 10^o to 12^oC. It is ideal to maintain the same temperature for transportation. Care has to be taken to avoid any damage.

The person who handles coconut, should observe hygienic practices of disinfection and sanitization before handling the processed coconut.

Shelf Life

The current process gives a shelf life of 6 to 8 days, when stored at room temperature and 30 to 45 days when stored at 10 to 12 degree centigrade.

Marketing & Sales

There is immense market potential for minimally processed tender coconut, when marketed as a lifestyle and health drink. Since the produce would be in bulk, the targeted customers would be super malls, catering agencies, premium hotels, clubs, restaurants, hospitals, railways and airlines. Although the product enjoys wide market potential, today only a very few units in Kerala have ventured into minimal processing of tender coconut. Coconut Development Board is now offering all support to the entrepreneurs by way of training and process demonstration and by offering financial support in the form of credit linked subsidy for processing and marketing of the product. The training facility is being offered by Coconut Development Board at its Technology Development centre at South Vazhakulam, Aluva. For more details please contact 0484 2679680. (*Indian Coconut Journal*)

BIO-DIESEL NEWS

PHILIPPINES BIOFUELS BOARD APPROVES INCREASE IN COCONUT BIODIESEL BLEND

The National Biofuels Board (NBB) of the Philippines has approved the increase in the mandated biodiesel blend to five percent from the present two percent, Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala said last week. Secretary Alcala is confident the local coconut industry would be able to supply the coconut oil requirement for the production of coco methyl ester to be used for blending, adding that the move would result to billions of pesos in savings for the government because of import substitution.

While higher biodiesel blend may entail a slight rise in fuel prices, Alcala explained

increasing the biofuel component would reduce air pollutants and strengthen the domestic coconut industry which thrives mainly on coconut oil exports to the United States and Europe. Raising the mandated biodiesel blend to five percent would raise the domestic consumption of coconut oil for fuel to 350,000 MT from the current 140,000 MT. Alcala said coconut oil exporters may reduce their export volumes as they sell their product to local producers of coco methyl ester. He said exporters could enjoy "premium" price for coconut oil if they sell their products locally.

The NBB is chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Energy and is composed of the heads of the Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture, Department of Finance, Department of Labor and Employment, Philippine Coconut Authority, and Sugar Regulatory Administration. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

MALAYSIA TO INCREASE BIODIESEL PRODUCTION BY 50%

Malaysia is expected to increase biodiesel production by 50 per cent to 375,000 MT this year due to price differential between crude oil and palm oil prices that is favorable in the export market, a report from *Business Times* says. Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Datuk Seri Douglas Uggah Embas said currently, palm oil price is averaging at around RM2,300 per ton while petroleum is being sold at around US\$108 (RM343) per barrel. "In view of this favorable price differential in the export market, our biodiesel industry is now able to churn out between 300,000 and 400,000 tons a year," Uggah said after launching the rollout of the B5 for the southern region in Pasir Gudang recently. B5 is a blend of 95 per cent regular diesel and five per cent palm biodiesel.

In a move to promote the use of biodiesel, the government started to subsidize the price differential between diesel and biodiesel two years ago through the Automatic Pricing Mechanism. MPOB said the B5 rollout in Johor involves 415 service stations and that

37,270 tons of palm oil biodiesel will be used in a year. The B5 was launched in the central region from June 2011, covering Malacca, Negri Sembilan, Putrajaya, Selangor and Kuala Lumpur. With the addition of Johor, all six will need about 150,000 tons of biodiesel per year to implement the B5 program. This is about 30 percent of the 500,000 tons per year of biodiesel required for nationwide implementation. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

OTHER VEGETOIL NEWS

INDIAN VEGETABLE OILS IMPORT UP 21% IN JUNE

India's vegetable oil import in June grew 21% to 947,591 MT from 783,315 MT in the same month of last year, according to data from the Solvent Extractors' Association of India. Of the import, 911,091 MT was edible oils and 36,500 MT non-edible oils. Import of refined palm olein was down to 296,230 MT in June 2013, compared with 373,837 MT previous month. This was due to a reduction in duty difference between crude and refined palm olein and inverted duty structure by palm oil exporting countries.

Total import of vegetable oils for the 8-month period November 2012 to June 2013 of the current oil year November 2012/October 2013 was reported at 7,145,060 MT, up by 11.7% from 6,395,199 in the same period in 2011/2012. The overall import of refined oil in the last eight months was reported at 1,544,254 MT compared to 1,212,552 MT during the same period last year. (*UCAP Bulletin*)

INDONESIAN CPO EXPORT LEVY INCREASED IN JULY

The export levy on crude palm oil (CPO) increased in July to 10.5 percent from 9 percent previously. Trade Ministry data for the levy was based upon the CPO reference price, which stands at US\$858.64 per metric ton, up from its average rate of \$835.71 per metric ton in previous months.

Meanwhile, the standard export price for CPO for July has been set by the Ministry at \$783 per ton, up from \$764 the month before. Previously, the Indonesian Palm Oil Producers Association (Gapki) predicted the rise of CPO commodity prices due to declining supplies from soybean-based products from competitors.

INDONESIAN PALM OIL PRODUCERS URGE GOV'T TO BUILD MORE PORTS

The Indonesian Vegetable Oil Refiners Association (GIMNI) through its spokesperson Sahat Sinaga has demanded that the government build new seaports to cope with increasing commodity shipments and cut extra costs that total US\$300 million stemming from port inefficiencies. Apart from modernizing existing seaports, the government would need to set up at least three seaports equipped with special terminals for palm oil exports to boost efficiency and anticipate future export volumes, Sahat said.

Poor infrastructure is a long-unresolved problem in Indonesia that economists say can drag down the country's growth. At present, only several seaports are serving shipments of commodities, including palm oil. Among the few is Dumai Port in Dumai, Riau, which last year delivered around 6.3 million tons of crude palm oil (CPO) and its products overseas. Another seaport in Riau has been built by Wilmar Group in its Dumai Industrial Park with a palm oil bulking terminal of 270,000 tons per year.

Sahat said if the ports were to be built, they would be potentially located in Mandailing Natal, North Sumatra; Pontianak, West Kalimantan; and Bitung, North Sulawesi, to transport palm oil output on each island. Mandailing Natal is home to a significant coverage of oil palm plantations and when it operates a seaport, the transportation costs can be lowered by \$8 per ton from those at Belawan Port, according to Sahat. In addition, Bitung is also strategic due to its proximity to markets in northern regions outside the country, including Japan, the Philippines, Russia and the United States.

PALM OIL PRODUCERS WANT MORE PORTS TO SOLVE INEFFICIENCY

A local palm oil business group has demanded that the government build new seaports to cope with increasing commodity shipments and cut extra-costs that total US\$300 million stemming from port inefficiencies.

Indonesian Vegetable Oil Refiners Association (GIMNI) spokesperson Sahat Sinaga said on Tuesday in Jakarta that apart from modernizing existing seaports, the government would need to set up at least three seaports equipped with special terminals for palm oil exports to boost efficiency and anticipate future export volumes.

"Handling costs at our existing seaports is expensive, particularly due to high demurrage, which according to our exporters' cost discrepancies with overseas ports such as Port Klang [in Malaysia] could range to between \$15 and \$20 per tons of exports," Sahat told reporters after conveying the intention to Industry Minister MS Hidayat. Sahat pointed to the poor condition of Belawan Port in Medan, North Sumatra, a key departure point for palm oil shipments, where a vessel could queue for up to two weeks, resulting in high fees to compensate for extra days of storage.

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Indonesia, the world's top palm oil producer, is anticipating its export of the commodity to increase mildly by 4.4 percent to 19 million tons this year, partly due to a slight rise in production and weak overseas demand.

For years, the government has garnered a sizeable amount of export taxes from annual palm oil exports, a measure it has took to spur growth in the downstream industry. Business players have long voiced concerns that the benefits from taxes should be returned to the industry in the forms of infrastructure development. However, progress has been slow.

State-owned port operator Pelindo I has revealed its plan to build Kuala Tanjung Port in North Sumatra, seen as an alternative to the overloaded Belawan Port, in 2014, which will also comprise a special terminal for palm oil to cater to the needs of state-owned plantation firm PT Perkebunan Nusantara IV.

Recently, following the delivery of CPO by land at the Indonesia-Malaysia Nanga Badau border checkpoint in Kapuas Hulu, West Kalimantan, Deputy Trade Minister Bayu Krisnamurthi said the government was considering building the much needed infrastructure, including roads and seaports, to facilitate exports in Kalimantan, which is also a center of palm oil production. The pledge received a positive response from West Kalimantan Governor Cornelis, who supported the proposal. (*The Jakarta Post*, 11 July 2013)

PALM OIL FALLS AS MALAYSIAN RESERVES MAY CLIMB

Palm oil dropped for the first time in four days on speculation that stockpiles in

Malaysia, the world's second-largest producer, may begin to climb from this month as demand slows for the world's most consumed cooking oil.

The contract for September delivery fell 0.3 percent to close at 2,378 ringgit (\$741) a metric ton on the Bursa Malaysia Derivatives. Futures gained 1.8 percent last week. Palm for local physical delivery in July was at 2,390 ringgit, data compiled by Bloomberg show.

"I'm not seeing any aggressive demand coming in," Rajesh Modi, a trader at Sprint Exim Pte., said by phone from Singapore. "From July onwards, stocks may start to build up." Production typically increases from July to October each year.

Reserves in Malaysia fell 3.7 percent to 1.75 million tons in June from a month earlier, the least since June 2012, a Bloomberg survey published last week showed. Output rose 6.2 percent to 1.47 million tons and exports gained 4.1 percent to 1.47 million tons, according to the survey. Official data by the Malaysian Palm Oil Board is scheduled for release on July 10.

India, the biggest palm oil buyer, may switch to soybean oil after a decline in prices, Modi said. The two edible oils are substitutes in food and fuel uses.

Palm oil's discount to soybean oil shrank to \$253.44 a ton on June 27, the smallest since August. Soybean oil on the Chicago Board of Trade declined to 44.60 cents a pound on June 28, the lowest level since October 2010. The contract for delivery in December lost 0.4 percent to 45.86 cents, while soybeans for delivery in November gained 0.5 percent to \$12.3425 a bushel. (*The Jakarta Post*, 9 July 2013)

THAILAND READY TOSHIP ITS FIRST SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL TO EUROPE

The third largest palm oil producer in the world, Thailand has now joined a select group of nations that supply certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO), with a first consignment ready for export to Europe. Certified by the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) the country now ranks alongside Indonesia,

Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Brazil, Colombia and Ivory Coast, now that Univanich Palm Oil has readied the 1,000-ton shipment.

According to John Clendon, managing director of Univanich, Thailand's biggest exporter of crude palm oils and seeds, the shipment will arrive in Hamburg, where it has been sold to a major trader. With palm oil a controversial commodity, with issues like last year's Nutella Tax Law in France still debated in Europe, Clendon says that the RSPO certification will open doors for increased exports. Indeed, Univanich expects shipments to double to 2,000 tons per month as the company gains capacity, and has already received further orders from Europe. (UCAP Bulletin)

DID YOU KNOW.....

ALZHEIMER'S: COULD COCONUT OIL TREAT THE ILLNESS?

Vrajlal Parmar, 68, from Harrow, Middlesex was diagnose with the late stages of Alzheimer's in 2007. By the next year he no longer recognized even his daughter Rashi. Yet miraculously, just after two years, Vrajlal recognizes his daughter. His daughter believes it's due to the daily dose of coconut oil he takes to treat his illness because doctors say his condition is too advanced for conventional drugs.

"I lost my dad to Alzheimer's five years ago and I thought I would never get him back," Said Rashi. "But somehow I have, and it's the most amazing thing. He missed my wedding because I was a stranger to him. Then three months ago he suddenly started asking for me again and recognizing me."

But in 2007 Vrajlal, who lives with his wife Taramati, 64, began to behave strangely. Within a year he could barely do anything for himself. The real blow came when he no longer recognized his own daughter. Desperate for a cure, Rashi's brother Kal, 31, found a YouTube video posted by a doctor in Florida who was treating her husband's

Alzheimer's with coconut oil. They decided to try it on Vrajlal, who now takes six tablespoons a day. "Within a month his mood completely changed," said Rashi. "He became calmer and relaxed."

The family is now campaigning for a full medical trial into the benefits of coconut oil, which is believed to encourage the body to produce organic matter to provide an energy source for brain cells. But Kal, who is making a film about his father's story, says: "We're certain this has helped Dad, so I know it can help other." (www.mirror.co.uk)

COCONUT WATER ALSO NOURISHES THE SKIN

The good hydrating property of coconut water is said to also provide nourishment to the skin. International Supermodel Charo Ronquillo, Ford Supermodel of the World Philippines 2005 winner, and Tropicana Coco Quench endorser, swears by this drink as part of her beauty routine. Packed with vitamins and minerals, coconut water is known to contain high levels of electrolytes, which come in the form of potassium, magnesium, calcium, sodium, and phosphorus. Electrolytes help with the absorption and balance of the body's internal fluids.

The skin is the largest organ in the entire body. This is why being mindful in caring for the skin is vital. Hydration is the foundation of a healthy skin, and it comes in two common forms: topical moisturizing and hydration as we drink. The skin loses the ability to retain high levels of water as we age, and the earlier people start to take care of their skin, the more it will be beneficial in the long run. (UCAP Bulletin)

COCONUT RECIPE

"Coconut Pie"

Meat from 2 buko (young coconut, 10 months old), cut into squares.

- 1 cup evaporated milk
- 1 cup white sugar

- ¼ cup melted butter
- ½ cup grated cheese
- ½ cup cornstarch, dissolved in 1 cup water
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2/3 cup margarine
- ½ cup water with 1 tsp sugar

Preparation:

1. To prepare filling, boil buko meat with milk, sugar, butter and cheese for at least 30 minutes. Pour in cornstarch and simmer for 5 more minutes. Cool.
2. To prepare crust, mix flour, margarine and water in bowl. Knead into dough and then refrigerate for 20 minutes.
3. Roll dough on flat surface. Arrange a thin layer of dough in a pie plate. Put in filling and cover it with another layer of dough. Perforate crust with fork and cut excess edges.
4. Bake for at least 1 hour at 175°C. (*COGENT Coconut Recipes*)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

❖ COCONUT OIL FACTORY SALE

A coconut oil factory in Ciamis, West Java, Indonesia, which has been operated for more than 20 years, and has been newly up-graded with new machineries and equipment is, now offered for sale. Interested parties may contact:

Mr. Nata
Ciamis, West Java, Indonesia
Mobile: +62-085741596958
Blackberry Pin BB 2A850D88
Email: tanjungagro@yahoo.com

❖ ORGANIC COCONUT SUGAR

An organic coconut sugar producer with a production capacity of 1 ton/month offers a very competitive price. Interested parties may contact:

Mr. Suherman
Mobile: +62-81391029149

Karangjati Village
Sampang Cilacap, Central Java
Indonesia

❖ VCO AND VCO PRODUCTS

VCO produced by drying and pressing method with certified GMP, HACCP, ISO etc. is available for export. VCO-based cosmetic and toiletry products are available for sale. Importers/distributors may contact:

Mr. Suradej Ninek
Tropicana Oil Co., Ltd.
35/9 Moo 4 Te Khunkeaw
A. Nakhonchaisri, Nakhonpathom 73120
Thailand
Mobile: (66-84) 1605355
Tel: (67-34) 32683-36
Fax: (66-34) 326837
Email: info@tropicanaoil.com
suradej@tropicanaoil.com
Website: www.tropicanaoil.com

❖ ORGANIC VCO AND CENTRIFUGATION MACHINERY

Organic Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO) produced by centrifugation method is available for export. Distributors and buyers/importers may contact directly:

Mr. Pongpisuit Kiatvarangkul
President
Thai Pure Coconut Company Limited
36/3 Moo2 T.Rongkea, A.Banphaeo
Samutsakhon 74120, Thailand
Email: Pongpisuit.thaipure@gmail.com
Tel: (66-34) 700 051-52
Fax: (66-34) 700 053
Mobile: (66-81) 777 7675
Website: www.VirgincocoAsia.com

❖ COCONUT WATER COLLECTING TECHNOLOGY

As the coconut water business increases every year, raw material collection in hygienic system is needed for the coconut water processing factory. Interested parties may contact:

Mr. Waranyu Vunkuan
Managing Partner
Profods Network Co. Ltd.
99/23 Moo 8, Bangkrasor
Muang Nonthaburi,
Nonthaburi, Thailand 11000

Tel: (66-2) 965 6669
 Mobile: (66-81) 838 6867
 Fax: (66-2) 52785000
 Website: www.profoods.co.th
 Email: warunyu@profoods.co.th

❖ **COCONUT PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERIES**

SME's in coconut processing may need some equipment and machineries. TKM Company is ready to deal with you and you are welcome to visit its showroom. Interested parties may contact:
 Thai Kitchen Mart Co. Ltd.
 99/25 Moo 1, Ratchaphreuk Rd.
 Bangkhunkong Subdistrict
 Bangkruany District,
 Nonthaburi 11130, Thailand
 Tel: 02-4225022-5
 Fax: 02-4225025
 Email: thaikitchenmart@gmail.com
 Website: www.thaikitchenmart.com

❖ **FRESH YOUNG TENDER COCONUTS**

Chilled and carton packed fresh young tender coconuts are available for export. Fresh young tender coconut water in bottle is also available. These products are certified GAP-GMP, organic Thailand, USDA organic, HACCP, UKAS, SGS coles. Importer/distributor may contact, Dechathon Fresh Quality Produce Thailand:
 Mr. Dechathon Thaisonti
 111 Moo 10, T. Pangpuay
 A. Dumneonsaduak, Ratchaburi
 Thailand
 Tel: (66-89) 979 6789, (66-89) 912 2342
 Fax: (66-32) 365 313
 Email: Sombatratchaburi@yahoo.com
 Website: www.DCTFRESH.com

❖ **PACKAGING FOR COCONUT PRODUCTS**

SME and coconut processor may need packaging for their finished products. TSH Company welcomes all potential customers to visit their showroom and is ready to supply to overseas market. Interest party may contact:
 Mr. Supphaunsa Sunthornnetr
 Sales & Marketing Manager
 Tan Soon Huat Products Co. Ltd.

264-268 Lanluang Rd.
 Mahanak Pomprab, Bangkok 10100
 Thailand
 Tel: (66-2) 2810690, 2823609, 2819359
 Fax: (66-2) 2818424
 Email: suppahunsa@tshp.co.th
 Website: www.tshp.co.th

COMING EVENTS

1. Chile and A World of Oils, 20-23 August 2013, Sheraton Santiago Hotel and Convention Center, Santiago, Chile.
2. The National Coconut Week, Philippines, 28-31 August 2013.
3. Gorontalo State University together with Gorontalo Provincial Government and Indonesian Academy of Science will hold International Conference on Coconut. The theme of the conference is 'New Institutional and Trust Development for Coconut Sector', September 2nd – 3rd 2013 in Gorontalo City the Province of Gorontalo, Indonesia.
4. Sail the Asian Food Marketplace China 2013, 7-9 September 2013, at Shanghai New International, China.
5. 10th Oilseed & Oil Processing Short Course, 17-18 September 2013, Munich, Germany.
6. 54th International Conference on the Bioscience of Lipids, 17-21 September 2013, Bari, Italy.
7. ANUGA 2013, 5-9 October 2013, at Cologne Exhibition Centre, Koeln Messplatz 1 Cologne, Germany.
8. American Fats & Oils Association Annual Meeting, 9-10 October 2013, New York, USA.
9. 11th Euro Fed Lipid Congress and 30th ISF Lectureship Series, 27-30 October 2013, Antalya, Turkey.
10. Palm Oil Trade Fair & Seminar (POTS), 28-29 October 2013, Cairo, Egypt.
11. 2013 IFFO Annual Conference, 28-30 October 2013, Hong Kong.
12. European Bulk Liquid Storage 2013, 30 - 31 October 2013, Rotterdam, The Netherlands.
13. Oils & Fats International (OFI) Asia 2013, 5-6 November 2013, Landmark Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand.
14. PIPOC 2013, 19-21 October 2013, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

STATISTICS

**Table 1. Monthly Export of Coconut Shell Charcoal by Selected Countries
2010-2012 (In MT)**

M O N T H	Indonesia			Philippines			Sri Lanka		
	2010*	2011*	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
January	25,069	14,147	4,071	2,108	576	2,971	334	340	358
February	21,515	15,527	4,069	1,621	1,806	2,734	260	366	584
M a r c h	18,373	18,042	5,183	4,072	2,219	3,317	375	564	618
April	25,294	24,796	3,537	2,534	2,065	3,541	329	202	617
M a y	18,849	17,343	4,515	3,299	1,050	3,150	135	539	354
June	17,855	18,876	3,670	2,624	2,978	4,220	291	399	1,169
July	13,063	17,330	3,326	2,401	2,229	3,508	156	24	530
August	12,567	18,177	3,275	2,191	2,315	5,492	61	9	569
September	12,995	21,148	4,616	618	311	3,073	130	20	725
October	11,638	17,795	5,443	943	783	4,755	316	48	309
November	12,230	21,812	3,175	2,368	2,133	2,850	254	40	554
December	21,607	18,200	2,883	4,486	2,628	2,373	232	36	532
TOTAL	189,562	223,193	47,762	29,265	21,093	41,984	2,873	2,586	6,919

*mixed with wood charcoal

**Table 2. Monthly Export of Activated Carbon by Selected Countries
2010-2012 (In MT)**

M O N T H	Indonesia			Philippines			Sri Lanka		
	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012	2010	2011	2012
January	1,801	2,158	1,565	1,426	997	2,291	1,260	3,288	2,525
February	1,802	1,494	2,512	2,388	2,689	2,628	1,652	2,312	2,823
M a r c h	2,061	2,608	2,346	2,439	2,499	2,970	1,195	2,875	3,081
April	1,966	1,836	1,862	2,661	2,421	2,969	1,709	2,438	1,864
M a y	2,577	2,697	2,682	4,128	1,165	2085	2,061	2,603	2,599
June	1,903	2,030	2,105	1,936	1,693	3144	3,324	2,298	3,106
July	2,055	2,630	2,184	1,500	2,402	3029	2,903	3,211	2,026
August	2,218	1,756	1,616	3,828	1,673	1273	2,097	2,320	2,933
September	1,578	1,595	1,833	2,974	1,547	2867	3,972	4,393	2,274
October	2,607	1,816	2,520	2,487	2,399	5822	2,419	2,676	2,131
November	2,122	1,633	1,925	2,046	2,443	2100	3,434	3,798	2,151
December	2,101	1,750	1,585	1,759	405	565	2,756	3,048	2,758
TOTAL	24,791	24,003	25,225	29,572	23,333	31,743	28,782	35,260	30,271

Table 3. Export Volume and Value of Coconut Shell Charcoal and Activated Carbon of Sri Lanka, 2011-2012

Month	Coconut Shell Charcoal				Activated Carbon			
	Volume (MT)		Value (US\$/000)		Volume (MT)		Value (US\$/000)	
	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012	2011	2012
January	340	358	161.05	226.71	3,288	2,525	5,715.01	6,353.50
February	366	584	152.40	340.16	2,312	2,823	4,063.00	5,976.34
March	564	618	221.20	217.55	2,875	3,081	5,378.49	6,819.88
April	202	617	72.50	299.37	2,438	1,864	4,688.64	4,498.48
May	539	354	271.09	144.55	2,603	2,599	5,028.87	6,081.01
June	399	1169	196.92	666.77	2,298	3,106	4,967.07	7,484.52
July	190	530	98.53	329.44	2,204	2,026	4,899.06	5,018.29
August	546	569	329.67	291.17	2,502	2,933	6,209.98	6,699.14
September	472	725	290.25	400.19	2,555	2,274	6,007.65	4,820.92
October	631	309	313.11	154.16	2,277	2,131	5,373.63	4,551.96
November	398	554	180.75	325.43	3,210	2,151	7,669.04	4,612.30
December	310	532	231.03	301.97	2,797	2,758	6,852.13	5,658.72
Total	4,957	6,919	2,518.5	3,697.47	31,359	30,271	66,832.57	68,575.06

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka 2012.

Table 4. Main Export Destination of Activated Carbon and Coconut Shell Charcoal of Sri Lanka, 2011 and 2012 (MT)

Month	Coconut Shell Charcoal		Activated Carbon	
	January - December		January - December	
	2011	2012	2011	2012
Finland	-	-	1,383	699
Germany	42	126	1,516	1,051
Italy	5	-	1,775	1,328
Japan	803	523	1,456	1,948
Netherlands	2,850	2,942	1,110	1,059
Russia	-	56	1,927	2,465
Singapore	-	-	1,468	1,347
Turkey	-	-	1,090	1,564
USA	-	-	1,751	11,952

Source: Coconut Development Authority, Sri Lanka 2012.

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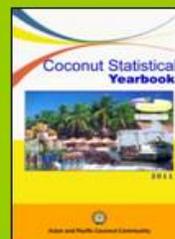
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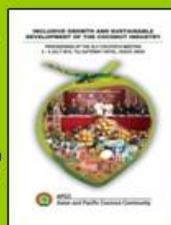
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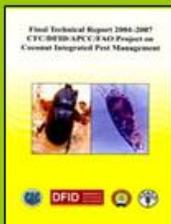
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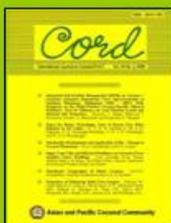


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