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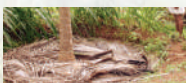


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Message

Dear Readers,

The month of September witnessed the convergence of the global coconut community in India, both physically and virtually to celebrate the World Coconut Day and also laying the building stones for the development of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in coconut. The International Workshop on GAP came to India at a time when world over the focus is on transformation of the agricultural systems to more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems. The aim is for better production, better nutrition, better environment and a better life for all. On the voyage towards food security and nutrition, food quality and safety assumes paramount importance, not only for the food that we consume but also for the environment and the farmer who feeds us. The workshop emerged as the appropriate forum towards development of a harmonized system of Good Practices in agriculture, manufacturing and hygiene, under the leadership of the International Coconut Community.

The status of GAP in coconut in the major coconut growing countries of Philippines, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam were placed on the table by experts. The difference in practices in island countries and continental countries was quite evident and stressed further on the need for a harmonized standard. Development, demonstration and transfer of technology for sustainable coconut production through judicious utilization of all biotic and abiotic factors - sunlight, water, wind, soil nutrients, flora and fauna – would ensure development of a vibrant coconut sector thereby leading to food security, livelihood security and social security to the millions of coconut farmers. Expansion and conservation of indigenous and exotic germplasm and development of techniques for production of quality planting material, including micro propagation, would not only increase the economic viability of coconut plantations but also ensure remunerative returns to the small holder coconut farmer. Facilitating processing and value addition from the grass root level, starting with post-harvest handling and minimal processing and moving towards innovative processed products to suit to the changing consumer needs and health and lifestyle demands will not only develop entrepreneurship among farmers but also empower them to think different, work smart, take risks and reach unattained goals.

The predominance of small and marginal farmers in coconut opened the option for group certification which could be undertaken through the platform of the farmer collectives facilitated by the Board. It was felt that a holistic system with controls that manage food safety in food business including good practices in cultivation, systems like HACCP, policies, management systems, traceability and recall system etc would prove beneficial in coconut. Farmers need to be educated that GAP does not always bring in a premium price, but opens up a new world of opportunities on the global market which is otherwise inaccessible.

Let us work together to develop the coconut sector in a holistic, inclusive manner not only to the benefit of the millions of small holder farmers and but also for Mother Earth who is home to this wonder crop, bestowed to mankind by God and truly called the Tree of Life.

Editor



Union Agriculture Minister inaugurates Regional Office of CDB at Junagadh, Gujarat on World Coconut Day



Cultivation, processing, marketing and export of Coconut growing in India: Shri Tomar

National Award and Export Excellence Award announced

Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, inaugurated the 6th State Centre of Coconut Development Board at Junagadh in Gujarat on 2nd September 2022. Shri Tomar inaugurated the 24th World Coconut Day celebrations and announced the National Award and Export Excellence Awards of Coconut Development Board.

In his address, Shri Tomar said that along with coconut cultivation, processing and marketing of coconut products is also on the rise in our country. India is leading in terms of coconut product exports. Coconut farmers are getting benefits of various





schemes of the government through Coconut Development Board which helps increase their income and thereby helps in contributing to the country's economy.

Shri Tomar congratulated the National Award and Export Excellence Award winners of Coconut Development Board and also addressed the farmers gathered in Kochi (Kerala) in connection with World Coconut Day through video conference.

Shri Tomar said that coconut is being used for worship and oil extraction, and now various types of products are made with coconut. The coconut product market is growing in the country and our country is leading in terms of coconut export. The Central Government is working with the States to increase the cultivation and processing of coconut. Various schemes are being implemented meticulously through the Coconut Development Board. He added that the farmers would get the benefit of the new State Centre which is being opened in Gujarat which would increase the area under coconut cultivation and the income of the farmers. Shri Tomar also congratulated the Government of Gujarat led by Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel for working in the field of agriculture. The climatic condition in the state is congenial for coconut farming and the farmers are happy with the schemes related to agricultural development, he concluded.

Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar further addressed the farmers at the Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh. He said that "If the poor are empowered then the country's strength will grow, if the villages develop, the country will develop and if the farmers' homes prosper, then Mother India will prosper. He lauded the efforts of India's Prime Minister, Shri.

Narendra Modi who is making constant efforts to make this dream come true.

Shri Tomar said that it is the wish of the Prime Minister that the cultivation of coconut in the country should increase. The processing units in the country and export of products similar to Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, available as a security cover for common farmers, there is an insurance cover for coconut farmers as well, in which the share of premium of the Center, State and farmers is in the ratio of 50, 25 and 25 percent respectively. He called upon the farmers to take benefit of the same.

Shri Tomar further said that there are lakhs of farmers in the country whose income has increased from double to ten times. In this regard, he cited the example of saffron farmers of Kashmir and said that due to the development of saffron park, wherein the price has increased from one to two lakh rupees per kilogram. During the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has documented 75,000 such farmers, where these farmers have narrated how their income has increased.

Shri Tomar said that Rs. 11,395.38 crore has been given to 61.43 lakh farmers in Gujarat under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan), while more than Rs.2 lakh crore has been disbursed to 11.5 crore farmers across the country in their bank accounts. While the MSP was hiked by 1.5 times, the Central Government also started procurement of pulses and oilseeds. Opening the doors of investment in the field of agriculture, the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund was started with a provision of Rs. one lakh crore while another 50,000 crore rupees was allocated for Agriculture and Allied Sectors. Provision of more than Rs. 6,850 crore was made to set up 10,000 new FPOs for the betterment of small farmers, of which more than 3,000 have already been set up.

Shri Raghavjibhai Patel, Minister for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Cow Breeding, Government of Gujarat, Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai Chudasama, MP, Junagadh, MLA Junagadh, Dr. Prabhat Kumar, Horticulture Commissioner and other dignitaries were present during the occasion. The programme was organized by Coconut Development Board in association with the Junagadh Administration. Dr. Vijayalakshmi Nadendla IAS, Joint Secretary and Chairman, Coconut Development Board welcomed the gathering.

Around 1000 farmers from across the state attended the Farmers Meet ■

Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister inaugurates the 24th World Coconut Day celebrations

Shri. Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister virtually inaugurated the 24th World Coconut Day celebrations and declared the National awards and Export Excellence Awards of the Board. This year's World Coconut Day celebration was organized by Coconut Development Board at Kochi in Kerala on 2nd September 2022.

Addressing the coconut farmers, the Minister reiterated the government's commitment to enhance agricultural productivity in the country and increase the income of the farmers. He added that India is among the leading coconut-producing countries in the world and in terms of productivity of coconut cultivation, India is positioned at number one position among the major coconut growing countries in the world. The Minister on behalf of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India congratulated all the Award winners of the Board.

Dr. N Vijayalakshmi IAS, Chairperson, Coconut Development Board welcomed the gathering and spoke on the status of coconut cultivation and processing in the country. Dr. Jelfina C Alouw, Executive Director, International Coconut Community, Indonesia who further spoke on the occasion made a brief presentation on the activities of the International Coconut Community and highlighted the health aspects of various coconut products.

Shri. Rajendra Kumar Kataria IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Horticulture and Sericulture, Government of Karnataka also addressed the farmers during the occasion

Shri. K. Babu, MLA, Thripunithura who further spoke on the occasion stressed on the importance of coconut cultivation in the state and emphasized the need for opening new avenues in the value addition of coconut for ensuring better remuneration to the farmers. Shri. Antony Assamparambil, Chairman, Maradu Municipality, Shri. Siby Xavier, Councillor, Maradu Municipality, Shri. Narayanan Master, Vice Chairman of the Board, Shri. Reghunath, Member of the Board, other Board Members, international delegates, recipients of various awards, scientists and around 500 progressive farmers from across



the country attended the programme. Shri. Rajeev Bhushan Prasad, Chief Coconut Development Officer proposed vote of thanks. An exhibition showcasing various value added coconut products was also held at the venue wherein Coconut Development Board, International Coconut Community, Kerala and Tamilnadu Agricultural Universities, CPCRI, coconut product based entrepreneurs and quality certification agencies displayed their products and services.

The programme was followed by International Workshop on Good Agricultural Practices, organized jointly by Government of India and International Coconut Committee during 2-4 September 2022, The International Workshop was attended by experts from over seven major coconut growing countries.

National Award and Export Excellence Awards of the Board were distributed during the occasion by Dr. N Vijayalakshmi IAS, Chairperson, Coconut Development Board, Dr. Jelfina C Alouw, Executive Director, International Coconut Community, Shri. Rajendra Kumar Kataria IAS, Principal Secretary, Department of Horticulture and Sericulture, Government of Karnataka and Shri. K. Babu, Hon'ble MLA, Thripunithura.

Smt. Y Padmavathi, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh received the award for the best coconut farmer of

the country and Shri. K T Francis, Kozhikode, Kerala received the award for the best farmer from the south west region. Shri. Kikato Kinimi, Dimapur, Nagaland received the award for the best farmer from the east and North East region under large category. Smt. K Chellammal, South Andaman, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Pankaj Das, Kamrup, Assam received the award for the best farmer from the south west region east and North East region respectively under small category.

Smt. Deepa Anil Lal, Ernakulam, Kerala received the award for the Best coconut Processor under conventional Coconut Products category and Shri.D.N. Nirranjan Kani Salem, Tamilnadu received the award for the Best coconut Processor under non-conventional Coconut Products category.

Dr.M R Manikantan, CPCRI, Kasaragodu, Kerala received the award for the Best Research Worker under Findings on Coconut Products and Shri. Charles Vijay Varghese, Ernakulam, Kerala received the award for the Best Research Worker under Machinery / Equipment Development.

Shri .Dayalu K D , Ernakulam, Kerala and Shri Rathindra Nath Mallick, Kolkata, West Bengal received the award for the Best Master Craftsman under large scale category. Smt. Mala Kumari Verma, Munger, Bihar received the award for the Best Master



Dr. B. Hanumanthe Gowda assumed the charge of Chief Coconut Development Officer, Coconut Development Board



Dr. B. Hanumanthe Gowda assumed the charge of Chief Coconut Development Officer, Coconut Development Board. He has been holding the post of Scientist (Plant Protection) at ICAR - KVK (Indian Institute of Horticulture Research), Hirehalli, Tumkur, Karnataka. Dr. Hanumanthe Gowda is a Doctorate holder in Pathology from University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru and is having vast experience in Transfer of Technologies to coconut farmers. He has published more than 25 research papers, three books and 29 extension handouts/leaflets. He was actively involved in the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations and in the implementation of projects on Climate Change. He is the recipient of the Best Extension Scientist award along with various other awards and honours.



Craftsman under small scale category and Shri Akshay Paramanand Pilankar, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra and Shri Sagir Ahmed, Jorhat, Assam received the consolation awards under the same category. Dr. Sivakumar T, CPCRI(RS), Kayamkulam, Kerala received the award for the Best Coconut Extension Personnel and M/s. Anjarakandy Farmers Service Co-operative Bank Ltd., Kannur, Kerala received the award for the Best Co-operative Society / NGO in the field of Coconut Development.

Coconut Development Board also honoured the coconut climbers. Shri.V.I Kurian, Ernakulam, Kerala received the award for the Best coconut Climber using traditional methods (Male) and Shri.Paresh Baishya, Nalbari,. Assam received the consolation award for the Best coconut Climber using traditional methods (Male). Shri.Gidugu Sessa Giri Rao, Godaveri, Andhra Pradesh received the award for the Coconut Climber under under FoCT scheme of the Board-Male

category and Smt. Suni Lee, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala received the award for the Coconut Climber under FoCT Female category. Shri.Dileep Kumar P, Kasargod, Kerala received the award for the Best Neera Technician from the country. M/s. Mangalam Coconut Producers Federation, Malappuram, Kerala received the award for the Best Coconut Producers Federation.

CDB's DSP Farm Palghar, Maharashtra received the award for the best DSP Farm of CDB- Under Initial Stage of establishment and DSP Farm Vegiwada, Andhra Pradesh received the award for the best DSP Farm of CDB Under Production Stage.

Export Awards featuring outstanding performance in export of coconut products were also declared. M/s. United Carbon Solutions Private Limited, Tamil Nadu received the award for the Best Manufacturer Exporter, large category, M/s. Jacobi Carbons India Private Limited, Tamil Nadu received the award for the Best Manufacturer Exporter, medium category and M/s. Raj Carbons, Tamil Nadu received the award for the Best Manufacturer Exporter under small category.

M/s. Fair Exports India Pvt. Ltd., Maharashtra received the award for the Best Merchant Exporter and Smt. Sajitha Basheer, Kochi Kerala received the award for the Best woman Manufacturer Exporter. Smt. Rhona Varghese of M/s. Golden Globe Agencies, Kochi Kerala received the award for the Best woman Merchant Exporter. M/s. Lala Agro Tropic Private Limited, Kochi, Kerala received the award for the Best innovative Exporter and M/s. Vadakara Coconut Farmers Producer Company Limited, Kerala received the award for the Best Farmer Producer Organization. ■

National Awardees 2016-18

Best Coconut Farmer - National Level:

Smt. Y. Padmavati, Balaji Nagar, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh



Smt Y. Padmavati (62), a progressive farmer from Vizianagaram Dist, Andhra Pradesh owns 14.24 acres

of land which is scientifically planted with 900 East Coast Tall variety coconut palms. She has adopted integrated crop management practices by conserving basic resources of soil and moisture. She is adopting

modern technologies for effective water management by utilizing drip irrigation and fertilizer application. For the last five years, the garden is maintained exclusively with organic manures.

The garden is intercropped with 2800 cocoa plants and the litters from cocoa and coconut leaves are used for preparing compost. In order to bring down the input cost and for taking up low budget farming, the farmer is using waste decomposer solution

and Jeevamrutham to enrich soil condition and to improve resistance against pests and diseases. She is getting around 175 nuts per palm per annum and around four tonne cocoa per annum. The annual net income from the farm is Rs. 7,45,000/- . Processing and extraction of cocoa beans is undertaken in the farm. The farmer is also regularly undertaking scientific management of pests and diseases.

Best Coconut Farmer - South West Region, Large- Shri. K T Francis, Kaithakulath House, Kozhikode, Kerala

Shri. K.T. Francis (60), a progressive farmer from Kozhikode district, Kerala hails from an agricultural family, with his forefathers being migrated from central Travancore several years ago. Shri. Francis, after retirement as a physical education teacher from St. Mary's Higher

Secondary School, Maruthonkara, Kozhikode has turned into a full time farmer.

Shri. Francis has adopted coconut based multi storied cropping system in his plantation integrating a variety of horticultural crops. In his three acre garden he has planted 200 coconut palms of different varieties. The various intercrops are arecanut, spices, cocoa, coffee, tuber crops, medicinal plants, fruit plants, spices, fodder grass, upland rice and animal husbandry which includes goat rearing, poultry, aquaculture etc. His plantation is an excellent example of judicious utilization of the natural resources, complementing to the enhancement of soil fertility through mixed farming and a sustainable system of cultivation and the intercrops and mixed crops add to his income.

Shri. Francis has adopted organic farming in his garden and the average yield of coconut palms is 200 nuts per palm per year. Major portion of annual production is sold as seed nuts and seedlings. A



small portion of the harvest is used for domestic use and the remaining nuts are sold as ball copra and coconut oil. Annually he earns a net income of Rs. 14 to 15 lakhs from his integrated farming system and his major source of income is coconut.

The success story of Mr. Francis clearly indicates that farming can be remunerative if we use the resources in an efficient and innovative manner. The crop intensification and enterprise diversification is done scientifically.

Shri. Francis is the recipient of Kera Kesari Award of Government of Kerala (2017-18), Best Spice farmer from Kozhikode district award 2016 instituted by the Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Consolation award of Sarojini Damodaran Foundation Bangalore 2017, Best mixed farmer of ATMA 2016 of Government of Kerala and Best organic farmer award of Sarojini Damodaran Foundation, Bangalore for Kozhikode district for the year 2018.

Best Coconut Farmer - South West Region (Small):
Smt. Kamachi Chellammal, Beodnabad, Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Smt. Kamachi Chellammal (60), from South Andaman is having two ha. coconut plantation with 465 palms of Andaman Ordinary Tall variety. According to her, adopting coconut based high density multispecies cropping and integrated farming system is the effective way to overcome the difficulties due to low market price for coconut and for getting higher income. She has been maintaining coconut based cropping system by effectively utilizing interspaces in her garden for growing different inter/mixed crops and integrating animal husbandry, fisheries and apiculture in a sustainable and profitable manner.

The coconut palms are 40-45 years of age and planted at a spacing of 6.5 m x 6.5 m. Interspaces are effectively utilized by judicious selection of compatible intercrops like pineapple, banana, elephant foot yam, groundnut, chillies, sweet potato, tapioca, vegetables etc. Different forms of organic manures like compost and farmyard manure are used by the farmer. Clove and nutmeg are planted as mixed crops at the



centre of four palms and black pepper is trailed on coconut and arecanut palms. Besides these perennial crops, banana, elephant foot yam, ginger, turmeric, broad dhan, pineapple, papaya, cassava, sweet potato and vegetables like brinjal, chillies and leafy vegetables are cultivated as intercrops. She also grows tube rose, gladiolus and marigold in a protected structure. The animal husbandry component of her farm includes cows, goats, ducks and backyard poultry birds. There are two fish ponds in which Indian major carps (Rohu, Catla & Mrigal) are reared. In addition, she maintains honey bee boxes to enhance pollination and earn additional income by sale of honey. A unique feature of agrotechniques adopted by Smt. Chellammal is the use of coconut leaves and husks as mulching in the plantation to conserve soil

moisture during the post rainy season. She adopts IPM strategy, in which pheromones play a vital role in controlling the pest population.

She harvests 27,550 coconuts per annum and spends around Rs. Two lakhs towards the cost of cultivation for different components and earns Rs. 1.65 lakhs from coconut alone. The other promising intercrops are ginger (Rs. 1.12 lakhs), chillies (Rs. 76,800), banana (Rs. 52,000), papaya (Rs. 54,000), tapioca and elephant foot yam (Rs 30,000 each). From fish ponds, she earns Rs. 40,000 annually. And the net income from the coconut based integrated farm is about Rs. 7.75 lakhs per ha per annum. Smt. Chellammal is the recipient of best farmer award in the Kisan Mela organized by ICAR-CIARI in 2012.

Best Coconut Farmer- East & North East Region (Big):
Shri. Kikato Kinimi, Dimapur, Nagaland

Shri. Kikato Kinimi, from Dimapur village, Nagaland owns 70 acres of land out of which 50 acres are planted with around 6000 coconut trees aged 25 years.

Coconut is intercropped with arecanut. From the 50 acre coconut garden Shri. Kinimi harvests 1,10,000 nuts per year. The average productivity is 200 nuts per palm. The garden is maintained with proper irrigation and the garden is managed by using organic manures, cowdung and salt.

Shri. Kikato Kinimi is a post graduate in Commerce and his net income from the sale of coconuts and its various product is Rs. Nine Lakhs per annum.



**Best Coconut Farmer - East & North East Region (Small):
Shri. Pankaj Das, Hajo, Kamrup, Assam**

Shri. Pankaj Das, a progressive farmer from Hajo Village, Assam owns 1.5 ha of land out of which 0.75 ha is planted with coconut with an annual yield of 5000-6000 nuts. Perennial as well as seasonal crops are grown as intercrops in his garden. Aquaculture and coconut are his major source of income. Apart from coconut, arecanut, aonla, assam lemon, banana, litchi, and moringa are grown as intercrops in his garden. He is following multi cropping system with fishery, cow, goat, poultry, duck etc. He has adopted various innovation methods in his farm. Water hyacinth, an



aquatic plant commonly found in swampy areas and ponds is a common weed in his pond and field and the composted weed is used as organic manure. The non composted weed is used for mulching in the basin to control weed and save water during dry season.

Shri. Das is the recipient of the Best Farmer Award 2010, (North East) of Coconut Development Board. CPCRI had honoured him during 2016 for his outstanding achievements and innovations in coconut farming.

**Best Coconut Processor - Food Products/ Non Food Products:
Smt. Deepa Anil Lal, Lala Agro Tropic Pvt Ltd, Ernakulam, Kerala**

Smt. Deepa Anil Lal is the director of Lala Agro Tropic, a private limited firm based at Kochi, Kerala which is a manufacturer of eco-friendly goods from coconut shells. The firm was registered in 2008 as a private limited company with share holdings of a Spanish company. The company is having several years of experience in the production of eco-friendly items made from coconut shells. Her husband Mr. Anil Lal is the Managing Director of Lala Agro Tropic.



The company produces coconut shell ice cream cups, coconut shell bird feeders and handcrafts items out of coconut shells. Raw materials are purchased from Tamil Nadu and are being processed at processing units in Kodanad and Kalady in Ernakulam district in Kerala. United States and Europe are the major export markets of the company. The annual turn over of the company is approximately Rs 3.5 crores.

**Best coconut Processor- Non conventional Coconut Products:
Shri D.N.Nirranjan Kani, Holista Tranzworld Pvt Ltd, Salem, Tamil Nadu**

M/s. Holista Tranzworld Pvt. Ltd. was founded by Mr. D.N. Nirranjan Kani, a second generation entrepreneur from the VVD family with vast experience

in FMCG sales distribution and the second largest branded coconut oil business in the country. His passion for business and the hard working attitude has

earned Holista a reputed name. The company manufactures and markets high value added B2B and B2C coconut based food preparatory, food ingredients



and beverages. The turnover of the company during 2019 was Rs. 13.61 cr.

Holista is having a 30,000 square feet factory at Salem, Tamil Nadu which is equipped to process 20,000 coconuts per day and is producing 15+ products with world class standards. Separate coconut

milk plant and desiccated coconut plant with state of the art processing equipments having stringent GMP, GHP practice and Food safety and quality management system is maintained by M/s. Holista. A small R&D/product development lab is also associated with the QC/QA department. Holista has adopted GFSI approved stringent food safety and quality management system. Holista complies to FSSC 22000 and BRCGS standards and all the products are Halal Certified and FDA registered.

Best Coconut Research Worker - Findings on Coconut Products:

Dr. M R Manikantan, Principal Scientist (AS&PE), Physiology, ICAR- CPCRI, Kasargod, Kerala.

Dr. M.R. Manikantan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-CPCRI has 24 years of professional experience in Agricultural Engineering. He was working as Scientist and Senior Scientist at ICAR-CIPHET, Ludhiana during 2000 - 2013. He has published 71 research papers in both national and international peer reviewed journals. He has also published 18 technical popular articles and 26 technical bulletins/

manuals. He has presented about 70 research papers in various national and international seminars, conferences and symposiums. He was awarded TNAU merit scholarship and CSIR fellowship during his post graduate and doctoral study. He is the recipient of Jawaharlal Nehru award for post graduate research for the year 2010 and distinguished service certificate from ISAE during the year 2013. At ICAR-CPCRI, since 2013, he has contributed in developing coconut deshelling machine, arecanut dehusker cum grader, coconut milk residue and VCO cake based extrudates (Kalpa Krunch) and other value added products, VCO cake based muffins, coconut based vegan ice cream/frozen coconut delicacy, coconut sugar based dark chocolate, coconut sugar based nutribar, spray dried neera powder and Neera/Kalparasa bottling technology. During 2013-2018, he was instrumental in transferring about 12 ICAR-CPCRI developed technologies to 110 entrepreneurs.



Best Coconut Research Worker - Machinery / Equipment Development:

Shri. Charles Vijay Varghese, Aluva, Kerala

Shri. Charles Vijay Varghese, a young engineer based at Kochi, Kerala has invented an innovative robotic Saper for extracting neera, the inflorescence sap from coconut. This Saper can be installed in the crown of the palm attached to the inflorescence and then the neera



or toddy will reach the container placed on the ground through the pipeline attached to the Saper on the tree. The Saper is designed and developed by Nava Design and Innovation Pvt Ltd. a Kochi based start up.

The Saper is able to multiply the tapper productivity by minimum 72 folds. The same inflorescence can be tapped for a maximum period of three months or more since the adverse climatic conditions doesn't affect the functioning of the Saper. Shri. Charles, son of C A Varghese and Thankamani who hailing from Alwaye in Kerala took his B. Tech from M Kumarasamy Engineering College in 2005 and PG in 3D Design from Chennai.

Best Master Craftsman (Large) :
Shri Rathindra Nath Mallick, Nelinagar, Haltu, Kolkata, West Bengal

Shri. Rathindra Nath Mallick (45) a Kolkata based coconut crafts man is engaged in this career since 1999. He is using coconut shell and gold as raw material for his crafts. He is following a self innovated method and is making handicraft items by coconut shell engravings and coconut shell- gold inlay fusion jewellerys. Shri. Mallick has invested a sum of Rs. one lakh for his craft unit and his annual income from this unit is around Rs. Two lakh fifty thousand.



Shri. Mallick is the national award winner of 2012 of the Ministry of Textiles for his Coconut shell carving, and the state award winner of 2005-06 and 2010-2011. He is enlisted as pioneer in the field of making coconut shell- Gold inlay fusion jewellerys in the Limca Book of Records and India Book of Records for his amazing coconut shell jewellery.

Best Master Craftsman (Large) :
Shri. Dayalu K D , Varapuzha, Ernakulam, Kerala



Shri. Dayalu K D (49) from Varapuzha, Ernakulam, Kerala is a gifted craftsman who manufactures beautiful decorative objects from coconut shell. Lamp shades of different shapes and sizes and many other decorative items are made out of coconut shells. An aluminum fabricator by profession, Dayalu has registered a firm called Deepak Handicrafts and is creating diversified craft items. Most of the

crafts are made from the straitened coconut shell. The coconut shell is straitened by heating. He is very selective in taking the raw material also. Crafting with coconut shell is a passion to Dayalu. Various tools, machinaries and dyes are used for this purpose.

Dayalu is having stock of different types of artifacts with its price ranging from Rs. 500 to Rs. 25,000. He is also having regular buyers for his products like handicraft merchants from many states. Dayalu regularly participates in melas and fairs. He is the recipient of Kerala State Handicraft Award 2015-16 for a lamp shade made by using coconut shells and other parts of coconut tree.

**Best Master Craftsman - (Small) :
Smt. Mala Kumari, Mungur, Bihar**



Smt. Mala Kumari Verma (45) is a coconut artisan from Munger District, Bihar. Her husband, Shri. Nikunj Bihari is also a craft person and a master craftsman. She is designing jewellery items and various other value added products from coconut shell. She is engaged in handicraft making since 2004 and is the recipient of the State Award 2010-11 of Government of Bihar for Best Handicraft. She is a master trainer in coconut handicrafts.

**Best Master Craftsman - Small, (Consolation):
Shri Akshay Paramanand Pilankar Bhatye,
Mahajanwadi, Ratnagiri, Maharashtra**



Shri. Akshay Paramanand Pilankar, (26) from Ratnagiri, Maharashtra is doing carvings, decorative art works (God's image, wedding image, logos, symbols, drama faces, house name, different handicraft etc.) on whole coconut, coir, coconut shell, coconut husk etc. He is working as independent craftsman since 2011. His average annual income from the unit is Rs. One lakh. Shri. Akshay Paramanand Pilankar is the recipient of Silver and Bronze medals in fine arts event from Mumbai University and the Best Drawing award from Bharati Vidyapeeth, Pune.

**Best Master Craftsman - Small (Consolation) :
Shri Sagir Ahmed, Jorhat, Assam**

Transforming waste coconut shells into intricate art pieces of jewellery and home decor, Sagir Ahmed (42) is a Green Entrepreneur and owner of Dazzle Craft based at Jorhat, Assam who has used innovation & creativity to recycle and reuse a waste product. His craft has helped to raise awareness on the valuable use of coconut shells of Assam and is a source of a livelihood for self - help women groups. His eco - friendly craft pieces are sought after by many e-commerce websites, retailers and wholesalers who buy these products & sell them through their sales platforms. Sagir Ahmed is making unique products by blending coconut shell which are environment friendly. He is ready to help and teach his craft to interested youth.



**Best Coconut Extension Personnel:
Dr. Sivakumar T, SMS, ICAR-KVK- Alappuzha, Alappuzha Kerala**

Dr. Sivakumar T (44), Subject Matter specialist (Agril. Entomology), ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra - Alappuzha, Kerala has conducted more than 25 Capacity Building Programmes (CBPs) during 2016-18 to coconut farmers through trainings, method demonstrations, group discussions, seminars etc. benefitting more than 750 farmers.



Dr. Sivakumar has co-ordinated and organized farmer participatory technology demonstrations and assessment of coconut production and protection technology packages developed by ICAR-CPCRI through Front Line Demonstrations and On Farm Testing (FLDs&OFTs) and has designed innovative methodology for Farmer Field School (FFS) in coconut juvenile palm protection, first of its kind in the country.

**Best NGO/ Registered Co-operative Society:
Anjarakandy Farmers Service Co-operative Bank Ltd., Kannur, Kerala**



Anjarakandy Farmers Service Co-operative Bank was first registered in 1914 as a Credit Co-operative Society and has evolved to its present stature embarking upon its true commitment to society. This was the first credit & lending society in the east of Malabar Region when the British rule prevailed in India. During the initial period of this credit/lending society, there were only 11 members with meager share

capital and further it has improved its functioning as a large size primary co-operative agricultural society today.

The processing plant of the Bank is consisting of copra drier and coconut oil production unit (expeller unit), products are virgin coconut oil, coconut milk, desiccated coconut powder, lamp lighting oil, baby oil, hair oil, coconut oil soap etc. The drier plant is having capacity to convert 50,000 nuts per day as copra within 24 hrs. The oil production capacity per day is 5000 ltrs in one shift of 8 hrs/ per day. Production capacity of Virgin Coconut Oil is 150 ltrs, coconut milk is 800 ltrs and desiccated powder is 100 kg. Apart from these, company produces around 2000 kgs of coconut oil cake and 300 ltrs of lighting oil.

**Climber using Traditional Methods- Male :
Shri.V.I. Kurian, Pulikkamaly, Ernakulam, Kerala,**

Shri. V.I.Kurian (55) from Ernakulam District, Kerala is a full time coconut climber since the last 35 years. This professional climber makes around Rs.50,000 per month from earns this green collar job. Shri. Kurian climbs around 50-75 palms per day. Farmers of the area depend on Shri. Kurian for pest and disease management and also for crown cleaning in their coconut garden.



Coconut Climber under FoCT Scheme of the Board- (Male)
Shri. Gidugu Seshagiri Rao, East Godavari, Andra Pradesh.



Shri. Gidugu Seshagiri Rao (69) native of East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh has opted coconut palm climbing as his profession. He attended the FoCT training of the Board which could help him to earn about Rs. 1000 per day. Presently he is also working as a master trainer of the FoCT training programmes. Shri Gidugu Seshagiri Rao is actively involved in extending training to farmer groups in crown cleaning and in plant protection methods against the attack of pest and diseases.

Smt. Suni Lee, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala,
Coconut climber under FoCT scheme of the Board – Female

Smt. Suni Lee (50), a native of Varkala, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala attended Board's FoCT training programme organized at Grameena PadanaKendram in Trivandrum in November 2011. She climbs 25 palms per day and her average monthly income is 35,000/-. She is also working as a master trainer of Friends of Coconut Tree training programme of Coconut Development Board since the last 5 years. She is active in the formation of Farmer Producer Organisation (FPO) in coconut sector. She has also worked as coconut palm climber for one year in Malaysia.



Climber using traditional methods- Male (Consolation)
Shri. Paresh Baishya, Nalbari, Assam

Shri. Paresh Baishya (43) from Nalbari, Assam is a traditional coconut climber who is into this profession since 2001. Shri. Paresh Baishya climbs around 10 trees per day and his approximate income per month is between Rs. 8000 and Rs. 9000.



The Best Neera Technician
Shri. Dileep Kumar P, Kasaragod, Kerala

Shri. Dileep Kumar P (33), from Kasaragod, Kerala is a Neera Technician who is doing the neera tapping for Kerala Agriculture University, College of Agriculture Padannakkad from 2010 onwards. He is well experienced in plant protection methods. Other than neera tapping, he attends to plant protection activities and coconut harvesting and works as a master trainer for neera technician training programme.



**Best DSP Farm of CDB Under Production Stage:
DSP Farm, Vegiwada, Andhra Pradesh**

Coconut Development Board's farm situated in Vegiwada, Andhra Pradesh lies in 71.80 ha and the cultivable area is 40 ha only. The Farm is having 3892 coconut palms of different cultivars of which 3593 palms are in the yielding stage. 2066 palms are selected as mother palms. ECT, WCT, Tiptur Tall, Philippine Ordinary, Chowghat Orange Dwarf (COD), Chowghat Green Dwarf (CGD), Ganga Bondam and Malayan Yellow Dwarf are the various coconut varieties cultivated in the farm. In addition to the main crop, intercrops like cocoa, Guava, Amla, Custard Apple and Cashew are grown in the Farm. Five Organic Manure units are also maintained in the Farm.



**DSP Farm, Dapoli Village, Palghar, Maharashtra
Best DSP Farm of CDB - Under Initial Stage of establishment**

Coconut Development Board's Demonstration cum Seed Production Farm at Palghar, Maharashtra lying in 40 ha area caters to the quality planting material requirement of the Konkan region. The farm is having 5867 palms and the land is divided into 21 plots to accommodate 80 % Dwarf cultivars and 20 % Talls. Pest and disease surveillance is regularly undertaken in the farm. Tall and dwarf variety seedlings are raised in the nursery and distributed to the coconut growers of various districts. Banana suckers, sapota, lemon and seasonal vegetables are the intercrops raised in the Farm.



**Best Coconut Producers Federation :
Mangalam Kera karshaka Federation, Tirur, Malappuram, Kerala**



Mangalam Kera Karshaka Federation of Coconut Producers Societies from Tirur district in Kerala is having 113344 palms under its operational area of 566.67 ha with 1445 member farmers. The annual average yield of the CPF is 54.91 lakh nuts. The CPF has implemented R&R scheme and LoDP programmes of the Board in areas under its jurisdiction. Mangalam Kera Karshaka Federation is having a coconut nursery and is also undertaking coconut procurement.

Export Excellence Awardees

Best Manufacturer Exporter (Large) : M/s. United Carbon Solutions Private Limited, Kangayam, Tamil Nadu



M/s. United Carbon Solutions Private Limited (UCS) showcases a unique success story of concerted efforts by primary manufacturers of shell charcoal to integrate forward. And the end result is that they have emerged as the leading manufacturer and exporter of activated carbon in the country.

Shri A.K.Jayanthan is the Managing Director of the Company. The promoters of UCS are primarily charcoal manufacturers and were supplying charcoal to activated carbon manufacturers of activated carbon till 2010. UCS went into commercial production during 2011-12 with the first export in October 2011. The company ended up with an export

turnover of 12 Cr in the last 4 months of 2011-12. Since then, the company did not turn back and increased the sales volume year after year. During 2018-19, total export of the company touched Rs. 289.26 Crores.

United Carbon Solutions is manufacturing various grades of activated carbon used in purification industry. The products of UCS are mainly used for water purification, gold

filtration in gold mines, air purification, mercury purification, cosmetic industries for face wash, tooth paste, removal of nicotine from cigars etc. Their products are in demand all over the globe, particularly in US, Europe and goldmine markets. At present they are running seven kilns in their Kangayam unit and have taken 4 kilns on lease in Tuticorin, besides two kilns exclusively supplying materials to USA from SIPCOT, Perundurai. UCS is also manufacturing value added products for specific industries through their acid/water washing unit.

Best Manufacturer Exporter (Medium) – M/s. Jacobi Carbons India Private Limited, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

M/s. Jacobi Carbons India Private Limited, a part of the Jacobi group, owns the world's largest coconut shell carbon plant in Coimbatore, India with an annual capacity of 16,000 MT per year. Mr. Antony Thomas is the Director and founder of Jacobi Carbon India Private Limited. Jacobi carbon is committed to produce high quality coconut shell-based steam activated carbon and on-time delivery of quality professional services to fulfil the needs and exceed the expectation of customers through their vision and mission. It is also committed to

environmental leadership in all business activities by operating the factory in compliance with all relevant rules and regulations applicable to environmental, health & safety.

The Jacobi Group was founded in 1916 and the growth of the group in the activated carbon sector is a true success story and shows how an industry could reach the heights it attained through slow, strong and sturdy steps. Starting as a distributor in 1965, it has units in Sri Lanka and Philippines apart from the Nova Carbons Private Limited providing



production flexibility and assurance of supply to Jacobi's customer base.

Jacobi Carbon India is a 100% export-oriented unit to enhance the foreign currency through the international markets. Jacobi Carbons India is the speciality carbon plant for manufacturing of high activity carbon and cigarette filter carbons. The firm is certified with ISO 9001:2015 for Quality

standard, ISO 14001:2015 for Environmental compliance standards and ISO 45001:2018 for occupational Health & safety standards. It is also certified for Kosher, Halal, NSF and SMETA requirements by the relevant authorities. They have developed a set of minimum standards for sustainability and corporate social responsibilities (CSR). The product application range includes AddSorb for vapour applications, EcoSorb for air and gas treatments, ColorSorb for colour removal applications, PetroSorb for oil and gas industry, AquaSorb for water treatment and GoldSorb for metal recovery in mining, The firm had an annual turnover of over 129 crores in 2018-19.

**Best Manufacturer Exporter (Small):
M/s. Raj Carbons, Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu**

M/s. Raj Carbons belonging to RAJ Groups is one of the leading Manufacturers and Exporter of Coconut Shell Based Steam Activated Carbon with a production capacity of 50 MT a day. It has 9 Kilns which started its operations in the year 2004 and is located in Tuticorin, very near to Tuticorin Port, Tamilnadu. It is a partnership firm managed by Mr. S.T. Gnanaraj and Mr. S.T. Sundarapandian, who are well dedicated and passionate towards this industry of activated carbon. The proficient and excellent leadership and guidance from the front has led the firm towards tremendous growth and excellence over the years. Customer being the key in the business, the firm is committed to supply the tailor made carbon to their customers as per their specific requirements which serves as a reason for their success.

They have a state of the art in house laboratory where the product is continuously tested for its



quality. Their products are exported worldwide catering various needs of the Water Purification industry, Gold Mining Industry, Air Purification and Gas Phase Industries. M/s.Raj Carbon is a 'One Star Export House' status holder of Directorate General of Foreign Trade(DGFT).

The company has registered steady growth in export since 2016-17 and during the year 2018-19, the export of Coconut Shell based Activated carbon was to the tune of INR 59.66 crores. The export was mainly destined to USA, Russia, Spain and Mexico. Silver and KOH impregnated Activated carbon also had been part of the export consignment during the year 2018-19.

Best Merchant Exporter**Fair Exports India Pvt. Ltd, Bandra East, Maharashtra**

They have latest grading, chilling and dispatching technologies to ensure a high-quality value-added product. The firm also deals with variety of high-quality readymade garments and household items which they export to GCC and Far East countries.

Fair Exports India Pvt. Ltd., belongs to the Lulu Group International which is based at Abu Dhabi (UAE) and is a highly diversified conglomerate with successful business entities in strategic location worldwide. Shri. Yousuf Ali M.A is the Founder, Chairman and Managing Director of the Group is instrumental in the growth of Group as well as Fair Export Companies. Fair Exports started its journey of Food Processing Business and later diversified into fruits, vegetable, garments, household items, ready to eat snacks, FMCG products and Fish. They are also the major exporters of fresh coconut to the Middle east which has a huge population of Indian diaspora.

Fair Exports is one of the fastest growing organizations under the guidance of its Chairman Mr. Yusuf Ali MA, a perfect example of generosity and leadership. The firm also has an efficient dedicated team of experts working with best imported machinery, modern production methods and latest techniques to come out with high quality products. They are the exporter of fruits and vegetables including coconut from India by exporting 45000 MT. They offer a wide range of fresh fruits and vegetables with certified global quality standards.

For their outstanding performance in export, Government of India has awarded them the status of Three Star Export House and Certificate of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) for bringing ease in doing business. All Food Processing Units are most modern and having adequate chillers, cold storage together with well-equipped Automated Refrigeration System. They have hi-tech in-house chemical and microbiological laboratories equipped with the latest instruments and managed by experienced and qualified microbiologist. They are approved to export to over 33 countries while maintaining the highest standards of quality in procurement, manufacturing and distribution.

The company has received various Awards for excellence in their business area such as Gold Trophy for the best synthetic Exports, APEDA Export Award for Meat Sector, APEDA Export Award for Fresh Fruits and Vegetable sector, Annual Export Award from Indian Silk Export Promotion Council and International Environmental Award etc. They are the largest exporter of fresh coconut from the country and their fresh coconut export during the year 2018-19 was to the tune of Rs.35.90 Crores.

Best Woman Manufacturer Exporter:**Smt. Sajitha Basheer, Edayar, Ernakulam, Kerala**

Mrs. Sajitha Basheer, a Technocrat cum Woman Entrepreneur is the Managing Director of Cochin Surfactants Pvt Ltd. promoted by the MFAR Group, under the leadership of Dr. P.Mohamed Ali. Sajitha Basheer is a B.Tech graduate from College of Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram and passed out during the year 1989. Prior to becoming Managing Director of Cochin Surfactants Private Limited, she was engaged in other industries.

Mrs. Sajitha Basheer is a Certified Chartered Engineer. Cochin Surfactants Private Ltd (CSPL) was incorporated in the year 2002 as a 100% Export Oriented Unit (EOU) under Cochin Special Economic Zone (CSEZ). The registered office and factory of CSPL is situated in Industrial Development Area, Edayar, Binanipuram, Cochin. CSPL is certified under ISO 45001:2018 by Ms. Bureau Veritas.

The Company is the Manufacturer and Exporter of all kinds of Coconut Shell Based Activated Carbon products. Activated Carbon is a 100% natural product characterized by large specific surface area ranging from 300 – 1500 m²/gm which allows the physical adsorption of gases and vapours and dissolved or

dispersed substances from liquids. Activated carbon has wide range of applications in gold refining, water filtration, solvent recovery, decolorization, air filtration and pharmaceuticals etc. The Company started commercial production in the year of 2002 with a production capacity of 2400 Metric Tons per annum. Currently the company exports to 70 destinations in 33 countries spread in 5 continents. The export of company during the year 2018-19 was to the tune of Rs.10.73 Crores. The unit has been supported by Coconut Development Board through investment subsidy. The unit is able to add value by processing around 20,000 MT of coconut shells per annum.

**Best Woman Merchant Exporter:
Smt. Rhona Varghese, Kumbalangi, Kochi, Kerala**

Golden Globe Agencies is a proprietary firm which was established in the year 2016. Mrs. Rhona Varghese, the proprietress of the firm is a sociology graduate and a special educator for dyslexic children. She has ventured into many areas like architecture, interior designing, distribution of construction chemicals etc before entering into the trading of agricultural products. Her primary aim was to undertake the trading of fruits, vegetables and fresh and dried coconut in the Middle East and Far East.

The interest of the firm in the trading business of agricultural products including coconut, started with her interaction with major importers in the Middle east who wanted a reliable supplier from India for their buyers in the US and Far East. After a lot of market survey and research, they were able to establish a reliable supply chain which has stood the test of time and has given them a very good business relationship with their customers. In the five years of the firm's existence, they were able to capture a niche market in the Far East with their products.

The most sought after product of coconut traded by the firm is ball copra which has become the



benchmark for top quality and customer satisfaction in the countries they deal with. The firm exercises utmost care in the selection and procurement of coconuts. They are also very particular about the region from which the coconuts are sourced, so that the right degree of sweetness, moisture and oil content of the product is assured. Export is mainly undertaken through the ports in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The firm has a dedicated team at their sourcing points to maintain a high standard of quality. The firm dedicates their success to their efficient staff, dedicated logistic support and most of all, excellent customer loyalty. They have been able to achieve the foreseen goals apart from the customer satisfaction and loyalty to their products.

The future plans of the firm include diversification to newer territory and more innovative products, both processed and packed, to meet newer market demands. The firm achieved an export to the tune of Rs. 2.89 crores in 2018-19 and is striving to expand their market and reach higher frontiers.

Best Innovative Exporter:
M/s. Lala Agro Tropic Pvt Ltd, Perumbavoor, Ernakulam

M/s. Lala Agro Tropic Private Limited is a Private firm incorporated in 2002. The Directors of Lala Agro Tropic Private Limited are Parakkattu Narayanan Anil Lal and Deepa Anil Lal. It has its registered office in Perumbavoor in Kerala. The company manufactures eco-friendly goods viz. Coconut shell ice cream cups and bird's feeder. The company started as a proprietorship firm for supplying coconut shell based ice cream cups, which was a big hit in the Barcelona Olympics in 1992. With over 28 years of experience in the production of eco-friendly items made from coconut shells, the company is making regular shipment to US and Europe.

The company produces coconut shell ice cream cups as well as coconut shell bird feeders. They also make handcrafted items out of coconut shells. They primarily acquire raw materials from Tamil Nadu and Kerala and they are processed at their processing units in Koovappady and Kalady, situated in Ernakulam district of Kerala State.



The export of the company for the year 2018-19 was to the tune of INR 2.80 Crores. The company is planning to make more products like bird's nest, cutlery and other utility items from coconut shell in the coming years and expand its market to Australia and EU countries. At a time when the whole world is looking forward towards natural and biodegradable products, coconut shell products offer much potential in the future. The firm also provides increased prices to the farmers through procurement of coconut shells and also employment opportunities thereby contributing to societal improvement.

Best Farmers Producer Organisation:
M/s.Vadakara Coconut Farmers Producer Company Ltd, Vadakara, Kozhikode, Kerala



M/s.Vadakara Coconut Farmers Producer Company Ltd (VCFPCL) is a Producer Company registered under Registrar of Companies during 2015 April with authorized capital of Rs.6.00 crores and paid up capital of Rs4.50 crores. VCFPCL was formed by federating 152 Coconut Producer Societies (CPS) through 12 Coconut Producer Federations (CPF) in Vadakara & Quilandy Taluks of Kozhikode District. VCFPCL is one among the best producer company formed in the coconut sector. Prof. E. Sasindran, is the chairman of the company. The company is having its own processing units for Neera and Coconut Oil with processing capacity of 5000 litres per day and 15000 litres

per day capacity respectively. Apart from Neera and coconut oil, the company is producing byproducts like coconut water soft drink, Neera Jaggery, Neera chocolate, Neera honey, Neera based vinegar, Coconut water based vinegar, VCO cold process, VCO hot process, Veggi wash, coconut chips, coir pith fertilizers etc. The products of the company are being sold in the brand name "De Cocos". The company

is having FSSAI, ISO, GMP, HACCP, IEC certification for its coconut oil and Neera processing units. During the year 2018-19, the company exported sizeable quantity of Neera, Neera Honey, Neera Jaggery and Coconut Oil worth Rs. 12.96 Lakhs. The Company received Post Harvest Intervention Award from the Government of Kerala and Swaminathan Foundation award for the year 2018-19. The company is planning for the production of coir pith based fertilizers, husk defibring unit and many more products from coconut with a view to give maximum value addition to core product, byproduct and side product.



India hosted International Workshop on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in Coconut

Coconut Development Board, Government of India, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, hosted the International Workshop on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in coconut organized in association with International Coconut Community from 2nd to 4th September 2022 at Kochi, Kerala. The theme of the workshop was: Good Agricultural Practices for Coconut in Enhancing Production Efficiency, Product Quality and Resilience to Climate Change.

The workshop was inaugurated on 2nd September by Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC and Dr. N. Vijaya Lakshmi, IAS, Chairman CDB. Mr. Rajendra Kumar Kataria IAS, Principal Secretary Horticulture, Government of Karnataka was present during the occasion.

In her welcome address Dr. N. Vijaya Lakshmi, IAS said that Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in coconut production is the need of the hour. Timely adoption and monitoring of GAP in coconut production helps improve the safety and quality of coconut and coconut based value added products thereby improving the avenues for coconut product exports.

Good Agricultural Practices in coconut cultivation not only helps to produce quality outputs, but also improves the soil condition thereby reducing the cost of cultivation resulting in improving the livelihood of the farmers.

Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC, in her inaugural address presented the rationales and objectives of the workshop. She spoke on the expected outcomes of the workshop, viz, a sustainable and resilient coconut industry with improved environmental management, nut quality and production efficiency that benefit producers and consumers thereby improving the coconut farmer's livelihood and quality coconut-based products-better production, better environment, better market & better life- which is the need of the hour.

Mr. Rajendra Kumar Kataria IAS, Principal Secretary, Horticulture, Government of Karnataka, in his address said that the workshop needs to come up with a road map for a GAP to be followed globally. He added that the countries must follow the programme of lab to land in which the technologies developed is to be demonstrated in the field for easy

adoption by the farmers. He added that sharing of experience by international experts in this platform would equip the participants to be updated with the latest and updated technologies.

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

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

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

In the open forum and discussions, the researchers, extension workers, stakeholders and farmers participated. The session concluded on 3rd September with the valedictory remarks by Dr. N.Vijaya Lakshmi, IAS, Chairman CDB and Dr. Jelfina C.Alouw, Executive Director, ICC.



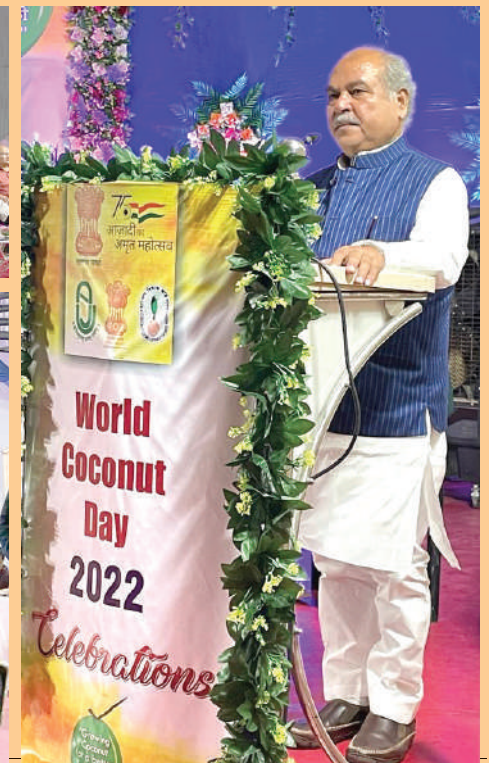
The team visited coconut gardens of Mr. Raam Mohan and Mr. OVR Somasundaram in Tirupur district of Tamil Nadu state. The participants could personally experience the hybridization techniques followed in the Umapathy hybrid centre in which they have adopted an integrated farming system with poultry farming. Umapathy is also having a nursery of hybrid coconut seedlings of Raamganga variety in poly bags. Mr. Raam Mohan is also producing coconut sugar and its value added products from coconut neera.

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

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



Inauguration of CDB State Centre, Junagadh, Gujarat





**Farmers Meet
@ Junagadh
Agricultural
University**



World Coconut Day 2022





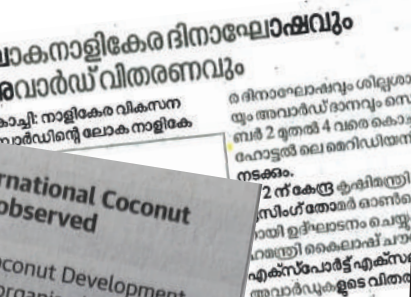
Workshop on GAP



Exhibition Stalls



Newspaper Reports



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Coconut Development Board awarded Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar

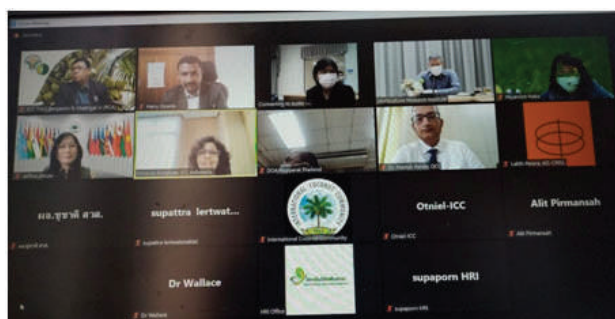


Coconut Development Board is awarded Rajbhasha Kirti Puraskar 2021-22 (IIIrd position) for the excellent implementation of Official Language Policy amongst the Central government offices in the non Hindi speaking areas. Dr.B.Hanumanthe Gowda, Chief Coconut Development Officer, Coconut Development Board received the Puraskar from Shri.Harivansh Narayan Singh, Honourable Rajya Sabha Deputy Speaker of India at a function held on 14th September 2022 at Pandit Dindayal Upadhyay Indoor Stadium, Surat, Gujarat. Shri.Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Co-operation, Government of India presided over the function.

ICC-Technical Working Group Meeting

A meeting of ICC-Technical Working Group (ICC-TWG) and Thai Government was held virtually on 16th September 2022. Dr. Hanumanthe Gowda, Chief Coconut Development Officer, Coconut Development Board (CDB) and Member Technical Working Group, ICC attended the meeting. TWG Meeting discussed the proposal of GAP Monkey free plus protocol developed by Government of Thailand in response to the propaganda on using monkeys to harvest coconut.

Dr. Jelfina C. Alouw, Executive Director, ICC delivered the welcome address. Dr. Choochat Wattanawan, Director, Horticulture Research Institute, Department of Agriculture, Bangkok, Thailand shared the information and the initiatives taken by the Government of Thailand in promoting



GAP Monkey Free plus Protocol. TWG Chairman and Members had a detailed discussion on the topic and assured the support of ICC in tackling the issue. The meeting ended with closing remarks by Ms. Mridula Kottekate, Assistant Director, ICC.

143rd Meeting of Coconut Development Board



The 143rd Meeting of Coconut Development Board was held on 2nd September 2022 under the Chairmanship of Dr. N Vijayalakshmi IAS, Chairman, Coconut Development Board at Kochi.

The meeting was attended by Shri K. Narayanan Master, Vice Chairman and other members of the Board; Dr. Anitha Karun, Director, CPCRI, Shri D. Kuppuramu, Chairman, Coir Board, Shri. Nagendra

Prasad IAS, Director Horticulture, Government of Karnataka, Shri P. Reghunath, Shri. B H Renukumar, Shri S.V. Muthuramalingam, Shri Guruswamy and Shri. H L Aswathnarayana. Dr. N Vijayalakshmi IAS, Chairman, Coconut Development Board updated the meeting on the major activities of the Board and the progress made in the formation of FPOs, coconut price and also in the export of coconut products.

Hindi Fortnight 2022



Coconut Development Board is observing Hindi Fortnight 2022 from 14th September 2022. Shri. R Madhu, Secretary, CDB inaugurated the Hindi Fortnight celebrations of the Board on 14th September 2022 at CDB, Kochi. Shri. Hemachandra, Director, CDB spoke during the occasion. Smt. S Beena, Assistant Director (OL) delivered the welcome address. Message from the Chairman, CDB was read out and the employees of the Board took the official language pledge during the occasion.

Neera sales counter opened at Kalamassery Metro Station in Kochi, Kerala

A sales counter of neera and other coconut products was inaugurated at Kalamassery Metro Station in Kochi by Shri. P. Rajeev, Minister for Law, Industries and Coir, Government of Kerala on 21st September 2022. The outlet is owned by Thrissur Coconut Producer Company. The neera produced by Ollur Coconut Producer Federation is being sold in the counter @Rs. 360/liter. Neera is also available in 500, 250, 200 and 100 ml packs. Apart from neera, vinegar, coconut oil, hair oil and other value added coconut products are also available in the outlet.



Cultivation practices in Coconut Garden - October

Planting

In low lying areas, planting of coconut seedlings can be taken up. Prevent accumulation of rain water in the seedling pits by ensuring adequate drainage. New planting can be undertaken in regions like Tamil Nadu with the commencement of north east monsoon.



Manuring

Under irrigated conditions, one fourth of the recommended dose of chemical fertilizers can be applied if not given during September. For the coconut seedlings planted during June, first application of chemical fertilizers (one tenth of general recommendation ie 100 g urea, 200 g MOP and 200g rock phosphate) can be given. It is always recommended to apply chemical fertilizers based on the soil test results rather than going by the general recommendations.

Wherever Boron deficiency is noticed 100 g Borax may be applied in the basin. For coconut palms showing yellowing of leaves due to Magnesium deficiency, 0.5 kg of magnesium sulphate can be applied in the basins along with other fertilizers.

Irrigation

In non-traditional areas of coconut cultivation in eastern and north eastern states, irrigation to coconut palms can be started when the minimum temperature goes below 20°C as a protective irrigation. Before starting irrigation a thick mulch should be provided in the basin of coconut palm at 1.8 m radius to a height of minimum 15 cm. In the remaining parts of the coconut growing areas irrigation shall be started depending upon the soil moisture available and withdrawal of monsoon.

Green manuring

Regions benefitted by north east monsoon like Tamil Nadu, sowing of green manure crops like Sunhemp *Crotalaria juncea* or Daincha (*Sesbania aculeate*) or Cow pea (*Vigna unguiculata*) or Wild

Indigo(*Tephrosia purpurea*) can be done. In the interspace of coconut gardens under monocropping the following seed rate of green manure seeds is recommended. Sunhemp – 20 kg/ha, Daincha – 30 kg/ha, Cow pea -25 kg/ha and Wild Indigo– 15 kg/ha.

If intercrops are grown, seeds of green manure crops can be sown in the coconut basin of 1.8 m radius. For Cow pea and Daincha seed rate per basin is 100g while for other green manure crops, 75 g seeds can be sown per basin.

Intercultural operations

Ploughing/digging of interspace is to be undertaken to keep the plantation free of weeds if not done during September. Care should be taken to avoid injury to coconut palm while ploughing.

Nursery managements

Weeding should be done in the nursery. Five month old ungerminated nuts and dead sprouts should be removed from the nursery. Mulching with coconut leaves or dried grass or live mulch by raising green manure crops can be done in the nursery. Irrigation has to be given for seedlings. In localities of Tamil Nadu, which are mostly benefitted by North- East monsoon, sowing of seednuts can be taken up.

Mulching

Mulching of palm basins can be undertaken if not done during September. Fallen dried coconut leaves available in the coconut garden can be used for mulching.

Adopt mechanical method of control by extracting beetles with beetle hooks, without causing further injury to the growing point of the palm. The top most leaf axils may be filled with powdered neem cake/ marotti cake (*Hydrocarpus sp/ pongamia*) @ 250 g + fine sand (250g) per palm as a prophylactic measure. Fill the innermost three leaf axils with 4 g each of



naphthalene balls covered with sand (12 g/palm) for juvenile palms. Placement of two perforated sachets containing chlorantraniliprole a.i. 0.4% (5 g) or fipronil (3 g) or one botanical cake (2 g) developed by ICAR-CPCRI can be done. Incorporation of the biomass of weed plant *Clerodendron infortunatum* Linn. in the cow dung/compost pit can also be taken up. The breeding sites may be treated with green muscardine fungus (*Metarhizium anisopliae*)

Pest and Disease Management in Coconut

Intermittent precipitation with frequent dry and wet spells makes nut pests and disease at high stake calling for systematic intervention. Immature nut fall and button shedding has been quite rampant in areas receiving frequent rainfall and dry hot and short spells. In general, this is the phase of low nut setting percentage. Adding to climate vulnerabilities, such problems aggravate and to combat these issues a systematic spilt nutrient application and timely intervention of these nut pests and disease is the need for the month. Nuts pests such as coconut eriophyid mite, nut crinkler (coreid bug) and nut borer incidence are reported high in certain coconut growing belts of the country. The management of these nut problems are outlined hereunder.

I. Cocout eriophyid mite, *Aceria guerreronis*

Coconut eriophyid mite is the invasive pest reported from our country during 1998 and has been on the rise during post-winter season. It belongs to the spider family with two pairs of legs, sub-microscopic (200-250 microns size), lays about 100-150 eggs and the life cycle completed in 7-10 days. Mites infests the developing nuts immediately after pollination and are confined within the floral bracts (tepals) and feeds on the meristematic tissues beneath the



Mite damaged nuts



Progression of mite damage

perianth. Appearance of elongated white streak below the perianth is the first visible symptom. Within few days, yellow halo appears round the perianth, which turns as warts and finally develops as cracks, cuts and gummosis. Shedding of buttons, immature nuts, malformation of nuts are other indications of mite damage.



Mite colony

Management

a) Removal and destruction of dried spathes, inflorescence parts and fallen nuts to subdue the pest population

b) Spraying 2% neem-garlic emulsion or azadirachtin 10000 ppm @0.004% or root feeding with neem formulation containing azadirachtin 10000 ppm at 10 ml with equal volume of water three times during March-April, October-November and December –January is recommended. Prophylactic application before the increase in summer temperature should be resorted to.

c) Application of talc-based preparation of acaropathogen, *Hirsutella thompsonii* @ 20 g / litre/ palm containing 1.6×10^8 cfu three times in synergy with neem formulation.

d) Kalpaharitha (a selection from Kulasekharam Tall) was found field tolerant to mite damage.

e) Application of recommended dose of fertilizers, recycling of biomass, raising of green manure crops in palm basin and incorporation during flowering, summer irrigation including soil and water conservation measures improve the palm health and reduce the pest attack.

II. Coreid Bug, *Paradasynus rostratus*

Nymphs and adults puncture the meristematic regions of tender buttons (1-3 months old) injecting toxin around the feeding site causing necrosis. Feeding punctures develop into necrotic lesions and these spindle-shaped depressions could be visible when the perianth of shed button is removed. Female flowers are attacked prior to pollination and



such flowers get dried and can be seen attached to inflorescence on the crown resulting in production of barren buttons. Most of the infested buttons and tender nuts shed down.

Retained nuts on the bunch develop furrows and crinkles on their husks and are malformed.

Management

- Crown cleaning to destroy eggs and immature stages of the pest
- Spraying of azadirachtin 300 ppm (Nimbecidene) @ 0.0004% (13 ml / l) reduced the pest incidence at the highest level. Two rounds of azadirachtin spray on young coconut bunches 1-5 months old during May-June and September-October are quite essential for satisfactory control of the pest in the field
- Among the natural enemies, the weaver ant, *Oecophylla smaragdina* found to be the most efficient predator of coreid bug in the field.
- Two egg parasitoids, namely *Chrysochalcis cissaoviceps* and *Gryonhomeoceri*, were identified as potential egg parasitoids. Forty per cent parasitism was observed in the egg mass collected from the field due to these parasitoids.
- Spraying chlorantraniliprole 0.3 ml/litre or lambda cyhalothrin @ 1.0 ml/litre on the pollinated bunches was found effective.

III. Nut borer, *Cyclodes omma*

Incidence of nut borer was observed in certain coconut gardens in Pollachi (Tamil Nadu). This is a sporadic pest normally found in dwarf genotypes and also in hybrids. Succulency due to excessive nutrition by nitrogenous fertilizers is also one of the factors responsible for pest outbreak. Caterpillars bore into buttons after pollination as well as immature nuts and feed on the internal contents during night hours, resulting in button shedding. Palms subjected to assisted pollination are more susceptible to pest attack. The pupal stages are observed on the debris of palm crown.

Management

- a) Crown cleaning and removal of immature stages of the pest
- b) Judicious and need based application of nitrogenous fertilizers to avoid succulency
- c) Application of the entomopathogen, *Bacillus thuringiensis* @ 20 g per litre or neem oil 0.5% (5 ml per litre with 10 g soap powder) using hand sprayers would reduce pest incidence.

IV. Bud rot or immature nut fall



Nut boring caterpillar



Damaged buttons

(*Phytophthora palmivora*)

In certain humid locations bud rot occurred regularly killing hundreds of trees. In India, bud rot incidence is recorded as less than one per cent. Pathogen attacks the bud region leading to rotting of bud and death of palms. The first visible symptom is withering of the spindle marked by pale colour. The spear leaf or spindle turns brown and bends down. The affected spear leaf can easily be pulled out as the basal portion of the spindle is completely rotten emitting a foul smell. Temperature range of 20- 24°C and relative humidity of 98% - 100% were found optimum for the development of the bud rot disease. Contiguous occurrence of such "favourable days" during rainy seasons determines the development of the disease and the intensity of infection. As *Phytophthora* diseases are known to be extremely fatal, a close scrutiny is mandatory during monsoon period to assess the health of the palm especially the spear leaf zone.

Management

- Regular cleaning of the crown and prophylactic spraying of Bordeaux mixture (1%) to the crown just before the onset of monsoon and one more spray after 35-40 days help in reducing the bud rot incidence.



Withering of spear leaf



Bud rot affected palm

- Field sanitation and provide proper drainage during rainy season.

- Placement of two *Trichoderma* (*Trichoderma harzianum*CPTD28 isolate) enriched coir pith cakes in the inner most leaf axils just before the onset of monsoon and again after every two months as prophylactic measure.

- In disease affected palms, remove the entire rotten portion of the spindle by cutting with a sharp knife and apply 10% Bordeaux paste to the wound and cover with polythene sheet to prevent entry of rain water. The protective covering has to be retained till normal shoot emerges.

Nut fall

Nut fall may be due to genetic/ physiological factors, nutrient imbalance/ deficiency, poor pollination, attack by insects or mites, water logging/drought or fungal infection. Major fungal species associated with nut fall are *Phytophthora palmivora* and *Lasiodiplodia theobromae*. In the case of *Phytophthora palmivora* infection, water-



Lasiodiplodia infection symptoms



Phytophthora infection symptoms



soaked lesions appear on the surface of the nuts. The lesions turn brown and the nut detaches from the bunch. *Phytophthora* infection is more common during rainy season and occurs in high humid

areas. Nut infection by *Lasiodiplodia theobromae* appear as dark grey to brown lesions with wavy to undulated margins. As infection progresses, decay and discolouration of mesocarp and endosperm of nuts are also observed. Severe infection results in desiccation, shrivelling, deformation and premature dropping of nuts. *Lasiodiplodia* infection is severe in mite infested nuts and occurs throughout the year. It is seen in dry areas also

Management

- Removal and destruction of infected nuts.
- Crown cleaning just before monsoon and spraying of Bordeaux mixture 1% to the bunches. ■

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* 30 years., **Quarterly



Market Review – August 2022

Domestic Price

Coconut Oil

During the month of August 2022, the price of coconut oil opened at Rs. 14400 per quintal at Kochi and Alappuzha markets and Rs. 14800 per quintal at Kozhikode market. The price closed with a net loss of Rs. 200 per quintal at Kochi and Alappuzha market and Rs.350 per quintal at Kozhikode market.

During the month, the price of coconut oil at Kangayam market opened at Rs. 11867 per quintal and closed at Rs. 11600 per quintal with a net loss of Rs. 267 per quintal.

Weekly price of coconut oil at major markets Rs/Quintal)				
	Kochi	Alappuzha	Kozhikode	Kangayam
01.08.2022	14400	14400	14800	11867
06.08.2022	14400	14400	14800	11933
13.08.2022	14400	14400	14800	11867
20.08.2022	14400	14400	14600	11600
27.08.2022	14200	14200	14600	11533
31.08.2022	14200	14200	14450	11600

Milling copra

During the month, the price of milling copra opened at Rs.8450 per quintal at Kochi and Rs.8300 per quintal at Alappuzha and Rs.8850 per quintal at Kozhikode market.

The prices of milling copra closed at Rs. 8300 per quintal at Kochi market, Rs. 8250 per quintal at Alappuzha market and Rs. 8550 per quintal at Kozhikode market with a net loss of Rs.150 at Kochi market and Rs.50 at Alappuzha market and Rs. 300 per quintal at Kozhikode markets.

During the month, the price of milling copra at Kangayam market opened at Rs.7900 and closed at

Rs. 7750 per quintal with a net loss of Rs. 150 per quintal.

Weekly price of Milling Copra at major markets (Rs/Quintal)				
	Kochi	Alappuzha	Kozhikode	Kangayam
01.08.2022	8450	8300	8850	7900
06.08.2022	8450	8300	8850	7950
13.08.2022	8450	8300	8800	7900
20.08.2022	8450	8300	8700	7700
27.08.2022	8300	8250	8650	7700
31.08.2022	8300	8250	8550	7750

Edible copra

During the month the price of Rajpur copra at Kozhikode market opened at Rs. 13600 per quintal and closed at Rs. 13050 per quintal with a net loss of Rs. 550 per quintal.

Weekly price of edible copra at Kozhikode market (Rs/Quintal)	
01.08.2022	13600
06.08.2022	13400
13.08.2022	14100
20.08.2022	13000
27.08.2022	13100
31.08.2022	13050

Ball copra

The price of ball copra at Tiptur market opened at Rs. 14400 per quintal and closed at Rs.13900 per quintal with a net loss of Rs.500 per quintal.

Weekly price of Ball copra at major markets in Karnataka (Rs/Quintal) (Source: Krishimara vahini)	
01.08.2022	14400
06.08.2022	14400
13.08.2022	14400
20.08.2022	13500
27.08.2022	13300
31.08.2022	13900



*NR-Not reported

Dry coconut

At Kozhikode market, the price of dry coconut opened at Rs.11000 and closed at Rs. 10750 per quintal with a net loss of Rs. 250 per quintal.

Weekly price of Dry Coconut at Kozhikode market (Rs/Quintal)	
01.08.2022	11000
06.08.2022	11000
13.08.2022	11000
20.08.2022	11000
27.08.2022	10750
31.08.2022	10750

Coconut

At Nedumangad market in Kerala, the price of coconut opened at Rs. 13000 per thousand nuts and closed at the same price during the month.

At Pollachi market in Tamilnadu, the price of coconut opened Rs. 22000 per tonne and closed at Rs. 21500 per tonne with a net loss of Rs. 500 per tonne.

At Bangalore market in Karnataka, the price of coconut opened at Rs. 19000 per thousand nuts and closed at Rs.17500 per thousand nuts with a net loss of Rs.1500 per thousand nuts during the month.

At Mangalore market in Karnataka, the price of coconut opened Rs. 28000 per tonne and closed at Rs. 26000 per tonne during the month with a net loss of Rs. 2000 per tonne.

Weekly price of coconut at major markets				
	Nedumangad (Rs./1000 coconuts)#	Pollachi (Rs./MT) ##	Bangalore Grade-1 coconut, (Rs./ 1000 coconuts) ##	Mangalore Black coconut (1 tonne) ##
01.08.2022	13000	22000	19000	28000
06.08.2022	13000	22000	17000	28000
13.08.2022	13000	22500	20000	28000
20.08.2022	13000	22500	20000	26000
27.08.2022	13000	21500	17500	26000
31.08.2022	13000	21500	17500	26000

International price

Coconut

The price of coconut quoted at different domestic markets in Philippines, Indonesia, Srilanka and India are given below.



Weekly price of dehusked coconut with water				
Date	Domestic Price (US\$/MT)			
	Philippines	Indonesia	Srilanka	India*
06.08.2022	151	144	173	276
13.08.2022	151	146	179	282
20.08.2022	149	145	181	282
27.08.2022	NR	148	178	270

*Pollachi market

Coconut Oil

International price and domestic price of coconut oil at different international/ domestic markets are given below.

Weekly price of coconut oil in major coconut oil producing countries					
	International Price(US\$/MT)	Domestic Price(US\$/MT)			
	Philippines/ Indonesia (CIF Europe)	Philippines	Indonesia	Sri Lanka	India*
06.08.2022	1397	1351	NR	1926	1497
13.08.2022	1395	NR	NR	1940	1489
20.08.2022	1333	NR	NR	1773	1455
27.08.2022	NR	NR	NR	1800	1447

*Kangayam

Copra

The price of copra quoted at different domestic markets in Philippines, Srilanka, Indonesia, and India are given below.

Weekly International price of copra in major copra producing countries				
Date	Domestic Price (US\$/MT)			
	Philippines	Indonesia	Srilanka	India* * Kangayam
06.08.2022	698	657	984	997
13.08.2022	694	664	928	991
20.08.2022	675	610	967	966
27.08.2022	NR	639	941	966

* Kangayam