BULLETIN

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INDIAN CENTRAL COCONUT COMMITTEE

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BULLETIN

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THE

Indian Central Coconut Committee

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In this Issue

COVER PICTURE: Cocconut palms with their extensive rootsystem act as good soil-binders.

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Secretary,
Indian Central Coconut Committee,
Ernakulam.

Sri. K. R. DAMLE, I. C. S., Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Government of India, and Vice-President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, is now the President of the Indian Central Coconut Committee.

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THE INDIAN CENTRAL COCONUT COMMITTEE

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Indian Coconut Committee Act Amendment

In the light of its working for some years the Indian Coconut Committee Act, 1944, under which the Committee had been set up was found to be defective in certain respects The most serious of these defects was the definition of the term 'mill' occurring in the Act. This definition restricted the mills liable to pay cess on the copra crushed by them, to such mills only as came within the purview of the Factories Act. As mills which were not governed by the provisions of the Factories Act were not obliged to pay the cess, more and more mills began to get struck off the register of factories and new mills saw to it that they stayed outside the pale of the Factories Act so that they were not required to pay the cess. As this gave an undeserved advantage to non-factory mills over the factory mills and affected the revenues of the Committee, the question of suitably amending the Indian Coconut Committee Act, 1944, was taken up and a Bill for the purpose was introduced in the last session of Parliament and passed by it. The Indian Coconut Committee (Amendment) Act, 1952, besides amending the definition of the term "mill" so as to bring under it all power-driven mills crushing copra, amends certain other sections also of the principal Act.

According to the Amendment Act any premises in which or in any part of which copra is crushed or is ordinarily crushed with the aid of power (electrical energy or any other form of energy which is mechanically transmitted and is not generated by human or animal agency), will be classified as a mill liable to pay cess under the Indian Coconut Committee Act, 1944. From the date on which the Amendment Act

comes into force, all mills will be obliged to pay cess on the copra crushed by them irrespective of the number of hands employed by them. The Amendment Act makes it obligatory on the owners of such mills as are in existence at the time the Act comes into force to furnish to the Collector of Central Excise concerned within 14 days of the coming into force of the Act, particulars of the name and situation of the mill, name and address of the owner, address to which communications relating to the mill may be sent and the total capacity of the mill to crush copra. The owners of mills which are set up after the commencement of the Amendment Act should furnish the above particulars within fourteen days of their establishment. Failure to furnish the particulars is punishable with fine or imprisonment or with both.

The Amendment Act provides for the Agricultural Marketing Adviser with the Government of India and a nominee of the Assam Government also being appointed as members of the Committee, thus raising the Committee's membership from 26 to 28, and for any member of the Committee or any other person being appointed by the Central Government as President of the Committee. It may be recalled that according to the original Act, the Vice-President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, was *ex-officio* President of the Committee.

The Amendment Act specifically excludes "coir and its products" from the coconut products for the improvement of which the Committee could use its funds.

When the Bill to Amend the Indian Coconut Committee Act, 1944, was introduced in Parliament early in November, 1952, there was some uninformed criticism regarding the activities of the Committee. Answering such criticisms Sri K. P. Madhavan Nair, Vice-President of the Committee spoke at length in the Council of States on the varied activities of the Committee and showed what good work the Committee had been doing since its inception in 1945.

The functions of the Committee, Sri Madhavan Nair said, were (1) undertaking, assisting or encouraging agricultural, industrial and economic research, (2) improving the marketing of coconuts and coconut products, (3) supplying information regarding the coconut industry to the general public, giving technical advice to growers and carrying on propaganda in the interests of the coconut industry and (4) tendering advice to the Central Government in respect of policy in matters connected with the development and improvement of the industry. He adverted to the items of research work carried out at the Central Coconut Research Stations, Kasaragod and Kayangulam. Investigations at the latter station showed that the leaf disease could be kept under control by spraying the coconut palm with Bordeaux mixture and this was being demonstrated on a wide scale.

Referring to the Regional Coconut Research Stations, three of which were functioning in Travancore-Cochin and one in Orissa, Sri Madhavan Nair said that they were administered by the State Governments concerned, the Committee extending financial aid only. In fact the sector of direct activities by the Committee was limited. Mostly, it invited from State Governments, schemes, which, if approved, were given grants-in-aid; whether a scheme worked well or ill depended to a greater extent on the State Government concerned than on anyone else.

With a view to encourage coconut growers to plant quality seedlings the Committee was giving grant-in-aid to 28 nurseries with an annual output target of about 5 lakhs of seedlings. Quality seedlings were also distributed from the Committee's Research Station at Kasaragod.

The Committee was popularising the growing of green manure crops in coconut gardens and was collaborating with Messrs. Parry and Co. Ltd. to demonstrate in a number of farms selected for the purpose, the efficacy of fertilisers for coconut cultivation.

On the marketing side, Sri Madhavan Nair pointed out that, as India was a deficit country as regards coconuts, there was no question of exports at all. However, in order to assist small cultivators, two co-operative schemes sponsored by the Travancore-Cochin Government were financed by the Committee. They, however, did not work properly and the Committee had to withdraw financial aid to them.

The Committee had drawn up, in consultation with the trade, grade specifications for coconut oil and standard contract terms for milling copra which had been recommended to the trade for adoption in their transactions. The possibilities of setting up regulated markets had been explored and as a result of the Committee's recommendations regulated markets for coconuts and coconut products had been set up in the Districts of Malabar, South Kanara and East Godavari in Madras State and Tiptur in Mysore.

The Committee was publishing a monthly "Bulletin" in English and Malayalam and a quarterly in English. The "Bulletin" was proposed to be published in Kannada from January 1953. The handbook on "Coconut Cultivation" already available in English and Malayalam was proposed to be brought out in four other languages. The Committee was meeting 50 per cent of the expenditure in respect of a full time coconut Propaganda Officer in Travancore-Cochin. The Officer went about contacting coconut growers and giving them advice and his work was quite encouraging. An Agricultural Assistant from the Committee's office did likewise in Malabar District.

Referring to the charge levelled by certain members that the Committee had done nothing in regard to coir,

Sri Madhavan Nair said that although the Committee had, from as early as, 1946 wanted to deal with schemes regarding coir development, the Travancore-Cochin Government had objected to it on the ground that they had agreed to be in the Committee on condition that coir was kept outside its purview. The Committee, however, felt that it was an anomalous situation and had been demanding ever since that coir should be brought within its jurisdiction. But the odds were against the Committee and opinion was that up to a certain stage coir might be given to the Committee. He, therefore, thought it unfortunate that in the Amendment Bill before the House coir and coir products had been specifically excluded from the Committee's purview Such specific exclusion would surely hamper the work of the Committee.

Sri Madhavan Nair also made a reference to the coconut development schemes recently sanctioned by the Committee—one for West Bengal and the other for the Andamans and said that from the facts he had stated it should be clear to all unbiassed minds that the Committee was doing good work.

Adverting to the definition of the term "mill" in the Amendment Bill so as to include under it all mills crushing copra irrespective of the number of hands employed in them, Sri Madhavan Nair pointed out that the incidence of the cess which was collected from the mills was never passed on to the consumer. It rested ultimately through the copra dealer on the grower of coconut. In the original Act, 'mill' meant only an establishment coming under the purview of the Factories Act and such mills alone were liable to pay the cess. This led to such mills being split into smaller units to avoid paying cess. Thus if the term "mill" had not been re-defined it would have led to a situation in which cess could not be collected from any except a few big mills.

Proceeding, Sri Madhavan Nair said that it was not correct to say that the Committee had done nothing to ensure a fair return to the cultivator. The Committee had always stood for a fair price to the grower. It had expressed itself against unrestricted imports of coconuts and coconut products and reduction in their import duties It had recommended that import duties should be so fixed that the price of the imported stuff was above that of the indigenous product. It had also asked for the removal of copra and coconut oil from under the Open General Licence. The Committee had thus done all it could to ensure fair price for the coconut.

Concluding Sri Madhavan Nair said that there had been a lot of uninformed criticism about the Committee and that those who really wanted to know about its working could easily go through the literature it had published and feel convinced that the Committee had done and was doing good work.

Some Aspects of the Cultivation of Green Manures

WE are living in days when on account of the increase in population jungles are being cleared for human occupation and waste lands brought under the plough. This has resulted in few pastures being left for livestock and little or no green leaves being available for manuring. It has now become difficult to get cattle manure and green manure. In the good old days unlimited quantities of these used to be added to the fields and bumper crops harvested. But in the present day it has become difficult to treat fields with cattle and green manures even on a limited scale.

Cattle manure and green manure are basic manures for all cultivation. If these are added to the soil in sufficient quantities, the texture of the soil, its fertility, moisture holding capacity etc. will be improved. And if to these basic manures chemical manures such as ammonium sulphate and muriate of potash are also added very good yields may be expected.

Any heavy organic manure such as cattle manure, compost or green manure can be used as a basic manure. But green manure is produced at the lowest cost and with maximum ease.

To grow a green manure crop in the garden and incorporate it into the soil in order to improve it, is a new technique advocated by departments of agriculture. Legumes which grow luxuriantly are the best suited for purposes of green manuring. Legumes have the property of fixing nitrogen in the nodules on their roots and when they are incorporated into the soil they give a lot of nitrogen to it. From an acre of leguminous crop we can get as much nitrogen as we could from 3 to 4 cwts. of ammonium sulphate. Crops such as sesame, tapioca and cotton exhaust the soil quickly and they are raised alternately with crops of cow-pea or horse gram to replenish the soil.

Most leguminous crops have a luxuriant growth and begin to put forth flowers in about three months. About 5000 to 15000 lb. of green stuff can be obtained from an acre of such crops, depending on the nature of the crop. Cow-pea, horsegram, kolinji and sunn-hemp yield about 5000 to 6000 lb. per acre, dhainja about 8000 to 10,000 lb. and wild sunn-hemp (*Crotalaria striata*) about 10,000 to 15,000 lb. They have an advantage over green leaves collected from jungles in that they rot and mix up with the soil more quickly and easily.

Wild sunn-hemp (*Crotalaria striata*) has certain special characteristics of its own which give it superiority over other green manure plants. It thrives in all types of soils and is not browsed on by

cattle. How it should be cultivated in different areas is described below.

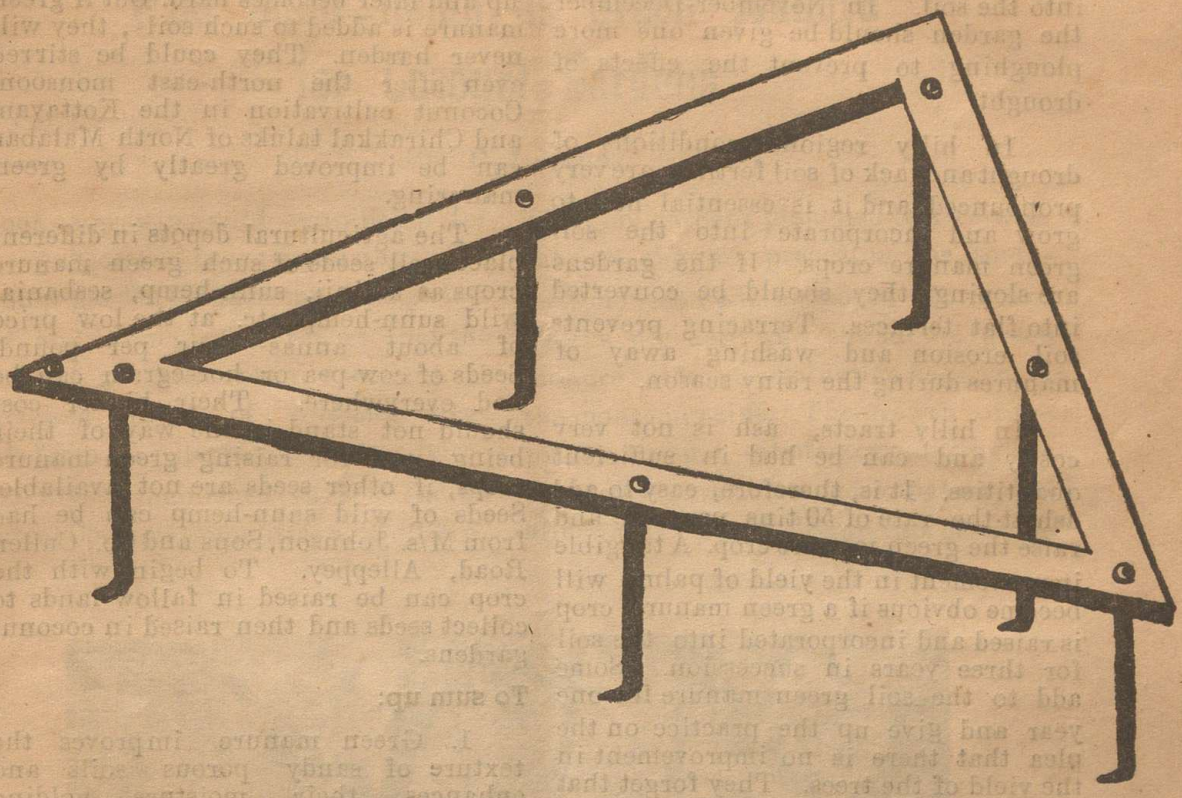
The first thing to remember in raising any green manure crop is that the soil in which it is raised should be properly ploughed and manured. If green manure plants are properly manured the quantity of green leaves etc. available for incorporation into the soil will be comparatively high. The cost of 15,000 lb. of green manure can be estimated at Rs. 150 and the cost of raising it may be estimated as follows:-

	Rs.	A.	P.
To ploughing an acre of land three times	30	0	0
To 50 tins of ash at 8 annas a tin	25	0	0
To 25 lb of seeds at 8 anns a lb.	12	8	0
To slashing the green manure plants (10 women at 12 annas each per day)	7	8	0
To plough in the green manuure crop	15	0	0
Miscellaneous expenses.	10	0	0
	100	0	0

By raising a green manure crop on an acre of land, we thus get for Rs. 100 only green manure worth Rs. 150. The cost also includes the cost of two ploughing operations, once in May and again in August. As the ploughings have to be done whether a green crop is raised or not the cost on account of them may be deducted from the total cost. It may then be seen that the actual cost of the green manure produced works to Rs. 55 only.

The seeds of the green manure crop should be sown with the first soaking showers preceding the south-west monsoon. The crop should be slashed and incorporated into the soil in August-September. The manure applied to the crop need not necessarily be ash. Any other manure that is locally available may also be applied. But ploughing the soil and application of some manure or other cannot be dispensed with. Some persons have sown the green manure seeds without ploughing the soil and without adding manure to it. Germination of the seeds in such cases has been poor and the growth of the plants unsatisfactory. Those who have cultivated the crops properly have had no reason for disappointment.

If green manure is incorporated into sandy porous soils their moisture-holding capacity will be increased. When growing a green manure crop in such soils, backwater silt which has manurial value may be applied broadcast and ploughed in before sowing the seeds. The seeds may be covered with a light plough or a triangular harrow.



THE TRIANGULAR HARROW

In August-September the green manure plants may be pulled out and buried in linear trenches dug in between rows of palms. The trenches may be dug lengthwise and breadthwise in alternate years. As these trenches are filled with the green manure plants the trees will not be affected by drought. The roots of the palms on either sides of the trenches reach out into them and take in moisture and nurtition in sufficient quantities.

In the plains lying beyond the sandy regions, manures of different kinds could be obtained in small quantities. Therefore, in such areas, *Crotalaria striata* can be cultivated using any of the following manures:-

Manures to be Applied per acre

1)	Ash	30 tins
	Cattle manure	50 baskets
2)	Superphosphate	1 cwt.
	Potassium sulphate	1 cwt.
3)	Ash	30 tins
	Superphosphate	1 cwt.

It may also be enough if ash alone of the order of 50 tins is added to the soil.

The selected manures should be applied broadcast and ploughed in and the green manure seeds sown. In August-September the green manure plants should be slashed and ploughed

into the soil. In November-December the garden should be given one more ploughing to prevent the effects of drought.

In hilly regions conditions of drought and lack of soil fertility are very pronounced and it is essential here to grow and incorporate into the soil green manure crops. If the gardens are sloping, they should be converted into flat terraces. Terracing prevents soil erosion and washing away of manures during the rainy season.

In hilly tracts, ash is not very costly and can be had in sufficient quantities. It is, therefore, easy to add ash at the rate of 50 tins per acre and raise the green manure crop. A tangible improvement in the yield of palms will become obvious if a green manure crop is raised and incorporated into the soil for three years in succession. Some add to the soil green manure for one year and give up the practice on the plea that there is no improvement in the yield of the trees. They forget that the full effects of manuring coconut trees will become obvious only after about 3 years.

When green manure is cultivated in large estates, it is best to app y broadcast potassium sulphate and superphosphate at the rate of 1 cwt. each per acre, plough them in and sow the green manure seeds.

In the hilly areas of Travancore-Cochin, Malabar and South Kanara, digging or ploughing the soil in November-December is difficult because by then the soil dries up and becomes rock-hard. Some coconut growers, therefore, begin the digging or ploughing at the commencement of the north-east monsoon. But when rains fall the soil in the ploughed up areas again gets caked up and later becomes hard. But if green manure is added to such soils, they will never harden. They could be stirred even after the north-east monsoon. Coconut cultivation in the Kottayam and Chirakkal taluks of North Malabar can be improved greatly by green manuring.

The agricultural depots in different places sell seeds of such green manure crops as kolinji, sunn-hemp, sesbania, wild sunn-hemp. etc. at the low price of about annas four per pound. Seeds of cow-pea or horsegram can be had everywhere. Their higher cost should not stand in the way of their being used for raising green manure crops, if other seeds are not available. Seeds of wild sunn-hemp can be had from M/s. Johnson, Sons and Co., Cullen Road, Alleppey. To begin with the crop can be raised in fallow lands to collect seeds and then raised in coconut gardens.

To sum up:

1. Green manure improves the texture of sandy porous soils and enhances their moisture holding capacity.

2. It loosens clayey soils and increases soil aeration.

3. By growing a green manure crop, ploughing of the garden thrice is assured.

4. If green manuring is done regularly and properly, other forms of manuring the coconut may be dispensed with.

5. As green leaves from jungles cannot be had in these days the raising of green manure crops has become indispensable.

6. Green manure cultivation is a profitable practice.

7. Wild sunn-hemp or *Crotalaria striata* is very well suited as a green manure for coconut gardens.

Wild Sunn-hemp as Green Manure for Coconut Gardens

By D. I. Unneri

I took to growing wild sunn-hemp for purposes of green manuring in the coconut gardens under my charge last year and I am glad to report that the results I got have been excellent. I purchased 200 lb. of *Crotalaria striata* seeds from an Alleppey firm. As advised in an article published in the Indian Central Coconut Committee's "Bulletin" I had my gardens ploughed thrice with the first showers preceding the south-west monsoon adding ash at the rate of 50 tins per acre and sowed the green manure seeds. Germination began with the monsoon rains. The growth of the plants was not satisfactory during the first two months after germination, but afterwards they began to grow up

The writer in the midst of the green manure crop he had raised.

The green manure plants being cut down.

luxuriantly. By August-September the plants were about 7 ft. tall. They were then pulled out a d put in the basins round the coconut palms at the rate of 100 lb. for each palm. The plants left for seed collection grew up to a height of 10 ft. The excellent growth of the plants and their golden yellow flowers attracted very much the attention of neighbouring coconut cultivators. They have begun to realise that wild sunn hemp is a good green manure and are now approaching me for its seeds. I have given a small quantity of seeds to the Government Coconut Nursery at Irinjalakuda. I am convinced that growing a green manure crop like this is the best for areas which cannot hope to get green manure from jungles.

April Operations in Coconut Gardens

IN certain low-lying areas cleaning up of canals and tanks is done in April, for then only does the water level go sufficiently down to permit this to be done. Adding clay to sandy soils and sand to clayey soils also is done in April. Labour will be comparatively cheap in this month.

In certain valley lands of Mysore there are tanks which are half to one square mile in extent. These tanks dry up by April and it is usual for coconut growers of the neighbourhood to collect the silt in the tank bed, spread it in their coconut gardens and plough it in.

April is the best month for planting coconut seedlings. If the seedlings are planted now and watered, they will get established and be strong enough to withstand the heavy monsoon rains. But they should be watered well for 1 to 1½ months. When planting seedlings in places where white ant attacks are feared, put round the nut a mixture of ¼ lb. gammexane and 2 lb. ash. The seedlings should be protected with shades till the rains set in. When the seedlings are well established and new leaves begin to come out, sprinkle about ¾ lb. of ammonium sulphate in the pit. This can be done twice or thrice during the rainy season. Ammonium sulphate quickens the growth of the seedling.

In areas where the coconut trees are affected by the leaf disease, the diseased trees are sprayed with Bordeaux mixture or a copper fungicide like perenox in January, April and September. The healthy trees are also sprayed once in April as a prophylactic measure.

Bordeaux mixture is made as follows:-

The ingredients required are copper sulphate, quicklime and water. These are to be taken in the proportion of 5 lb. of copper sulphate and 5 lb. of quicklime in 50 gallons of the mixture.

Dissolve 5 lb. of copper sulphate by suspending it tied loosely in a piece of gunny in 25 gallons of water contained in a wooden, earthenware or copper vessel. Slake the quicklime by sprinkling some water over it and then make it into a creamy paste free from lumps by adding more water to it. The whole of the remaining water is then added, stirring all the while, and the resulting 'milk of lime' is strained into another vessel. Now pour the copper sulphate solution into the milk of lime, stirring well all the time.

Bordeaux mixture deteriorates on storage; hence only just the quantity of the mixture required for immediate use should be prepared. If, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the mixture prepared has to be left over for the

next day, add to the mixture sugar or jaggery at the rate of ½ lb. per 50 gallons of the mixture.

If perenox is used mix ¼ lb. of perenox in 100 gallons of water.

Monsoon vegetables can be grown on any garden in which the palms are planted in straight lines. It is during April that the ground is prepared for growing these vegetables. Trenches 1-1½ ft. wide, ½-¾ ft. deep and of convenient length are prepared in the open space between rows of palms. They are charred three or four times by burning rubbish in them and the soil inside is dug and stirred. Rotted cattle manure, compost or backwater silt is added and forked in. The seeds are then dibbled or the seedlings planted. In the case of brinjals and chillies seedlings are planted. As regards *bendai,* cluster beans etc. the seeds are dibbled.

The following procedure may be adopted to raise seedlings:-

Fill a wide mouthed earthenware pot having one or two holes at the bottom, with a mixture of equal quantities of garden soil, sand and rotted cattle manure. Sow the seeds and water the pot with a rose-pan and sprinkle some ash over the seeds to prevent ants from removing them.

Until the seeds germinate, watering should be done both morning and evening and after every watering, ash should be sprinkled. The pots must be placed in a shady place until the seeds germinate. Afterwards they could be transferred to the sun. Until the seedlings are ready for transplantation they should be watered twice a day.

The seedlings should be uprooted in evening time after they are watered. They should be planted in the prepared trenches after watering them. The seedlings should be planted 18 inches apart and again watered.

The morning after planting, the seedlings should be provided with sunshades which should be kept in position for about 8 to 10 days. The shades should be removed only on the evening of the last day of use. Until the roots have got established the seedlings should be watered twice daily.

The seeds of bitter gourd, snake gourd, ash gourd, cucumber etc., should be dibbled in the prepared trenches 18 inches apart. The seeds should not be placed at more than ½ inch depth. If placed too deep they will rot for lack of aeration.

You Ask, We Answer.

Prevention of Barren Nuts: Laurel Cake as Manure: Spacing of Coconut Palms

Question:- A good number of nuts on the coconut trees in my garden are barren. What is the reason for this and how can it be prevented?

Answer: Barren nuts in a palm may be the result of some inherent defect in the palm. It may also be due to inadequate manuring. Any one of the following manure groups may, therefore, be applied to the trees for 3 years consecutively:-

	Per Tree
1. Green manure	100 lb.
Cattle manure	75 lb.
Ash	2 tins
Bonemeal or superphosphate	2 lb.

Apply the first two at the commencement of the south-west monsoon and the last two in August-September.

2. Compost	150 lb.

(Municipal compost will do.)

Oilcake.	15 lb.
Ash	2 tins.
Bonemeal or superphosphate	2 lb.

The first item should be applied at the beginning of the south-west monsoon and the rest in August-September.

3. Cattle manure	100 lb.
Prawn dust or fish guano.	15 lb.
Ash.	2 tins.

The first should be applied at the commencement of the south-west monsoon and the rest in August-September.

Question:- If laurel (*Punnai*) seeds are crushed and applied to the coconut palm, without extracting the oil from them, how many pounds should be applied per tree, if the effect of this manuring should last for one year? Is there any harm in doing this?

Answer: For purposes of manuring coconut palms, laurel cake without oil is preferred. There is, therefore, no need to waste the oil which could be extracted from the laurel seeds and made use of for burning lamps.

15 to 20 lbs. of laurel cake can be applied per tree per year.

Question:- You have repeatedly stated in your Bulletin that coconut palms require plenty of light and that they should be planted 25-30 feet apart to receive adequate light. But in the Kuttanad area (Kottayam district, Travancore-Cochin State) coconut palms are seen

News & Notes

THE seventeenth meeting of the Indian Central Coconut Committee will be held at Ernakulam on the 8th and 9th April 1953, under the presidency of Shri K. R. Damle, I.C.S., Vice-President of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and President of the Indian Central Coconut Committee.

* * * *

The Indian Central Coconut Committee participated in the All-India Agricultural, Industrial and Arts Exhibition held at Trivandrum from 25th January to the 13th February 1953. The Committee's stall in which there was an attractive array of exhibits, including posters and publications, drew a great deal of attention from visitors.

* * * *

Mr. Donald De Leon, Coconut Specialist, Special Technical and Economic Mission of the United States Mutual Security Agency, Manila, Philippines, visited the Committee's office at Ernakulam on the 29th January, 1953. Mr. K. Gopalan, Secretary of the Committee gave him an account of the activities of the Committee and took him to the Coconut Research Station, Vyttila, and some of the coir retting places near the Research Station. Mr. Leon also visited the Central Coconut Research Stations at Kayangulam and Kasaragod on the 30th January 1953 and the 4th February 1953 with a view to studying the research work that is being carried out there.

* * * *

In pursuance of a decision taken by the Indian Central Coconut Committee at its last meeting a conference will be held some time between the 25th February and the 10th March 1953, at the Central Coconut Research Station,

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planted very close; yet they yield well. How do you explain this?

Answer: The usual spacing of coconuts in garden lands is between 25 and 30 feet. The impression of high yield in Kuttanad area has probably been created by the trees on the borders of the plantations. It may also be noted that the trees in gardens which are crowded lean out to other people's land or to the river or canal side. If they had sufficient light they would have grown straight as in other places. The plantations in Kuttanad have already started deteriorating due to the limited soil area available for the trees. It is, therefore, inadvisable to overcrowd coconut palms.

Kayangulam, to review the work done so far in the matter of the control of pests of the coconut palm and to chalk out the lines along which control measures should proceed in future. The conference will be attended by the Head of the Division of Entomology, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, the Entomologists of the States of Madras, Travancore-Cochin and Mysore and the Officers of the Indian Central Coconut Committee.

* * * *

American farmers set a new production record in 1952, according to a recent issue of "American Agriculture". Production was 43 per cent above the pre-war average. It was accomplished on about the same area of crop-land with 2 million fewer farm workers than were employed in the pre-war period. The increase in output is attributed to the use more extensively by farmers of fertilizers and the increased investment in machinery.

* * * *

The Central Government have fixed with effect from the 1st February 1953, the following tariff values for coconuts, copra and coconut oil imported into the country.

Name of article	Tariff value.	Rs.	A.	P.
Coconuts, Ceylon	(per thousand)	170	0	0
Coconuts, other except Maldives	,,	160	0	0
Copra	per cwt.	50	0	0
Coconut oil	,,	75	0	0

The new valuation means a reduction in the tariff value of copra from Rs. 64 to Rs. 50 and that of coconut oil from Rs. 96 to Rs. 75. The import duty on a ton of copra which prior to the 1st February 1953 was Rs. 320 (non-preferential) and Rs. 192 (preferential) has thus been brought down to Rs. 250 (Non-preferential) and Rs. 150 (preferential). Similarly the import duty on a ton of coconut oil which prior to the new tariff valuation was Rs. 600 (non-preferential) and Rs. 403.2 (preferential) has been reduced to Rs. 468.75 (non-preferential) and Rs. 315 (preferential).

* * * *

The Director of Agriculture, West Bengal, has reported that up to October 1952, 1997 coconut seedlings were distributed among 34 parties (including Departmental offices) from the nurseries at Chandernagore and Tollygunge in the State run under the joint auspices of the West Bengal Government and the Indian Central Coconut Committee. These nurseries started functioning in June 1951 with an annual production target of 24,000 seedlings for catering to the needs of the coconut growers of the State.

* * * *

The Horticultural Assistant, Coconut Nursery Scheme, Assam, has reported that during the months of November and December, 1952, 506 coconut

seedlings were distributed among 27 growers from the Nursery at Kahikuchi in the State. This nursery which started functioning on the 15th October 1951 is the latest addition to the network of coconut nurseries functioning in different States of the Indian Union under the joint auspices of the Indian Central Coconut Committee and the State Government concerned.

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The Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Orissa, reports that during the month of December, 1952, 140 seedlings were distributed among 10 growers from the coconut nurseries at Puri, Cuttack and Balia in the State, jointly financed by the Indian Central Coconut Committee and the State Government. During the nine months from April to December, 1952, the total number of seedlings distributed from these three nurseries was of the order of 12,622.

* * * *

The Director of Agriculture, Madras, reports that during the 1952 coconut planting season 1,50,682 quality coconut seedlings were sold from the nine coconut nurseries of the State, receiving grant-in-aid from the Indian Central Coconut Committee of which 1,34,467 seedlings were used for raising entirely new gardens and the rest for underplanting in existing gardens.

The new area planted up in the various districts is shown below:-

Malabar	879 acres.
S. Kanara	134 ,,
Tanjore	165 ,,
Coimbatore	132 ,,
West Godavari	165 ,,
East Godavari	62 ,,
Chittoor	105 ,,
Trichi	84 ,,
Kurnool	97 ,,
Vizag	89 ,,
Tirunelveli	28 ,,
South Arcot	20 ,,
Bellary	23 ,,
Nellore	16 ,,
Madurai	16 ,,
Ramnad	15 ,,
Srikakulam	19 ,,
Cuddappah	12 ,,
Krishna	20 ,,
Guntur	28 ,,
Chingleput	4 ,,
Madras	1 ,,
Anantapur	7 ,,
Salem	2 ,,

MARKET REPORTS

I. COCHIN, ALLEPPEY & CALICUT.

The daily prices of coconuts, copra, coconut oil and coconut oil cake at Cochin, Alleppey, and Calicut from the 11th January to 10th February 1953 are given below:—

Date	Coconuts per 1000			Copra per ton			Coconut oil per ton			Coconut oil cake per ton		
	Cochin	Alleppey	Calicut	Cochin	Alleppey	Calicut	Cochin	Alleppey	Calicut	Cochin	Alleppey	Calicut
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
11-1-53					SUNDAY							
12-1-53	145	*	140	1219-1	1248-5	1236-13	1815-13	1846-13	1856	341	324-14	356
13-1-53	*	*	140	*	1238-6	1248	*	1812-10	1856	*	329-3	352
14-1-53	*	140	140	*	1231-3	1232	*	1812-10	1856	*	329-3	368
15-1-53	140	*	140	1185	1214-2	1232	1790-4	1769-14	1848	341	324-14	368
16-1-53	135	*	157-8	1176-7	1179-14	1216	1756-2	1744-3	1840	341	328-14	368
17-1-53	145	140	160	1172-3	1179-14	1184	1747-10	1744-3	1792	341	324-14	368
18-1-53					SUNDAY							
19-1-53	155	*	152-8	1172-3	*	1168	1730-9	*	1760	341	*	360
20-1-53	150	•	155	1210-9	1162-13	1160	1739-2	1718-9	1760	332-8	315-8	352
21-1-53	160	135	152-8	1193-8	1171-6	1184	1734-13	1727-2	1760	323-15	307-13	352
22-1-53	160	*	155	1095-7	1179-14	1184	1743-6	1744-3	1760	323-15	307-13	352
23-1-53	155	*	155	1180-11	1197	1192	1756-2	1761-5	1800	323-15	299-4	352
24-1-53	157-8	140	155	1168-12	1188-7	1200	1747-10	1727-2	1800	323-15	299-4	352
25-1-53					SUNDAY							
26-1-53	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
27-1-53	160	*	146-4	1167-15	1169-10	1192	1734-13	1735-10	1792	323-15	307-13	336
28-1-53	160	145	147-8	1172-3	1179-14	1192	1743-6	1735-10	1792	323-15	299-14	336
29-1-53	*	*	156	*	1179-14	1176	*	1727-2	1760	*	299-4	336
30-1-53	165	*	156	1163-11	1171-6	1176	1730-9	1710	1760	323-15	312-1	336
31-1-53	160	145	162-8	1167-15	1188-7	1172	1743-6	1727-2	1760	328-3	312 2	336
1-2-53					SUNDAY							
2-2-53	160	*	162-8	1167-15	1188-7	1172	1743-6	1727-2	1632	328-3	312-1	304
3-2-53	165	*	163-12	1189-4	1188-7	1190-6	1777-7	1769-14	1792	328-3	312-1	320
4-2-53	162-8	155	165	1185	1222-10	1200	1773-3	1795-8	1792	328-3	312-1	320
5-2-53	162-8	*	165	1189-4	1239-12	1200	1773-3	1786-15	1792	328-3	307-13	320
6-2-53	165	*	156-4	1193-8	1248-5	1212	1786	1795-8	1816	328-3	307-13	332
7-2-53	160	155	170	1175-10	1222-10	1216	1756-2	1761-5	1832	328-3	307-13	320
8-2-53					SUNDAY							
9-2-53	160	*	163-12	1185-13	1222-10	1200	1773-3	1795-8	1824	328-3	316-6	328
10-2-23	165	*	162-8	1197-12	1231-3	1216	1790-4	1821-2	1840	332-8	320-10	328

• No Report.

Trend of Coconut Oil Price in Cochin

(From Our Correspondent)

Cochin, Feb. 4, 1953.

THE price of coconut oil which stood at Rs. 1798 per ton on the 10th January rose to Rs 1815 on the 12th of the month, closely following an improvement in the Colombo market where on the 12th January the price was Rs. 1275 per ton (wharf delivery) against Rs. 1200 at the end of December.

From the 13th January, however, the coconut oil price in Cochin declined and its trend was erratic. Demands from Bombay and Calcutta were fewer consequent on the import of some Singapore oil at those ports. On the 31st of the month it stood at Rs. 1743-6, but improved to Rs. 1764-10 on the 3rd February. Sentiment in the market is now marked by buoyancy and the price is expected to look up for the following reasons:-

1. Withdrawal of the United States 7th Fleet from Formosan Waters and its possible repercussions in the Far East.
2. Increase in the price of coconut oil in the London market by about £2-12 sh. per ton during the last three days.
3. Purchase of large stocks of ready oil by exporters at Cochin for shipment to Bombay and Calcutta in vessels expected to arrive shortly at Cochin.
4. An anticipated short-fall in the production of coconut oil at Alleppey and Cochin on account of the cut in electricity ordered by the Travancore-Cochin Government.
5. Lesser production of copra for crushing due (a) to unfavourable crop condition and (b) to larger exports of fresh nuts to Bombay ports consequent on the increase in the tariff value of Ceylon coconuts.

II. BOMBAY

The weekly wholesale prices of coconuts, copra, coconut oil and coconut oil cake at Bombay during the month of January 1953 are given below:-

Date	Coconuts per 1000						Copra per candy of 22½ qrs.			Coconut oil price naked per quart.	Oil Cake per bag of 168 lbs.
	New			Old				Edible			
	Small	Medium	Large	Small	Medium	Large	Milling	Rajapur	Alleppey		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
2—1—53	160	200	275	175	240	335	370	365	360	23-12	28
8—1—53	170	210	290	185	251	345	370	360	355	24-4	28
15—1—53	215	220	315	225	290	375	380	370	365	24-8	28
22—1—53	240	260	*	250	291	355	368	365	360	23-12	28
29—1—53	240	255	*	240	275	315	370	365	360	23-12	28

* Not avilable

III. COLOMBO

The weekly prices of coconuts and coconut products at Colombo during the month of January 1953 are given below.

Commodity.	Unit.	5-1-53 Rs. Cts.	12-1-53 Rs. Cts	19-1-53 Rs. Cts.	26-1-53 Rs Cts.
Fresh Coconuts—(Husked) used for copra making and local consumption.	Per 1000 nuts	170·00 to 175·00	175·00 to 180·00	180·00 to 185·00	185·00 to 190·00
Copra—Estate No. 1 Quality at Buyer's store.	Per Candy of 560 bs.	202·50	202·50	205·00	190·00
Desiccated Coconut—wharf delivery or Buyer's stores—Medium and fine 50%.	Per lb.	0·51	0·50	0·52	0·48
Coconut oil—white, naked, wharf delivery	Per ton.	1,275·00	1,275·00	1,300·00	1,175·00

Commodity	Unit	3.1-53 Rs. Cts.	10.1-53 Rs. Cts.	17-1-53 Rs. Cts.	24-1-53 Rs. Cts.
Coconut (Husked) for export at Buyer's stores	Per 1000 nuts	320·00	310·00 to 330·00	310·00 to 34·000	31·500 to 340·00

Raise a suitable green manure crop in your Coconut garden and incorporate it into the soil as a basic manure.

IV. Malabar Markets

Arrivals and sales of coconuts and copra in the different markets in Malabar during January, 1953.

Commodity and Market	Carry-over	Arrivals	Sales	Balance
Coconuts (in thousands)				
Kozhikode	670	5,860	5,629	901
Badagara	413	2,222	2,033	602
Ponani	1,269	958	1,986	242
Tellicherry & Dharmadam	94	967	654	407
Copra (in candies of 700 lb)				
Kozhikode	946	4,992	4,454	1,084
Badagara	1,452	8,834	8,773	1,513

Weekly prices of coconuts and copra in some of the Malabar markets during January, 1953.

Commodity and Market	1st week Rs.	2nd week Rs.	3rd week Rs.	4th week Rs.
Coconuts Husked (for 1000)				
Badagara	110-115	110-115	120	120
Ponani	135-140	130-145	140-145	140-150
Tellicherry & Dharmadam	140-145	140-145	150-160	150-170
Copra at Badagara Market per candy of 700 lbs				
Office	360	360	370	370
Edible Copra				
Dilpas	370	370	375	375
Madras	370	375	375	377
Rajapur	380	385	390	400

V. Import of coconuts, copra and coconut Oil into India during the month of December 1952.

COMMODITY AND SOURCE	STATE INTO WHICH IMPORTED								TOTAL FOR ALL STATES FOR THE MONTH		TOTAL FROM THE BEGINNING OF APRIL, 1952.	
	TRAV-COCHIN		MADRAS		BOMBAY		WEST BENGAL					
	QTY.	VALUE RS.	QTY	VALUE RS.	QTY.	VALUE RS.	QTY.	VALUE RS.	QTY.	VALUE RS.	QTY.	VALUE RS.
COCONUT Nos.												
Ceylon	...	...	150	51	...	...	...	...	150	51	10,53,150	2,79,527
St. Settlements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	44
TOTAL	...	...	150	51	...	...	...	...	150	51	10,53,250	2,79,571
COPRA (in cwts.)												
Ceylon	...	...	...	...	2,000	1,05,049	...	...	2,000	1,05 049	2,64,560,	1,36,18,492
Maldives	...	...	640	26,131	...	...	...	...	640	26,131	700	28,885
St. Settlements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,100	8,47,474
Seychelles	...	...	...	...	1,500	88,400	...	...	1,500	88,400	43,500	22,99,067
F. M. S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,500	5,60,700
TOTAL	...	...	640	26,131	3,500	1,93,449	...	...	4,140	2,19,580	3,35,360	1,73,54,618
COCONUT OIL (in cwts.)												
Ceylon	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,840	8,61,556	9,840	8,61,556	1,36,960	101,73,647
St. Settlements	...	...	100	7,529	4,000	4,00,000	3,100	2,77,504	7,200	6,85,033	1,28,000	95,23,851
F.M.S.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	1,59,680	2,000	1,59,680	17,000	15,35,480
Philippines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31,580	19,95 778
TOTAL	...	...	100	7529	4,000	4,00,000	14,940	12,98,740	19,040	17,06,269	3,13,540	232,28.756

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The Secretary, Indian Central Arecanut Committee,
Post Box No. 14, Kozhikode.

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