

# The Place of Coconut Oil in Indian Vegetable Oils

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A WIDE variety of oilseed crops are grown in India. These oilseeds together occupy a prominent place in Indian agriculture next only to food crops accounting for nearly one-seventh of the cultivated area, with a production of about 12 million tonnes valued at around Rs. 31,000 million. Though this country's contribution to the output of soyabean, sunflower and oilpalm which together account for around two-thirds of the total world production of oilseeds, is negligible, it ranks first in groundnut and sesamum, second in rapeseed & mustard and castor, third in copra (dried coconut kernel) and fourth in linseed production in the world. The idea of India's shares in the world area and production of major Indian oilseed crops can be had from Table 1.

## Oilseeds Area and Production

The area under five major seasonal oilseed crops, namely, groundnut, rapeseed-mustard, sesamum, linseed and castor increased from 10.7 million hectares in the pre-Plan year of 1950-51 to 15.4 million hectares during Fifth Plan period. Similarly the production of these oilseeds increased from 5.2 million tonnes to 8.9 million tonnes. In percentage term the rise in area and production over a period of three decades comes to 44 per cent and 73 per cent, respectively. In the case of coconut, a perennial oilseed crop, the area increased from 0.6 million hectares in 1950-51 to 1.1 million hectares during the Fourth Plan period and thereafter it almost stabilised. On the other hand, the production which increased from 3,282 million nuts in 1950-51 to 5,981 million nuts during the Fourth Plan but declined to 5,753 million nuts during the Fifth Plan. The increase in coconut area worked out to 71 per cent and production to 82 per cent during the Fourth Plan over 1950-51. Though there was no change in the position of area, the production, however declined to 75 per cent during the Fifth Plan over 1950-51. The area under coconuts accounts for only 4 per cent of the total area under all oilseeds. The idea of the trend of average area, production and yield of five major oilseed crops as also coconut during the pre-Plan year and under different Plan periods can be had from Table 2.

## Minor Oilseed Crops

Apart from these five major oilseed crops and coconut some other oilseed crops are grown in some areas. There has been increase in area and production of these minor crops. As for instance total area under niger has gone up from 4,87,000 hectares to around 6,00,000 hectares and production has increased from 97,000 tonnes to nearly 1,50,000 tonnes between 1964-65 and Fifth Plan period. In case of safflower the area and production have increased from 4,62,000 hectares and 69,000 tonnes in 1965-66 to some 7,00,000 hectares and 2,20,000 tonnes during Fifth Plan, respectively. Sunflower, which was introduced in India during 1965 has made rapid strides. This new oilseed crop was being cultivated over as many as 1,20,000 hectares during 1980-81 and the production was around 66,000 tonnes. Similarly, soyabean, which was systematically introduced in India during 1966, occupied an area of 4,50,000 hectares with a production of 1,80,000 tonnes during 1980-81. The position of oilpalm, the highest oil yielding crop per unit area is, however, not so very happy. It occupies only a meagre area of 3,500 hectares in Anchal Taluk of Trivandrum district of Kerala and Andaman Islands. There is obvious need to extend area under this oil rich crop.

Apart from oilseed crops and oil-bearing plantation trees, there are a variety of oil-bearing forest trees. Of these, the most important being Sal, Mahua, Neem, Karanja and Kusum. These are presently being exploited to a very little extent as sources of non-edible vegetable oils. With an average area of 25.3 million hectares and production level of 12.5 million tonnes of all oilseeds including coconut and cottonseed, India is the third largest oilseed producing country having the largest number of commercial types of oilseeds in the world. However, the average productivity of all oilseeds together is as low as 493 kilograms per hectare.

The growth rates of area, production and yield in respect of major oilseeds in India including coconut and cottonseed are given in Table 3.

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## Vegetable Oil Production

Estimation of the production of vegetable oils is not very accurate as it is based on certain assumptions. For example, all the oilseeds that are produced do not become available for vegetable oil production because a part of the oilseeds is used in direct consumption as edible nuts (groundnut, coconut), condiments (mustard), sweets (groundnut, coconut, sesamum) and flour (soyabean). A part of some of the oilseeds is also exported and a part is used in non-vegetable oil forms. Again, there are not only large variations in the oil contents of different varieties, but the actual yield of oil also varies with the crushing or milling processes like rotary, expeller, solvent-extraction, etc. The oil content percentage of various types of oilseeds are given in Table 4.

The total production of major vegetable oils in India has been estimated at 2.5 to 3 million tonnes per year. The production of groundnut oil, which is the leading most oil in India, fluctuated between 9,18,000 tonnes and 15,16,000 tonnes during 1960-61 and 1978-79. The average production of this oil increased from 11,25,000 tonnes during Annual Plan period to 12,55,000 tonnes and 13,47,000 tonnes per year during the Fourth and Fifth Plan periods, respectively. Similarly, in the case of rapeseed-mustard oil, which is next only to groundnut oil, the annual production ranged from 3,79,000 tonnes to 7,15,000 tonnes between 1960-61 and 1978-79. The average production of this oil rose from 4,29,000 tonnes during the Annual Plan period to 5,43,000 tonnes and 5,76,000 tonnes, during the Fourth and Fifth Plan periods, respectively. Sesamum oil production varied from 1,20,000 tonnes to 1,75,000 tonnes during the last two decades under reference. However, the average production of sesamum oil rose marginally from 1,33,000 tonnes in the Annual Plan period to 1,45,000 tonnes during the Fourth Plan and further increased to 1,49,000 tonnes during the Fifth Plan period.

Coming to coconut oil, its production in India ranged from 1,70,000 tonnes to 1,97,000 tonnes per annum during 1960-61 and 1978-79. The coconut oil production which stood around 1,71,000 tonnes during the Annual Plan period rose to about 1,83,000 tonnes during the Fourth Plan. However, thereafter it recorded a slight decline and was around 1,78,000 tonnes during the Fifth Plan period. The trend in coconut oil production indicates instability in production quite akin to all other vegetable oils in this country (Table 5).

## Vegetable Oil Imports

Earlier studies indicate that prior to the Second World War, India enjoyed a premier position in the world export of oilseeds and vegetable oils. However, in recent years, the position has almost reversed. India is now the world's largest importer of vegetable oils. This is despite the fact that India is the world's third largest producer of oilseeds. As stated earlier, during the period 1975-76 to 1979-80, this country's annual imports of vegetable oils were around 0.78 million tonnes. Volume-wise, soyabean oil ranked first (0.33 million tonnes) followed by palm oil (0.26 million tonnes) and rapeseed oil (0.15 million tonnes) in respect of vegetable oil imports. The average imports of groundnut oil, coconut oil and sunflower oil were of the order of 0.012 million tonnes each (Table 6).

## Place of Coconut Oil

Coconut oil occupies third place in Indian vegetable oil sector next only to groundnut oil and rapeseed-mustard oil, but its local production is about one-seventh of the production of groundnut oil and two-fifth of the production of rapeseed-mustard oil as it constitutes only 7.05 per cent of the total vegetable oil production in India. However, because of the fact that coconut production in this country barring Kerala, by and large, meet the requirements of non-oil food, soft drinks and religious purposes, its position above sesamum oil and linseed oil in terms of supply is interesting to note with.

During the quinquennium ending 1928-29, India's net average annual import was of the order of 100 tonnes which steadily rose and for the period 1939-40 to 1943-44 the net import came to more than 34,000 tonnes per annum. Since then the net imports contracted appreciably as a result of the world shortage of fats and oils and the restrictions imposed on the exports by the Sri Lanka Government. In the year 1950-51, the net import of coconut oil into India was reduced to some 5,000 tonnes. Between 1951-52 and 1955-56, the imports of coconut oil ranged between 7,000 tonnes and 23,000 tonnes and between 1956-57 and 1959-60 it varied from 3,500 tonnes to 19,600 tonnes.

The net available supplies of coconut oil in India rose from some 1,26,000 tonnes (1,20,000 tonnes production and 6,000 tonnes imports) in the year 1947-48 to 2,60,000 tonnes (1,97,000 tonnes production and 63,000 tonnes imports) in the year 1960-61. From 1961-62 while the production of coconut oil in the country remained more or less steady around 1,80,000 tonnes, the imports of

coconut oil had been on a much reduced scale upto 1976-77 with the result that the supplies of this oil have declined to an appreciable level (Table 7).

Though in the first half of the 1970s the imports of coconut oil were negligible because of import restrictions, in the later half, the volume of imports of this oil shot up along with the imports of other vegetable oils, namely, soyabean oil, palm oil, rapeseed oil and sunflower oil into this country through liberal import policy initiated in 1977 in order to satisfy growing consumer demand and thereby arrest sharp rise in prices of edible oils in India. The efforts have been made to meet the present level of vegetable oil demand by importing nearly one million tonnes (20 to 30 per cent of total supply) at a whopping cost of the order of Rs. 8,000 million to Rs. 9,000 million per annum in terms of foreign exchange. This is obviously serious drain on our meagre foreign exchange reserves.

On the other hand, oilseed growers of India in general and coconut growers (mostly located in Kerala) in particular, constitute quite a discontented lot because of the liberal policy of the Government for large scale imports of vegetable oils with an apprehension that the imports will adversely affect the trends of farmgate prices of their produces. However, the analysis of time series data have revealed that the farmers fear is only hypothetical or psychological as these prices are maintaining their upward trends. In this context, it is to be noted that it had not been possible either to bridge the gap between demand and supply of vegetable oils to a great extent through these imports or significantly check upward movement of prices (Table 8).

Quite like coconut, its oil too lends itself to a number of uses. This oil is widely used for culinary purposes in whole of Kerala; and in parts of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The industrial use of this oil is mainly for the manufacture of soap, toiletry and perfumery items as also lubricants. Owing to the pressure of the coconut growers, the Government of India put a ban on the imports of coconut oil in 1979-80. Some imports were allowed during 1983-84 and 1984-85. The retail price of coconut oil in Kerala, the main producing centre, in the meanwhile shot up to Rs. 38 per kilogram—an all-time high. The unprecedented drought of Kerala in the year 1982-83 worsened the situation all the more. In fact, the situation would have worsened had there been no

large scale imports (about 3,00,000 tonnes to 5,00,000 tonnes/annum) of palm oil—a close substitute of coconut oil during these years.

### The Prospects

Kerala State, which accounts for nearly 60 per cent of the total production of coconuts in the country alone supplies about 90 per cent of milling copra for the manufacture of coconut oil from about 65 per cent of its harvested nuts. Another 10 per cent of the milling copra comes from outside Kerala which accounts for about 40 per cent of the total production of coconuts in the country. In other words, the major bulk (65%)\* of the 5,800 million nuts produced in India are utilised in the forms of tender nuts, edible nuts, desiccated coconuts and seed nuts—thereby leaving only 35 per cent of the nuts for oil extraction.

The following suggestions have been made for increasing the production of coconut oil in this country:

1. Attempts should be made to organise small holder copra makers in the States such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Maharashtra in similar pattern as in the case of Kerala for diverting a part of coconuts that is now used in non-oil sector to oil sector. Increasing the availability of coconuts from its present level of 35 per cent to 70 per cent for oil extraction can yield oil of the order of 0.37 million tonnes—a rise by 76 per cent from the existing level of 0.21 million tonnes and a further increase in this availability to 80 per cent can double the present level of coconut oil production in India.
2. Keeping in view that the consumers of India in general and people of Kerala in particular, can not easily give up the habit of direct consumption of nuts as food and beverage items, the adjustment among different systems of utilisation of coconut and its products can be possible by appropriate post-harvest technology. Suitable aqueous processing methods can release partially defatted meal after extracting oil to a considerable extent and this defatted meal can substitute the whole coconut meal presently used for various culinary purposes and thereby adding to the present level oil production. Moreover, partially defatted coconut gratings have a better keeping quality (about six months) than

\*Assumption is that 6,773 nuts give 1 tonne of copra which yield 62 per cent of oil. Otherwise 10,837 nuts give 1.6 tonnes of copra or 1 tonne of oil.

that of the presently used wet coconut meat and copra. The convenience in their handling, transport, storage and culinary preparations is an added advantage. In this regard, it is worth noting that demand for desiccated coconut is building up fast. These can be produced from the integrated system of the aqueous processing as a Value Added Product (VAP) with more cost efficiency. The system will further lead to efficient use of coconut water and shell. India, in fact, can benefit from the example of Philippines which has revolutionised its coconut industry and is now producing and marketing several new food items, such as, coconut milk, coconut cream, coconut honey, desiccated coconuts, etc. after removing a major part of oil from coconuts. It is to be noted that almost 50 per cent of the production of some of the States like West Bengal, Orissa, Maharashtra and Union Territory of Goa is utilised for non-oil purposes, mostly for drinking coconut water. Thus, if a suitable technology on the preservation of water from mature nuts is developed, then there would be no need to harvest tender nuts for the purposes of water and thereby make these available for the purposes of oil extractions.

3. The average productivity of coconut palm in India is around 30 nuts per year. This yield level is much lower than its potential. It has been observed that the West Coast Tall cultivars and hybrids with better management give 62 nuts and 90 nuts, respectively, under rainfed condition; whereas it is not uncommon to harvest 92 nuts and 150 nuts under irrigated condition. General neglect of coconut palms is mainly responsible for low productivity. More than 95 per cent of the palms do not receive any chemical fertilisers, plant protection measures and irrigation. Added to this, there is a large population of palms in this country which are affected by diseases of uncertain aetiology. In Kerala alone which has the largest area under coconuts, as many as 50 million out of 160 million palms are affected by the root (wilt) disease and consequently average productivity is as low as 15 nuts per palm per year. There are also nearly 25 million palms in the country which are either senile or very poor yielders yielding less than 12 nuts per palm per annum. Considerable increase in productivity could be possible by undertaking both the replanting and rehabilitation programmes. While there is a need for selective replanting with hybrids and elite West Coast/East Coast Tall

after the removal of senile, diseased and un-economic palms, the young and neglected palms need greater attention through rejuvenation. Successful implementation of these programmes can eventually lead to additional return of 0.15 million tonnes of oil per year within a period of ten years. However, the major constraint in this direction is availability of high-yielding quality planting materials. Though, so far nine elite seed gardens on coconut have been established in different parts of the country, the progress is not adequate.

4. Though the possibility of increasing production through the expansion of area ceases to exist in respect of most of the crops grown in India, this is not true in the case of coconut. This crop due to its typical feature is ideally suited for odd places such as canal embankments, tank beds, bunds of rice fields and homesteads. Excepting Kerala, such places have not so far been fully exploited in other States. According to the estimates of the Coconut Development Board (Union Ministry of Agriculture), Cochin, about 3,82,000 hectares of land is available in different parts of the country which constitutes potential area for further expansion of coconut cultivation. Maximum potential area is available in Orissa (1,00,000 ha.) followed by Karnataka (78,000 ha.), Tamil Nadu (70,000 ha.) and Andhra Pradesh (50,000 ha.). By bringing these new areas under coconut cultivation, the coconut oil production can be raised by about 0.12 million tonnes per annum.

#### Conclusion

Oils and fats are an essential component of human diet and an important source of energy. India is perhaps one of the lowest ranking countries in the world as far as the per capita consumption of edible oil is concerned. As against 22 kg. of edible oil per capita recommended by the Nutritional Advisory Committee of the Government of India, the actual per capita consumption in India is as low as 3.2 kg. of edible oil and 5 kg. of vegetable oils as a whole. On the other hand, the developed nations in the world consume about 26 kg. per head per annum and the world's average consumption of vegetable oil comes to 11 kg. per head per annum. India is now making all possible efforts to substantially increase the present level of vegetable oil production. In this endeavour, the development of coconut sector should not be lost sight of as it holds relatively greater opportunity to meet the challenge than many other oilseed crops in India.

TABLE 1—AREA AND PRODUCTION OF MAJOR OILSEED CROPS OF INDIA IN RELATION TO THE WORLD (1978)

Oilseed	Percentage of world's	
	Area	Production
Groundnut .. .. .	38.1	32.8
Rapeseed & mustard .. .. .	31.8	18.9
Sesamum .. .. .	36.7	24.8
Linseed .. .. .	35.4	18.3
Castor .. .. .	38.1	27.8
Coconut .. .. .	13.1	12.2

Source : F.A.O. Production Year Book, Vol. 32, 1979.

TABLE 2(A)—AVERAGE AREA UNDER MAJOR OILSEED CROPS IN INDIA DURING THE PLAN PERIODS  
(Thousand hectares)

Oilseed	Average during Plans*						
	1950=51	I	II	III	AP	IV	V
Groundnut .. .. .	4,494 (100)	4,927 (110)	6,182 (138)	7,227 (161)	7,313 (163)	7,195 (160)	7,158 (159)
Rapeseed & mustard .. .. .	2,071 (100)	2,349 (112)	2,638 (127)	3,033 (146)	3,040 (147)	3,377 (163)	3,455 (167)
Sesamum .. .. .	2,204 (100)	2,454 (111)	2,224 (101)	2,441 (111)	2,624 (119)	2,362 (107)	2,291 (104)
Linseed .. .. .	1,403 (100)	1,404 (100)	1,665 (119)	1,929 (137)	1,656 (118)	1,906 (136)	2,036 (145)
Castor .. .. .	555 (100)	558 (101)	486 (88)	457 (82)	411 (74)	453 (82)	458 (83)
Total of five major oilseeds .. .. .	10,727 (100)	11,692 (109)	13,195 (123)	15,087 (141)	15,044 (140)	15,293 (143)	15,398 (144)
Coconut .. .. .	627 (100)	637 (102)	687 (110)	811 (129)	935 (149)	1,074 (171)	1,075 (171)

TABLE 2 (B)—AVERAGE PRODUCTION OF MAJOR OILSEEDS IN INDIA DURING THE PLAN PERIODS  
(Thousand tonnes)

Oilseed	Average during Plans*						
	1950=51	I	II	III	AP	IV	V
Groundnut .. .. .	3,481 (100)	3,535 (102)	4,726 (136)	5,125 (147)	4,924 (141)	5,489 (158)	5,885 (169)
Rapeseed & mustard .. .. .	762 (100)	914 (120)	1,086 (143)	1,268 (166)	1,381 (181)	1,697 (223)	1,850 (243)
Sesamum .. .. .	445 (100)	511 (115)	400 (90)	442 (99)	428 (96)	466 (105)	465 (104)
Linseed .. .. .	367 (100)	380 (104)	389 (106)	419 (114)	342 (93)	481 (131)	529 (144)
Castorseed .. .. .	103 (100)	113 (110)	109 (106)	499 (96)	116 (113)	157 (152)	196 (190)
Total of five major oilseeds .. .. .	5,158 (100)	5,453 (106)	6,710 (130)	7,353 (143)	7,191 (139)	8,290 (161)	8,925 (173)
Coconut (million nuts) .. .. .	3,282 (100)	3,976 (121)	4,608 (140)	4,851 (148)	5,333 (163)	5,981 (182)	5,753 (175)

TABLE 2 (C)—AVERAGE PRODUCTIVITY OF MAJOR OILSEEDS IN INDIA DURING THE PLAN PERIODS

(Kg./ha)

Oilseed	Average during Plans*							
	1950-51	I	II	III	AP	IV	V	
Groundnut .. .. .	775 (100)	718 (93)	760 (98)	712 (92)	672 (87)	761 (98)	821 (106)	
Rapeseed & mustard .. ..	368 (100)	390 (106)	493 (134)	419 (114)	453 (123)	504 (137)	533 (145)	
Sesamum .. .. .	202 (100)	208 (103)	184 (91)	181 (90)	164 (81)	197 (98)	203 (100)	
Linseed .. .. .	262 (100)	271 (103)	233 (89)	216 (82)	205 (78)	252 (96)	259 (99)	
Castor .. .. .	186 (100)	203 (109)	225 (121)	218 (117)	281 (151)	343 (184)	437 (235)	
Coconut (Nuts/ha.) .. .. .	5,234 (100)	6,243 (119)	6,708 (128)	5,996 (115)	5,725 (109)	5,575 (107)	5,353 (102)	

\*I Plan : 1951-52 to 1955-56.

AP (Annual Plan) : 1966-67 to 1968-69.

II Plan : 1956-57 to 1960-61.

IV Plan : 1969-70 to 1973-74.

III Plan : 1961-62 to 1965-66.

V Plan : 1974-75 to 1977-78.

(For this study 1978-79 has been included under the V Plan)

NOTE.—Figures in parentheses denote indices in respect to pre-Plan year of 1950-51 as the base.

Source : Directorate of Oilseeds Development, Hyderabad.

TABLE 3—COMPOUND GROWTH RATES OF AREA, PRODUCTION AND YIELD OF MAJOR OILSEED CROPS IN INDIA BETWEEN 1967-68 AND 1978-79

(Per cent/annum)

Crop	Area	Production	Yield
Groundnut .. .. .	(-) 0.15	1.47	1.60
Rapeseed & mustard .. ..	1.07	1.73	0.65
Sesamum .. .. .	(-) 0.67	0.89	1.60
Total Oilseeds .. .. .	0.25	1.62	1.26
Cotton .. .. .	(-) 0.24	2.71	2.95
Coconut (1966-67 to 1980-81)	0.98	0.20	(-) 0.77

TABLE 4—OIL CONTENT (PERCENTAGE) OF DIFFERENT OILSEEDS IN INDIA

Oilseed	% rate	Oilseed	% rate
Groundnut kernel .. .. .	40-44	Soyabean .. .. .	18.7-21
Rapeseed & mustard .. ..	31-33	Sunflower seed .. ..	37-40
Sesamum seed .. .. .	41-43	Nigerseed .. .. .	35
Linseed .. .. .	31-33	Safflower .. .. .	25-30
Castor seed .. .. .	40-42	Copra (Coconut kernel.)	62-68

Source : Directorate of Oilseeds Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, Hyderabad.

TABLE 5—TREND IN THE PRODUCTION OF MAJOR VEGETABLE OILS IN INDIA

(Thousand tonnes)

Year	Coconut oil	Groundnut oil	Rapeseed & mustard oil	Sesamum oil	Linseed oil	Castor oil
1960-61	197	1,062	417	151	149	38
1964-65	184	1,393	460	151	147	37
1965-66	180	969	403	132	96	28
1966-67	171	1,006	379	129	73	38
1967-68	173	1,324	491	139	130	42
1968-69	170	1,044	418	131	95	40
1969-70	186	1,171	489	139	140	43
1970-71	190	1,413	633	175	141	47
1971-72	187	1,429	456	140	159	54
1972-73	181	918	590	120	127	50
1973-74	173	1,345	545	150	151	80
1974-75	178	1,157	715	119	170	73
1975-76	181	1,516	616	136	180	50
1976-77	170	1,192	472	161	124	62
1977-78	180	1,400	500	160	150	80
1978-79	180	1,470	570	170	148	84

Sources : (1) Coconut Development Board, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, Cochin for figures on coconut oil from 1960-61 to 1970-71.

(2) Directorate of Oilseeds Development for other vegetable oils from 1960-61 to 1970-71.

(3) Bulletins on Commercial Crops Statistics, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India, for the figures concerning to the period 1971-72 to 1978-79.

TABLE 6—IMPORT OF VEGETABLE OILS INTO INDIA DURING 1975—1979

(Thousand tonnes)

Oils	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	Average of	
						1975—79	Percentage
Soyabean	4	151	441	513	555	333	42.8
Palm	62	26	320	486	396	258	33.1
Rapeseed	16	37	298	273	138	152	19.6
Sunflower	—	—	17	28	17	12	1.5
Groundnut	1	16	38	4	—	12	1.5
Coconut	—	2	19	23	16	12	1.5
TOTAL	83	232	1,133	1,327	1,122	779	100.0

Source : Foreign Agriculture, USDA, May 1981, p. 11.

TABLE 7—NET AVAILABILITY OF COCONUT OIL IN INDIA BETWEEN 1960-61 AND 1979-80

(Base : 1960-61=100)

Year	Production		Net import		Total supply	
	'000 T	I. No.	'000 T	I. No.	'000 T	I. No.
1960-61	197	100	63	100	260	100
1961-62	187	94	56	89	243	93
1962-63	195	98	64	102	259	100
1963-64	195	98	57	90	252	97
1964-65	184	93	40	63	224	86
1965-66	180	91	33	52	213	82
1966-67	171	86	18	29	189	73
1967-68	173	87	16	25	189	73
1968-69	170	86	9	14	179	69
1969-70	186	94	11	17	197	76
1970-71	190	96	12	19	202	78
1971-72	187	94	7	11	194	75
1972-73	181	92	4	6	185	71
1973-74	173	87	Neg	Neg	173	67
1974-75	178	90	0	0	178	68
1975-76	181	92	0	0	181	70
1976-77	170	86	4	6	174	67
1977-78	180	91	17	27	197	76
1978-79	180	91	30	48	210	81

TABLE 8—RELATIVE PRICES OF COCONUT, COCONUT OIL, GROUNDNUT OIL AND SESAMUM OIL IN INDIA

(Base : 1960=100)

Year	Farm prices* of coconut in Kerala		Wholesale prices** of					
			Coconut oil		Groundnut oil		Sesamum oil	
	Rs. 1,000 nuts	Index No.	Rs./q.	Index No.	Rs./q.	Index No.	Rs./q.	Index No.
1960	207	100	240	100	208	100	254	100
1965	351	170	438	183	271	130	292	115
1970	587	284	702	292	483	232	487	192
1975	722	349	841	350	699	336	746	294
1976	813	392	954	397	542	260	695	274
1977	948	458	1,095	456	829	398	836	329
1978	1,066	515	1,207	503	704	338	727	286
1979	1,053	509	1,163	485	866	416	838	330
1980	1,334	644	1,526	636	1,006	484	1,139	448

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