



Coconuts



The coconut industry in Guyana has been identified as one of the sectors with a large potential for further development. It can be used in food, feed and fuel and delivers a wide variety of products, including coconut water, coconut oil, coconut milk as well as dried coconut which are all in demand regionally and internationally.

Coconut is grown widely on the coastal regions of Guyana, primarily along the Pomeroon river, Essequibo Coast, East Demerara, West Berbice and on the Corentyne Coast. The estimated area under production is 24,000 hectares with an average annual production of 92 million nuts. The main industrial activity is the processing of coconut oil used primarily for cooking. Copra yield from 100 nuts ranges from 13-16 kg. **7,105 MT** of coconuts were exported during January to August 2012.

VARIETIES

- Jamaica Tall
- Panama Tall
- Green Dwarf
- Yellow Dwarf

MAIN PRODUCING AREAS

- Pomeroon
- Mahaica
- West Coast Berbice
- Wakenaam

REPARATION FOR EXPORT MARKET

HARVESTING

- Harvest using a machete or knife to cut the stem just above the shoulder of the fruit. Coconuts may be twisted or snapped off the tree by hand. Fruit borne on mature tall trees may be harvested with the aid of a ladder or climbing device, by skilled climbers, or by using a sharp blade attached to a long pole.

CLEANING

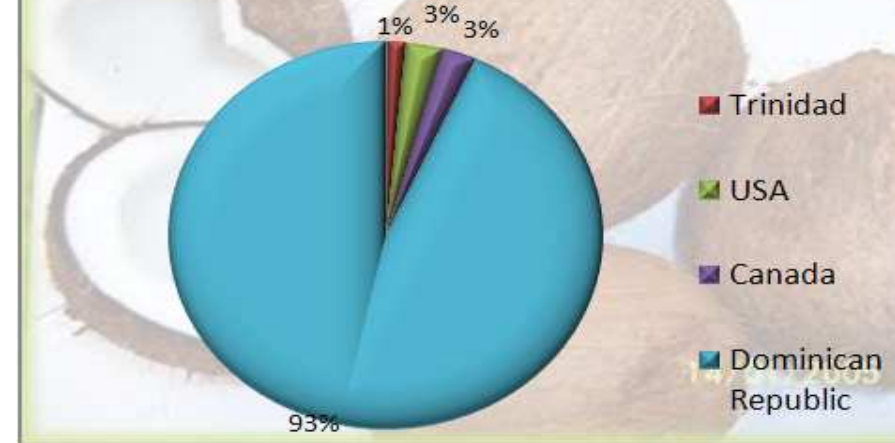
- De-husk coconuts and ensure they are oval to round in shape with the eyes showing. To prevent browning, the de-husked coconuts can be dipped in a 1% to 3% sodium meta-bisulfite solution for 2 to 5 mins.

PACKING

- Local & Caribbean Market – They are placed in polythene bags.
- Transport is mainly by sea using refrigerated containers.

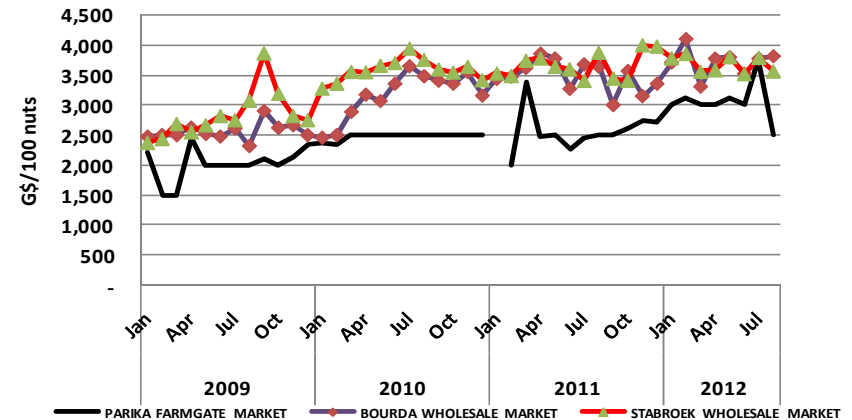
EXPORT MARKETS

Major Importers of Coconuts 2012 (Jan-Aug)



PRICE TRENDS

Wholesale Price of Dried Coconut 2009 - 2012 (Jan - Aug)



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