

# COCONUTS

A study of the coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera*)  
and its relation to man and the environment.

So pull your canoe onto the beach...

...and let us begin our study with a stroll down  
Cocoanut Palm Avenue ...



6d Local Post Stamp (and Envelopes) issued 3-Dec 1887 and required for use at temporary post office at charity Cake Fair (bake sale) held at residence of Hon. Wm. McGregor, CMG, acting Colonial Secretary

... and enter the world of the coconut.

Split Coconuts (Approx 1/15 Actual Size)  
Husk On  
Husk Off



Coconut Scented !



Tonga 1 penny Postal Card, King George II Indicium  
Uprated to 2 ½ pence UPU post card rate to USA  
Nukualofa, Tonga 8 JL 12



# COCONUTS



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

Let us begin our study with a review of some fundamentals.

## 1.1 CLASSIFICATION

Coconut palms, like all living things, are classified, organized, and uniquely identified by the binomial system of nomenclature, developed in the mid-1700s by Carl von Linné (Carolus Linneaus).



This method uniquely identifies coconut palms.



Cocos



nucifera

ORDER: Principes - the prince of plants

FAMILY: Palmae (Arecacea - alternate name)

SUB FAMILY: Arecoidea

TRIBE: Cocoeae

SUB TRIBE: Butiinae

GENUS: Cocos (from the Portuguese *monkey* since the nut suggests a monkey face)

SPECIES: nucifera (Latin for nut bearing)

## 1.2 MORPHOLOGY

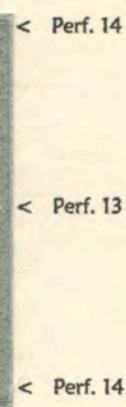
If there is any palm you can readily recognize, it is the Coconut Palm - due to its morphological or visual characteristics.



Die Proof



Unwmkd, Vert. Perf. 13



< Perf. 14



Vignette, Plate Proof



Unwmkd, Perf. 13



Wmk NZ and Star Close  
Perf. 14



Wmk NZ and Star Apart  
Perf. 14

The coconut palm looks like a coconut palm despite the stamp production varieties.

## 1.2 MORPHOLOGY

Morphological characteristics include ...

... trunk height when first bearing nuts ...

dwarf form - 5% of all coconuts  
best when freshly eaten

tall form - most common  
best for copra and coir



Trial Color



As Issued



... the pinnate (feather like) fronds ...



VANUATU

25TH ANN. I.R.B. COCONUT RESEARCH STATION

45



NOUVELLE-CALEDONIE

plage de Luengoni - Lifou

85F

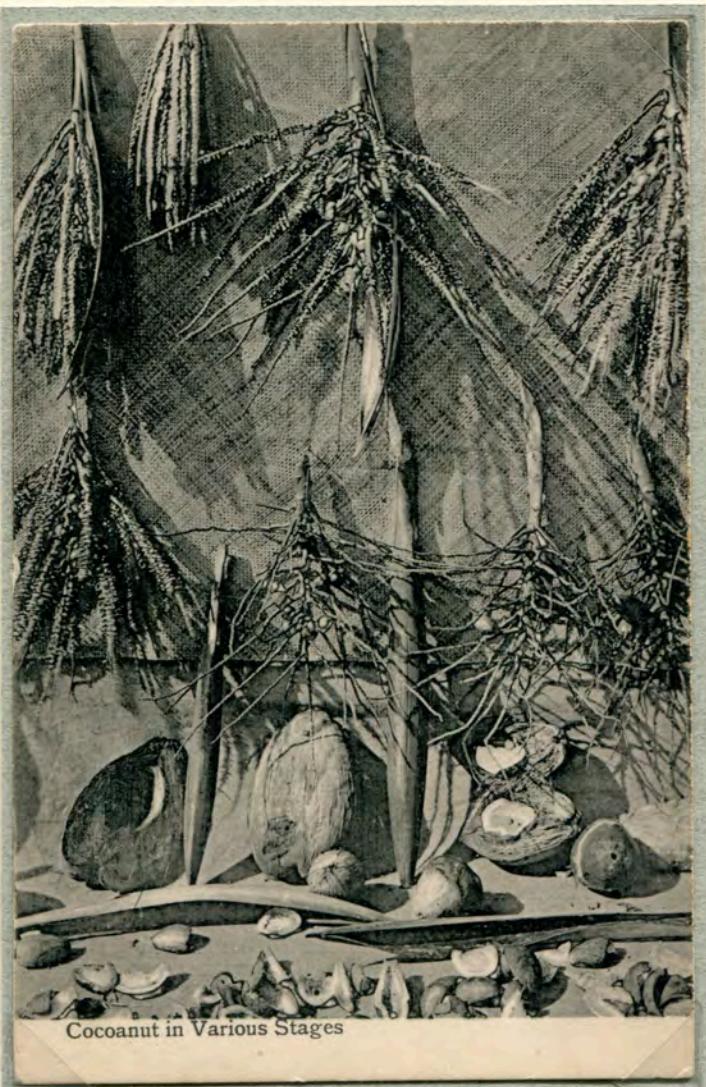


Extra Frond Variety

The large nuts are unmistakable  
for anything but a coconut.



... and numerous floral details such as the inflorescences plus the shape and size of the seednuts - shown husk on and removed.



Cocoanut in Various Stages

One penny Tonga postal card; cancelled Nukualofa, 14 June, 1914

## 1.2 MORPHOLOGY

Two basic seednut shapes exist -



<- the ovoid, late germinating  
*niu kafa* type and  
the round, early germinating  
*niu vai* type -->



The *niu kafa* type is well suited to drifting on the ocean until it finds a lonely shore and begins to germinate and grow just above the high water line ...



... where it and others  
will grow and mature.

The fast germinating *niu vai* seednut is preferred inland to bring a new plantation or grove into production quickly. These juvenile trees will bear nuts in a few years.



Indicium  
(COPY)

Not a coconut but  
an African oil palm  
(*Elaeis guineensis*).

The lack of universal domestication traits together with the long history of human interaction with coconuts, make it difficult, if not impossible, to trace the coconut's domestication strictly by morphology.

**1.3 ORIGINS** The origins of the coconut palm are shrouded in the mists of legends and are buried in the rocks and fossils of the paleontologist and palynologist.

### 1.3.1 MYTHOLOGICAL

The text on this souvenir sheet tells of the myth of Heina in Tonga (Sina in Samoa) and the mythical strange origin of the coconut palm.



Sina and her eel lover.



...et pour nos amis Français, une légende du Pacifique: Comment le cocotier naquit d'une anguille.

La fille du roi de Tonga avait l'habitude d'aller se baigner et se reposer où vivait une anguille. Elles devinrent amies et bavardaient chaque jour. Un jour, mystérieusement, au contact de l'anguille, la fille du roi se retrouva enceinte. Le roi en fut très mécontent et rassembla les gens du village pour tuer la bête. La fille du roi courut à la rivière pour prévenir son amie.

L'anguille accepta son sort à condition que ce soit son amie qui la tue et qu'elle enterrer sa tête devant la maison.

En larmes la jeune fille apporta son amie sur la place du village, la coupa en morceaux.

L'arbre apporta à la femme et son enfant tout ce dont ils avaient besoin pour vivre et fabriquer des objets utilitaires. Le plus surprenant est encore son fruit avec ses trois trous qui représentent les yeux et la bouche de l'anguille : à chaque fois que la jeune femme buvait, elle continuait donc indirectement à embrasser son amie...



Elle distribua le corps aux habitants et garda la tête qu'elle enfouit près de sa maison. Plusieurs mois après, la fille du roi, chassée du village, accoucha d'un garçon. Au même moment la tête de l'anguille se mit à germer et le premier cocotier se mit à pousser

## 1.3 ORIGINS

### 1.3.2 HISTORICAL

The earliest palm trees evolved 65 million years ago during the breakup of Gondwanaland.

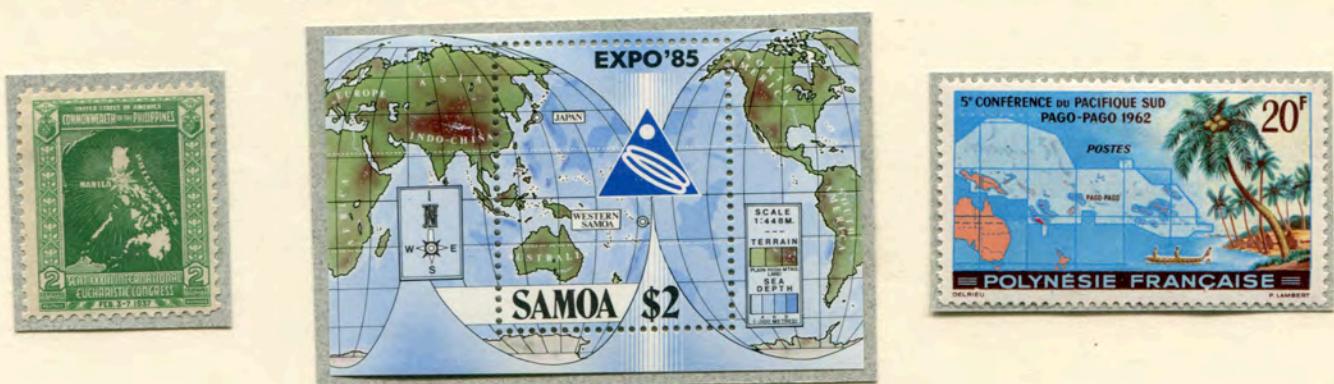


Dinosaurs and early palms co-existed very briefly. Anything resembling a palm tree usually is - or *bad* artistic license.

a tree fern



Coconut palms evolved between the current day Philippine Islands and Australia. The species is now pan-tropical in distribution. Chapter 3 deals with dispersal from the place of origin.



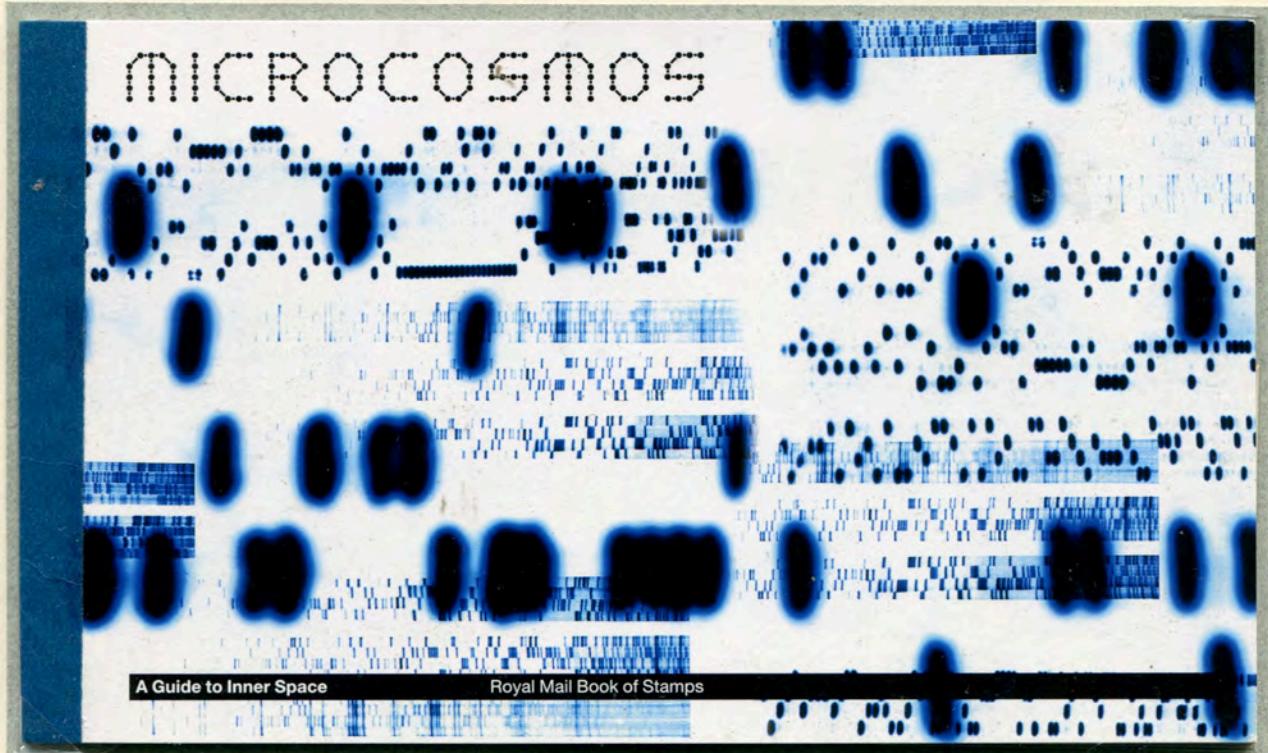
The origins of the coconut palm remain one of the 'abominable mysteries' of palm systematics. Since we need to get a bit technical, let's break out the microscopes for some scientific analysis.



## 1.3 ORIGINS

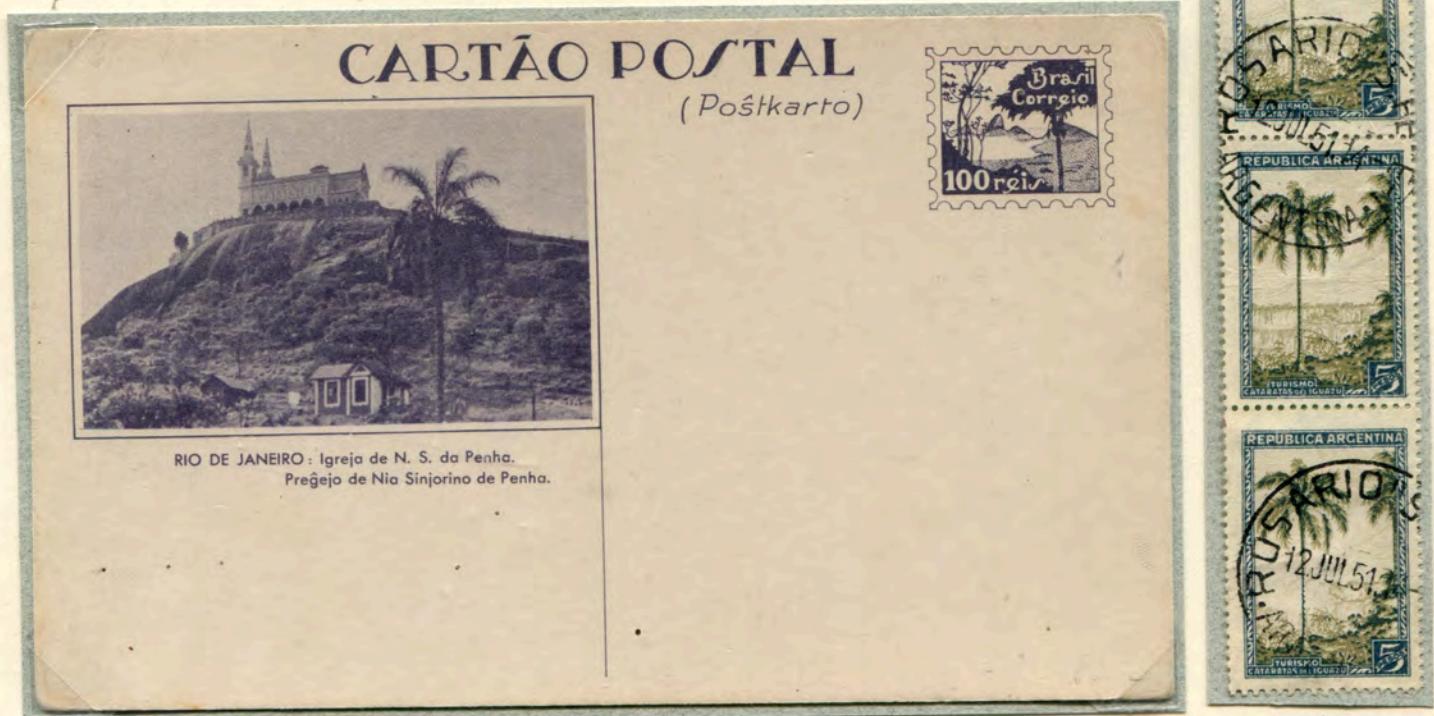
### 1.3.3 TECHNICAL

Current phylogenetic analysis using WRKY genes as markers shows that *Cocos* diverged some 35 millions years ago from its sister genus *Syagrus* -a New World genus.



DNA Sequencing

Most species of *Syagrus* can be found in Brasil and Argentina.



*Syagrus romanzoffianum* by the church; *Syagrus* sp. on indicum

*Syagrus* sp. at Foz de Iguaçu  
Disappearing Falls due to poor inking of plate.

## 2. LIFE CYCLE

Let us now examine how a coconut palm grows despite a variety of pests and enemies.

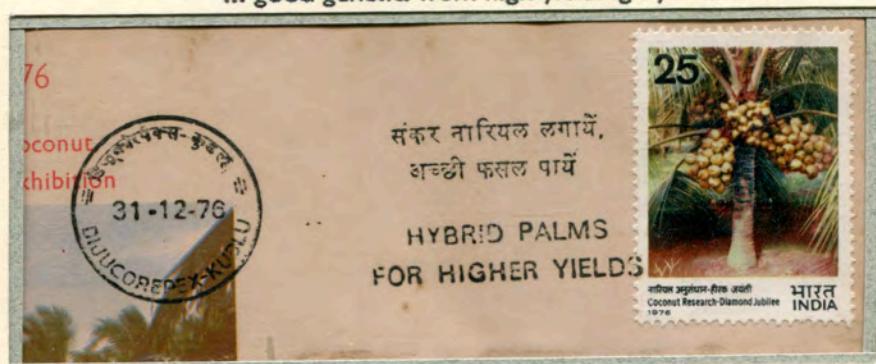
### 2.1 BIRTH THROUGH DECLINE

A seednut begins life as a pollinated flower on a stalk or inflorescence.



Healthy productive trees result from ...

... good genetics from high yielding hybrids ...



by preparing the soil - as President Julius Nyere is doing here ...

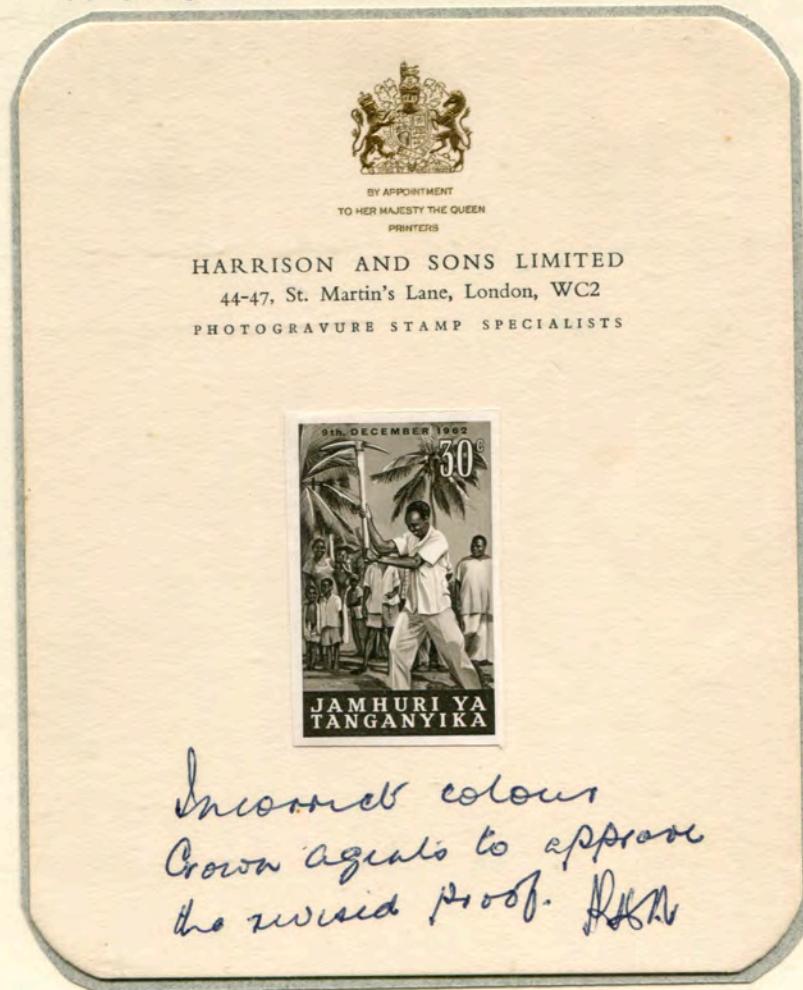
by germinating  
the seednuts in  
a nursery and ..



for planting in  
small groups or...



in larger plantations.



## 2.1 BIRTH THROUGH DECLINE

The tree may bear nuts productively for up to 50 years ...



as seen on these trees and nut clusters from around the tropics.

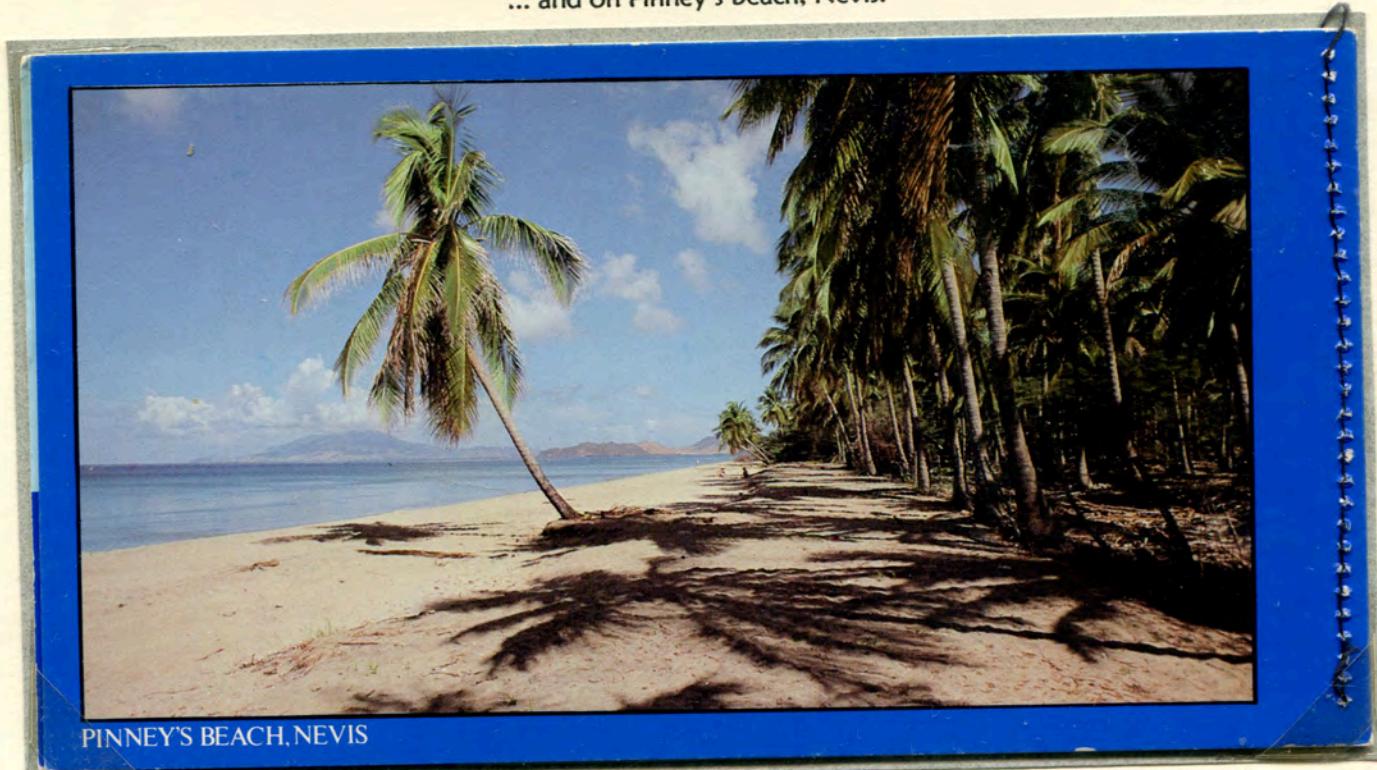


## 2.1 BIRTH THROUGH DECLINE

The abandoned trees and groves become an integral part of the landscape ... as seen on Guadeloupe ...



... and on Pinney's Beach, Nevis.



PINNEY'S BEACH, NEVIS

Booklet Back Cover shows Pinney's Beach ca. 1990; by 2008 most coconuts were dead due to Lethal Yellows disease.

## 2.1 BIRTH THROUGH DECLINE

The coconut palm can be grown successfully in a variety of tropical conditions.

The coconut requires copious amounts of direct sunlight.



The coconut palms grows best with a distributed rainfall between 50 and 90 in. (1300-2300 mm).



The coconut grows well in a variety of soils ...

from the dense lateritic soils in western India and Ceylon to ...



volcanic soils and ...



coral sands.



In the Blue Shade of Trees - Palau  
"Kite" by KOMI SHIGUCHI

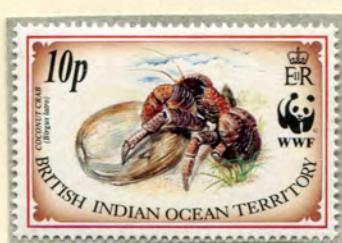
REPUBLIC OF PALAU 20¢



## 2.2 ENEMIES AND PESTS

### 2.2.1 NATURAL

In some tropical areas, the coconut crab (*Birgus latro*) destroys nuts, and the rhinoceros beetle infects mature trees.



Freezing weather at the northern and southern limits of culture can kill mature trees. Coconut palms were a fixture in Clearwater, FL until the freezes of the 1950s & 60s.

Date	Low Temp F
12/57	Low 20s
2/58	Low 20s
12/62	21



Low level diseases or injury can result in branching of the coconut palm. Few palm species branch naturally.



Global warming and pollution threaten the entire plant.



## 2.2 ENEMIES AND PESTS

A coconut palm's life may be shortened from a variety of natural and man-made causes.

### 2.2.1 NATURAL

Although coconut palms grow well in volcanic soil, volcanic eruptions can bury groves and entire villages.



SPECIMEN Overprint on strip showing 1994 eruption and evacuation of island..

Tidal waves (tsunamis) destroy coastal towns and coconut palms.



Approximately 300, 000 people died in the great Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004.



## 2.2 ENEMIES AND PESTS

### 2.2.1 NATURAL

Tropical cyclones, typhoons, and hurricanes are a seasonal threat.



Modern forecasting techniques help to reduce the loss of human life.



But the damage to lightly constructed buildings and to the coconut palms is significant.



The coconut palm is susceptible to a variety of diseases.

Brown Leaf Spot



Grey Leaf Spot



Ganoderma zonatum



For more information contact  
the American Phytopathological  
Society

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
The American  
Phytopathological  
Society

Bulk Mail Permit Indicium,  
Nonprofit Organization

## 2.2 ENEMIES AND PESTS

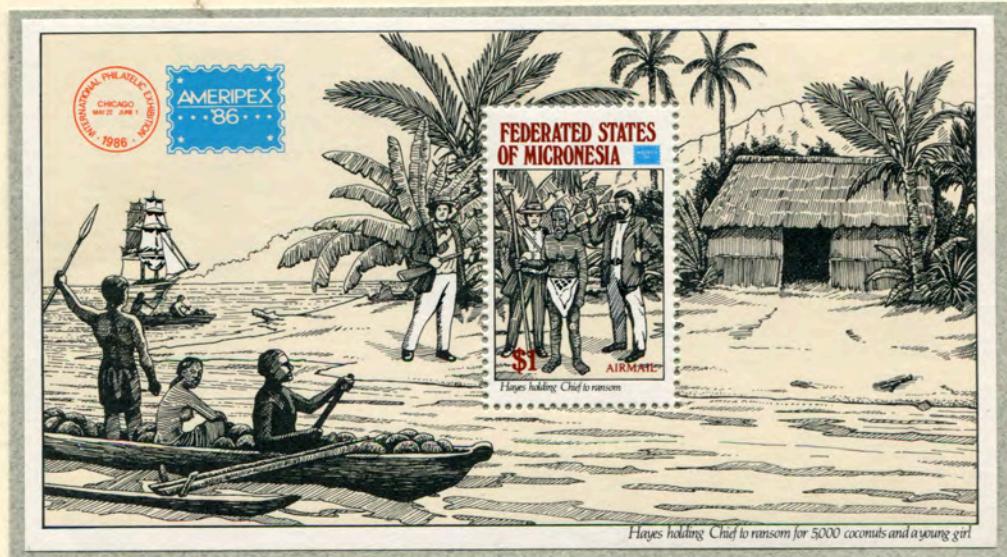
### 2.2.2 MAN MADE

The coconut is only one of the many victims of mankind's endless wars.

Life was much simpler when...

... or when the last of the buccaneers, Bully Hayes, could kidnap a local chief and demand a ransom of 5,000 coconuts.

... local warriors depended upon coconut body armor,



The fate of many coconut palms reflected the violence of World War II in the Pacific.  
The devastation on Saipan was nearly complete.



## 2.2.2 MAN MADE

Even in the chaos of World War II, the coconut palm's reputation as the palm of life was evident.

After losing PT-109 in a collision with a Japanese destroyer, Lt. John F. Kennedy wrote a rescue message on a coconut shell which ultimately resulted in the rescue of his crew.



The coconut shell still survives.



During the Battle of Tassafaronga on 30-Nov 1942, the heavy cruiser USS NEW ORLEANS was hit by a Japanese torpedo which destroyed and severed the forward 150 ft (46m) of the ship. In Tulagi harbor the crew fabricated a temporary bow of coconut logs which enabled the ship to sail to Sydney for temporary repairs of a stub bow.

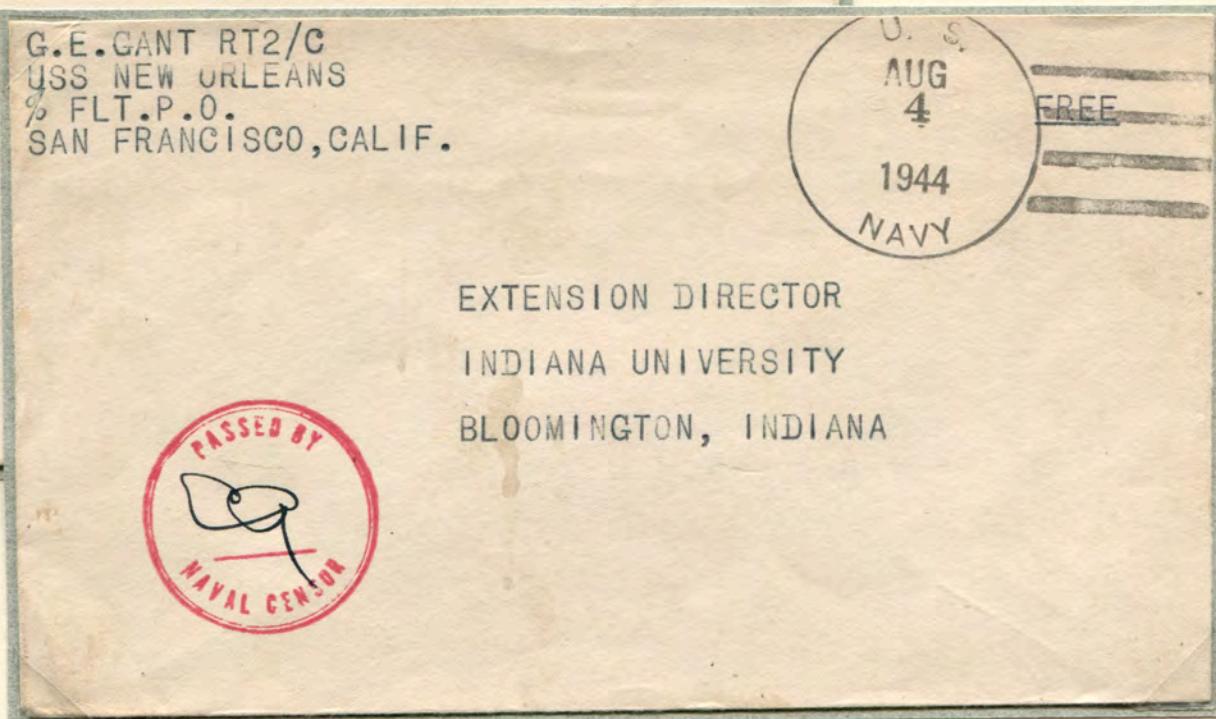


< 6 cent Soldier/Sailor  
Concessionairy Airmail Rate

↓ Regular FREE Rate

G.E. GANT RT2/C  
USS NEW ORLEANS  
% FLT.P.O.  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

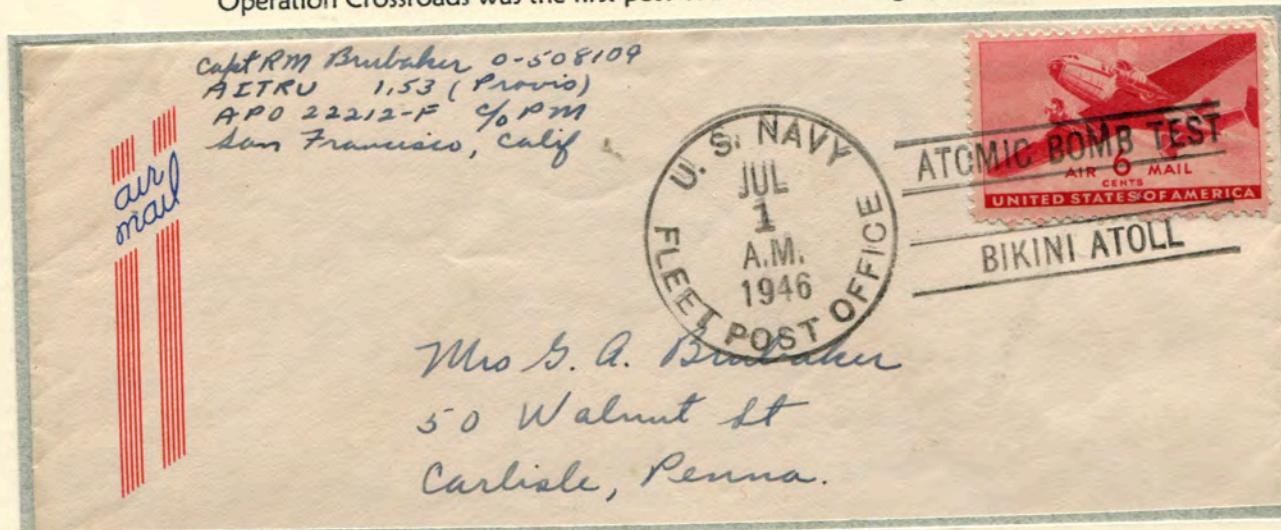
EXTENSION DIRECTOR  
INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA



NEW ORLEANS returned to action in Aug. 1943; decommissioned in 1947; scrapped in 1959.

## 2.2.2 MAN MADE

Nuclear testing in the Pacific destroyed complete islands.  
Operation Crossroads was the first post-War nuclear testing by the U.S.



Support personnel were limited to five letters.

British thermonuclear tests, Operation Grapple, near and above Christmas (Kiritimati) Island were offshore airbursts but resulted in evacuation of native island personnel to Fanning Island and the cessation of copra harvesting.



There goes the atoll!

B.F.P.O. (170)  
Christmas Island  
1 FE 1957



Bikini (Pikini) - literally a  
'flat island with coconuts (ni)'

Coconut planting was an  
essential part of reclaiming  
what was left 40 years later.



## 2.2.2 MAN MADE

Phosphate mining has destroyed the environment and the coconut palms on some islands.

Angaur Island was mined by the Germans, the Japanese, and the Americans until 1954.



The same loading pier, with many repairs, was used.



-- Angaur 9 OCT 1934

Same cancel reproduced on stamp

Between 1900 and 1979, 90% of the surface area of Ocean Island (Banaba Island) had been removed for phosphate.



## 2.2.2 MAN MADE

Airplanes and coconut palms do not mix well....  
Tall coconut palms present a hazard near landing fields for aircraft.



Not the best stamp designs for air safety.  
into the village into the trees



The British flying boat Centurion clipped several coconut palms on the banks  
on the Houghly River in Calcutta before crashing and sinking in the Houghly.



Cancelled: Penang, Malaysia 10 JUN 1939 with roller slogan cancel USE AIRMAIL - IT SAVES TIME  
Officially sealed London 20 JUN 1939  
Auxiliary Marking: SALVAGED MAIL EX-CENTURION Several types of handstamp used.

### 3. DISPERSAL

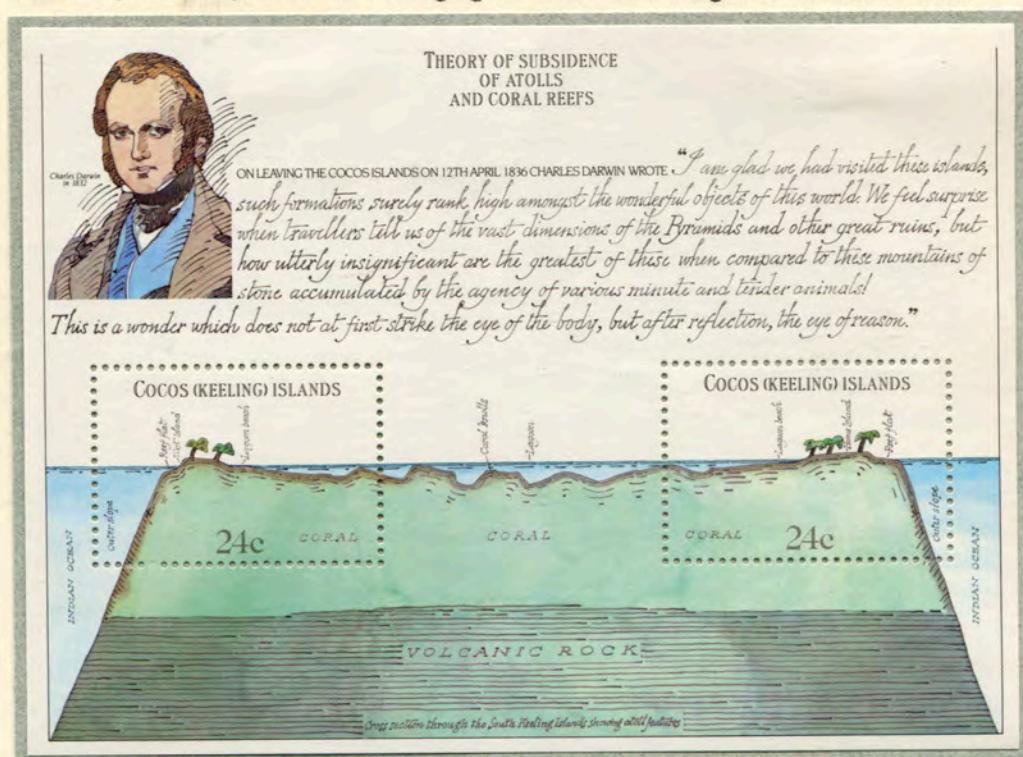
From its prehistoric origins in the Western Pacific, the coconut palm spread slowly ...

Ocean currents and storms slowly spread the wild coconut to parts of mainland Asia and to some but not all tropical Pacific islands.



Dispersal patterns are further complicated by vulcanism, changing sea levels, and the growth of coral atolls.

New islands  
are born.



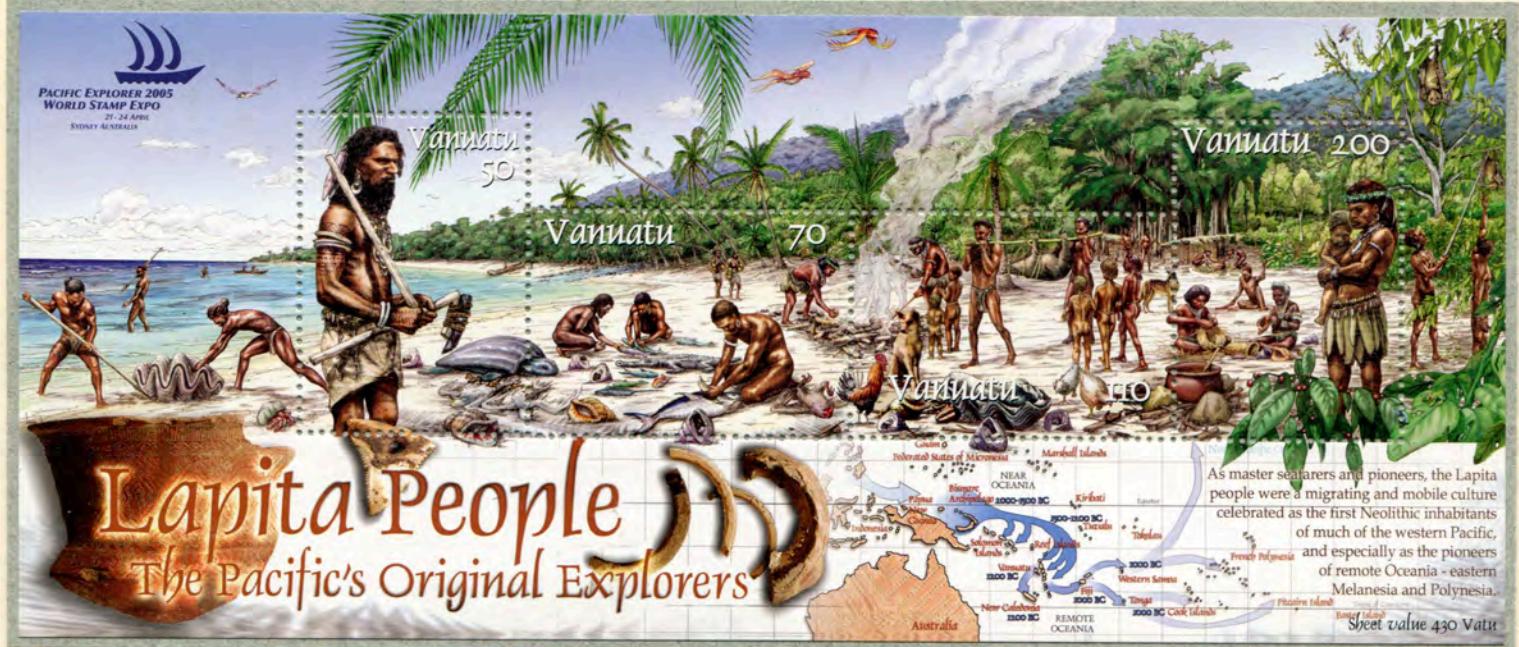
Cross Section of Coral Atoll .

Older atolls provide a home for the coconut



### 3. DISPERSAL

Dispersal of the coconut was aided by the first Neolithic people of the Western Pacific, the Lapita People.



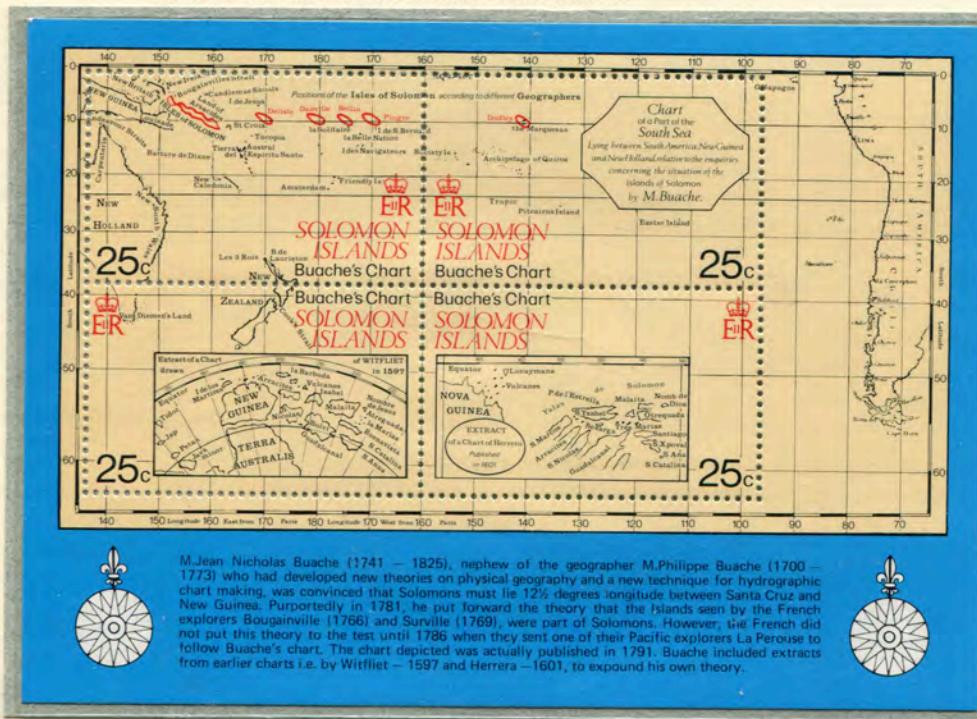
The domestication of the coconut had begun.

A recent (2011) genetic study of over 1300 coconuts worldwide shows that there were two primary routes for the domestication of the coconut ...



one in the Western Pacific Ocean and ...

the other in the Indian Ocean.



### 3.1 CHINA

Hainan Island, just off the coast of mainland China, probably represents the northwestern limit for the natural expansion and drift of the coconut.



Engraved



Lithographed  
and Tagged

This clump of coconuts near Dongjiao Town appears more Polynesian than Chinese.



Issued in Chinese only format for local use and in bilingual format (shown here) for international use.



Indicium (COPY)

### 3.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

The dispersal of the coconut can also be traced linguistically.

*Ni* is the root word for coconut in Polynesian languages.

Niuatobutabu - Sacred Coconut

Ni - Coconut



Niue - Behold the Coconut



NIUE, N.Z. 27 JL 1932 Stamps on unwatermarked paper.

When Capt. Cook first visited Niue, he was prevented from landing by the fierce natives - who were willing to sell him coconuts but had no interest in the diseases carried by his crew.

No *ni* (coconuts) on Niue for him



the 'welcome committee'

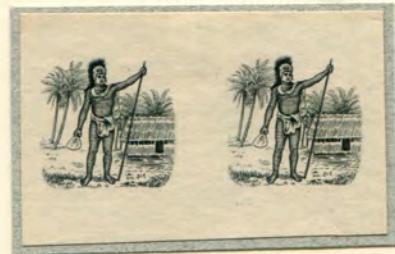
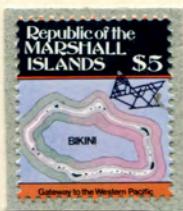


Plate Proofs

## 3.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

... and more coconutty (*ni*) locations.  
Bikini (Pikinni in Marshalese) - Flat Island with Coconuts



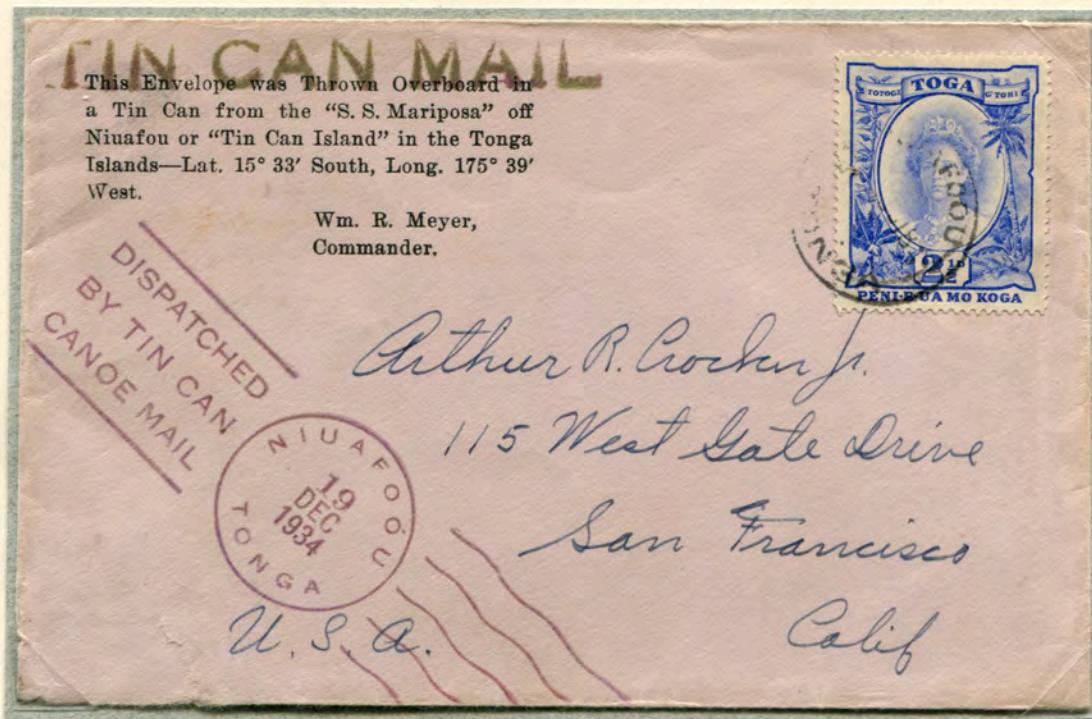
Stick Chart Showing Location of Bikini Atoll.

The bikini swimsuit, invented in 1946 by French engineer, Louis Réard, was named for Bikini Atoll.

Niuafou - New Coconut



Niuafou - better known for its Tin Can Mail, promoted by coconut planter, George Quensell.



...and more '*Ni*' islands and atolls of probable coconut origin.



Niutao



Niutao Atoll  
in Detail

### 3.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

The voyaging peoples of the Pacific accelerated the spread of the coconut thought their tropic islands.



30 pence - Double Airmail Rate to Europe Honiara 23-June 1952

Using simple navigation instruments and open outrigger or double hull canoes ...

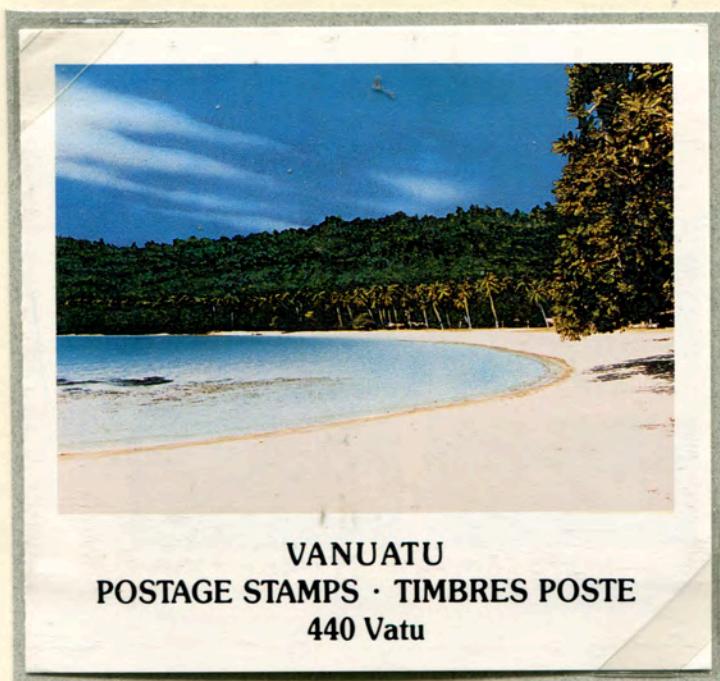


... they spread the coconut to many islands.

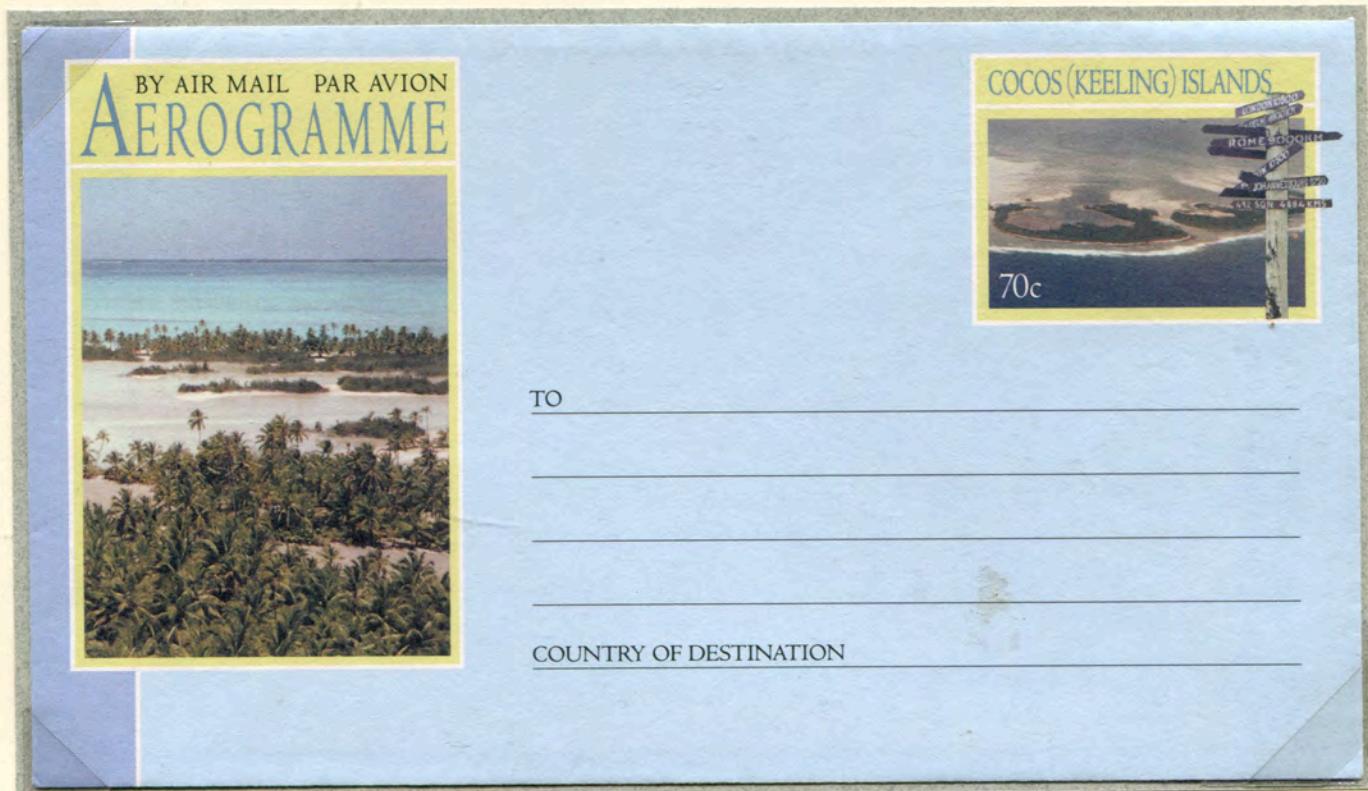


### 3.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

As a result of their pioneering efforts, most islands are now ringed with palm-lined beaches.



On some islands, the coconut palms extend far inland.



### 3.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

The coconut eventually arrived at small distant islands like ...

Washington Island - settled and abandoned by Polynesians ca. 1200 CE; rediscovered 1856 and settled in 1860 due to abundant coconuts; annexed by Great Britain in 1869.



WASHINGTON ISLAND - N.Z. 30 AP 28 RPSC Cert 192211  
Post Office open 1.2.21 - 1923 & 15.5.24 - 30.3.34

Isla de la Coco (Cocos Island) - off the coast of Costa Rica and the farthest point east to which the coconut may have drifted and its closest approach to the New World.



## 2.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

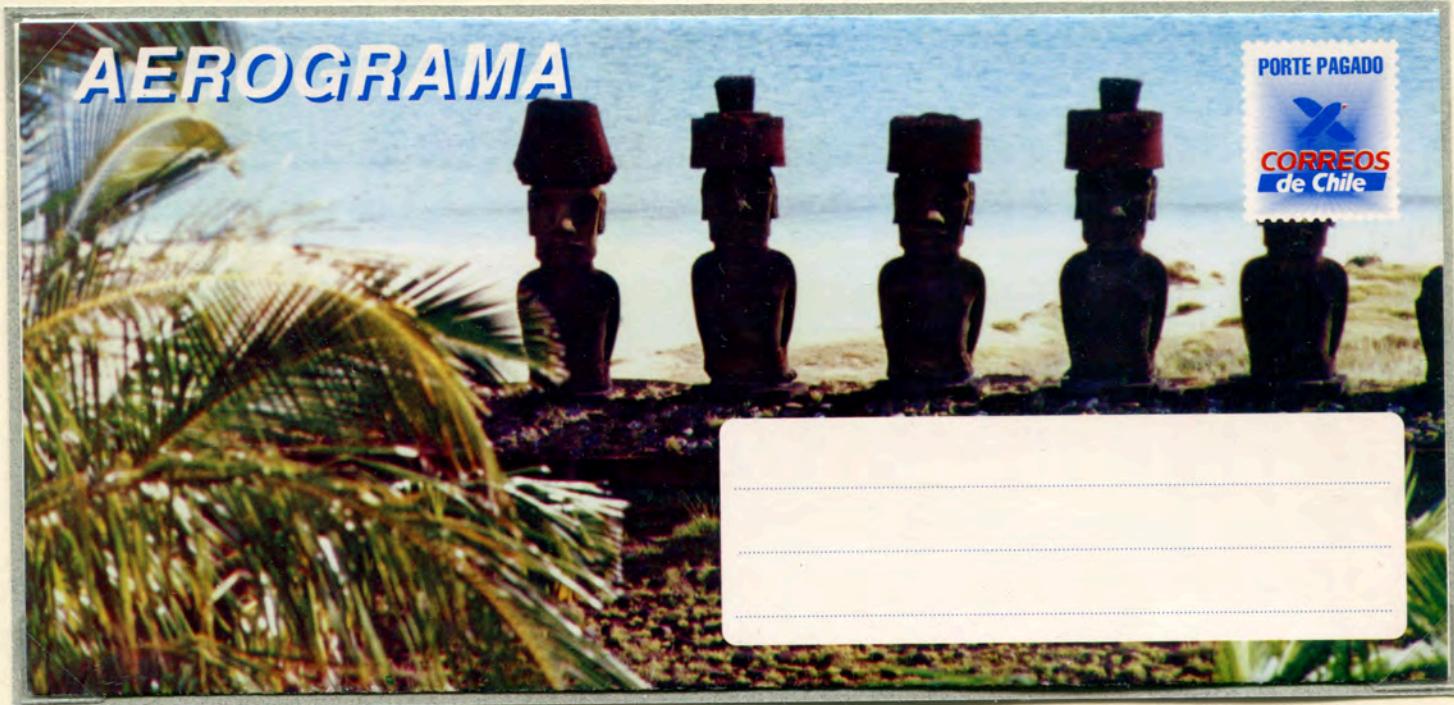
The coconut drifted to the north and was already on distant Yap and Guam when the first Polynesian settlers arrived.



Hagatna Bay, Guam



The coconut never made it to Easter Island (Rapa Nui) until introduced in the 1800s after its rediscovery. The native population had already exterminated the native palm (*Pascalococos dispersa*).



The coconut was not on Pitcairn Island - until brought there by the Bounty mutineers.



1835 error vice 1845 ←

...and where it now thrives and is an important part of the local economy.

## 3.2 PACIFIC ISLANDS

The coconut palms and Pacific island life are almost inseparable.



So let's get in the shade of the coconut palm and get a refreshing drink of kava from this lady.



Monochrome Die Proof



Trial Plate Proof  
80 senta

As issued and used  
10 senta

For more information on the coconut in the Pacific, subscribe to ...



### 3.3 SOUTHERN ASIA

From its original home, the coconut migrated quickly to the mainland of southeast Asia ...

...where it established itself along the coast and waterways of modern Viet Nam ...



... and where it is an important food crop in war and in peace.



Nha Trang to Saigon - Unified Viet Nam (Saigon still acceptable for Ho Chi Minh City)

Cancelled: Nha Trang Viet Nam 7-8-76

Backstampd: Nha Trang M.N. Viet Nam (M.N. = Mien Nam) 7-8-76

Thanh Pho Ho Chi Minh 1 Viet Nam 8-8-76

National Liberation Front stamps issued without gum so almost any adhesive used due to post war shortages.

### 3.3 SOUTHERN ASIA

The coconut moved south to the islands of New Guinea and Indonesia.



18-Oct 1962 Wonotjolo to Surabaya 100 sen letter rate

### SOUTH TO AUSTRALIA ?

The aborigines did not know of the coconut.

Although the coconut is now common in tropical Australia,

Tasman and Dampier did not see any...



... nor did the great Captain Cook on their voyages around Australia.



The first small natural stand of coconuts was not discovered until 1848.

### 3.3 SOUTHERN ASIA

The coconut moved quickly inland to modern Laos and Cambodia



From southeast Asia, the coconut traveled by land and sea...

to the Indian subcontinent...



from modern Bangladesh  
in the east...



to Pakistan in the west...



Plate Proof

... and throughout tropical India - especially in the southern coastal regions.

UNITED STATE OF TRAVANCORE & COCHIN  
ANCHAL  
എറുത്തേണ്ണമലം

4  
PIES

അംബാത്ര  
മെൻവിലംസം



### 3.3 SOUTHERN ASIA

The coconut arrived on Ceylon (Sri Lanka) where it is now an important part of the landscape and economy.



### 3.3 SOUTHERN ASIA

The coconut eventually arrived at remote island chains like ...  
... the Cocos Islands ...



COCONUT ISLANDS 9 NO 1933

... or the Seychelle Islands ...



The palm in the lower left corner of the indium is the so-called coco-de mer or double coconut (*Lodoicea maldivica*) which produces the largest seed in all the plant kingdom and is a distant relative of our coconut (*Cocos nucifera*) seen on the vignette.

... and the Maldives and other remote islands in the Indian Ocean.



### 3.4 EAST AFRICA



The coconut came with early Indo-Malaysian settlers to Madagascar, Zanzibar and other near-by islands and was soon established along the Southeast coast of Africa.



A thriving coconut trade was established in Zanzibar by 1000 A.D.

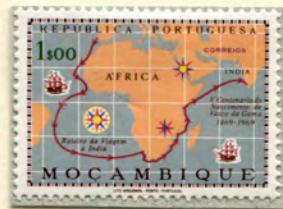


The Southeast coast of Africa has been an important source of coconuts for over 1000 years.



### 3.5 EUROPEAN RE-DISCOVERY

Early Portuguese explorers were the first Europeans to re-discover the coconut ...



... and to bring seed nuts around the Cape of Good Hope to the West Coast of Africa and the Cape Verde Islands.



### 3.5 EUROPEAN RE-DISCOVERY

As late as 1692, the coconut palm was sufficiently rare on the West African coast for sailors to make a landmark of a small grove or a single tree that they colloquially referred to as 'Spanish cavalry.'

A small grove at Cape Las Palmas.



A solitary coconut palm near Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Kenema, Sierra Leone 16 SP 1961 6d QEII red brown R envelope

### 3.5 EUROPEAN RE-DISCOVERY

Captain Cook and other explorers re-discovered the coconut palm and found it on almost every tropical Pacific island they visited.



Admiral Bouganville  
and  
Count de La Perouse



Capt. Robert Clark Morgan

Captain Cook and landing party among the coconut palms in the Cook Islands.



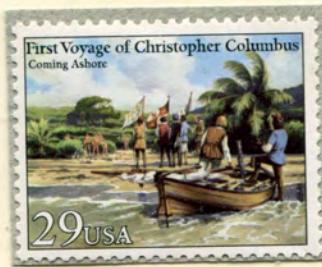
Vignette and Plate Proofs

The coconut was an important part of life in the Cook Islands long before they became the Cook Islands.

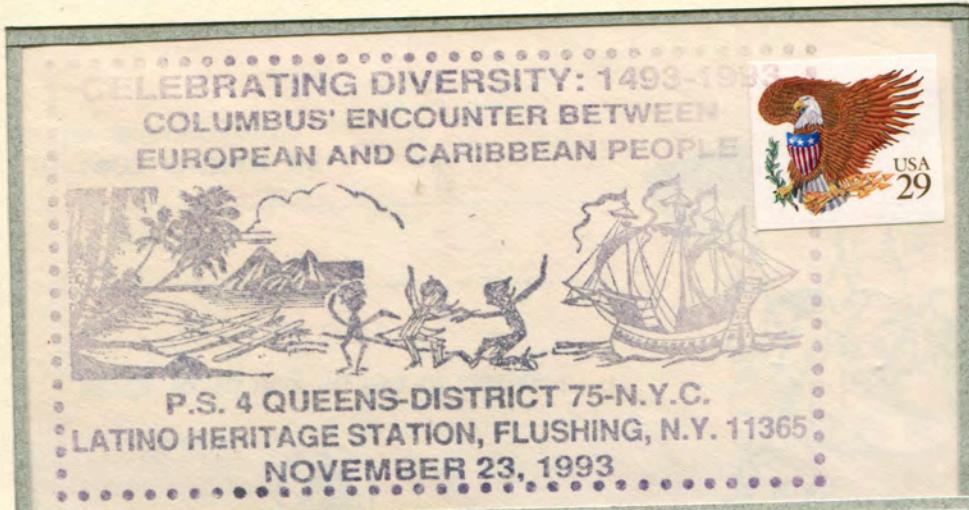


### 3.5 EUROPEAN RE-DISCOVERY

However, the coconut palm was NOT in the Atlantic or Caribbean when Columbus discovered the New World. No native coastal palm of the Americas resembles the coconut palm. A few of many design errors are shown:



Columbus is using the not-yet-invented telescope to see the non-existent coconut palms. (The outrigger canoe is also suspect).



Hernanando DeSoto did not see any coconut palms on his expedition to Florida.



Balboa did not see any on the Atlantic or the Pacific beaches ...

... none yet grew in Columbus Cove

.. and none grew on the Brasilian coast in 1549 !



Chapter 5.1 will show how the coconut came to the New World.

## 4. ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE

The coconut palm is of major economic importance throughout the tropics, both for local use and in international commerce.



Plate Proof



### 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

Local people use almost every part of the coconut palm.  
The lumber and thatch are used for a wide variety of local dwellings and structures.



This couple appear quite content on the porch of their coconut thatched home under the coconut palms.



Air Rate was 1'6d per 10 grams; shortpaid 5d.  
Double deficiency due of 10d or 66 centimes.

## 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

The palm fronds can be used as thatch for a wide variety of island architectural styles.

Round buildings were popular in the Western Pacific ...



and the more common rectangular.



A typical thatched building of Samoa.



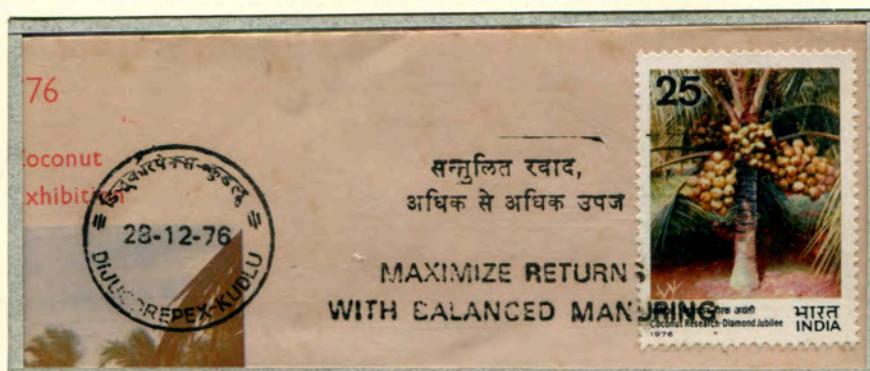
Cancelled: FAKAFO, UNION ISLANDS 20 SP 1936  
 Backstamped: TOR. & FT. WM. R.P.O. No 4 15 JAN 37  
 TOR..HAM. & LONDON R.P.O. 16 JAN 37  
 DUNDAS, ONT. 16 JAN 37

## 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

The coconut is the palm of life for thousands of small growers in India.  
The Government of India actively promotes coconuts and assists growers through the Coconut Development Board.



Balanced manuring - both green and animal - reduces the need for expensive chemical fertilizers and helps maximize returns.



Intercropping - planting 'catch crops' between young coconut palms - increases the total economic yield of a field.



Depending greatly upon local conditions and markets, common intercrops include ...

Pineapples

Casava or manioc

Bananas



## 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

Coconuts and fish are an integral part of local diets.

Here the coconuts are harvested and packaged for trade with a local fisherman ...



... who has probably just caught them while fishing under some near-by coconut palms.



This timeless scene is repeated half a world away on the west coast of Africa.



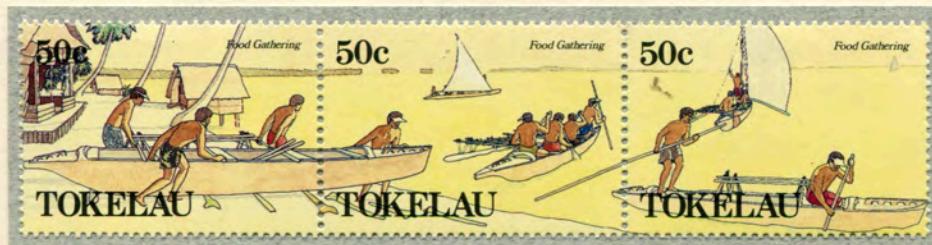
Togo (West-Africa)



## 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

The coconut is an important part of many tropical diets ...

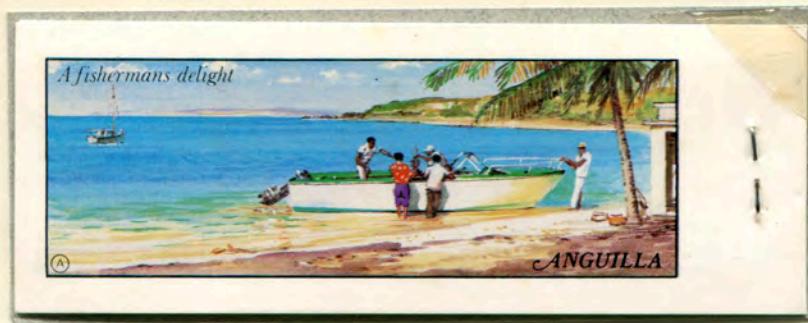
So off to neighboring island to stock up on ...



... both breadfruit and coconuts.



A coconut palm shades these local fishermen on Anguilla and provides a ready mooring post for their boat.



..the sap from the inflorescence which can be fermented to make alcoholic palm toddy.



MALKUREOMEL & KINGKANG  
Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*)  
under Calamondin (*Citrus mitis*)

IAKKOTSJIANG & RIAJEL  
Eclectus Parrot (*Ectlectus roratus*)  
in Pangi Football Fruit Tree (*Pangium edule*)

TENGADIDOL & LIUS, MLAI/OMAIL  
Collared Kingfisher (*Halcyon chloris*)  
in Coconut Palm (*Cocos nucifera*)  
overlooking Palau Canoe collecting toddy,  
or Coconut Palm sap

A local fisherman on Fiji had some trouble on this voyage ...

Normal

Flying Coconut Variety



which hit him in the head causing him to fall overboard.



## 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

No kitchen is complete with a coconut grater ...



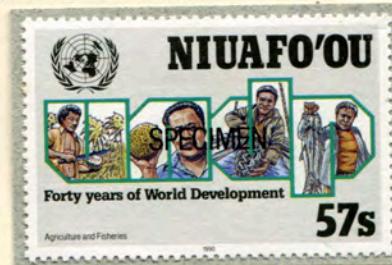
... and several coconut shell ladies.



Time for a refreshing drink of fresh coconut water...

<- {Do not try this at home if you value your fingers}

<- Preproduction artwork before reduction



... garnished with a hibiscus blossom and ...

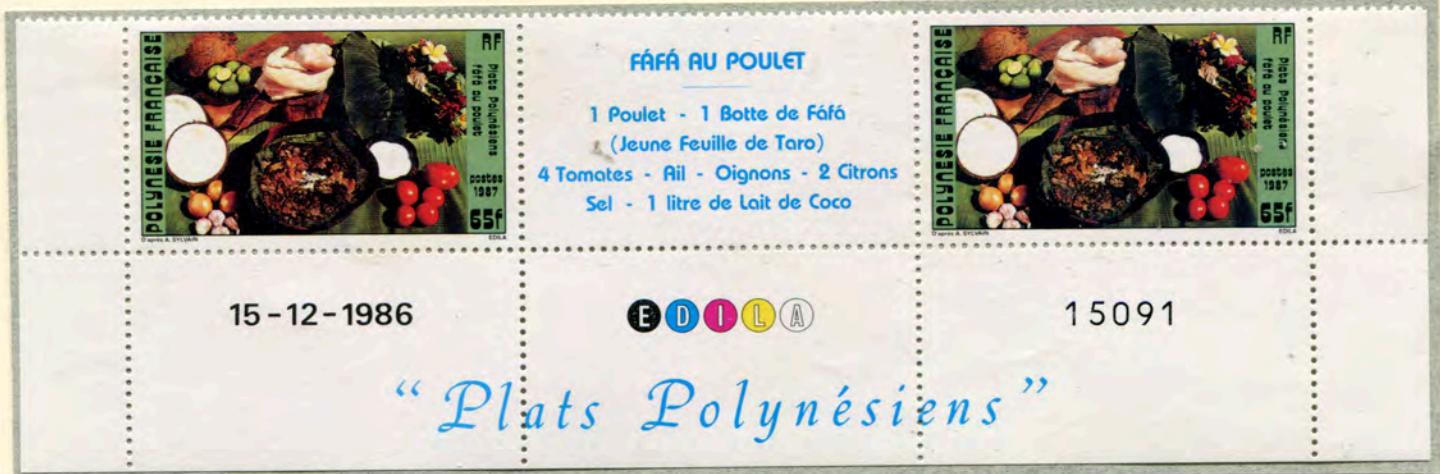
AEROGRAM TIDAK BOLEH MENGANDUNG SEBARANG LAMPIRAN. JIKA ADA, IANYA AKAN DIKENAKAN BAYARAN TAMBAHAN ATAU DIHANTAR DENGAN MEL BIASA.  
AN AEROGRAM SHOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY ENCLOSURE. IF IT DOES, IT WILL BE SURCHARGED OR SENT BY SURFACE MAIL.



... served with a tasty satay and coconut milk based peanut sauce. (.75 reduction of reverse)

## 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

The coconut is an essential ingredient in many tropical recipes. *Bon appetit!*  
Some Polynesian dishes to tempt your palate.



Printed in sheets of 20 stamps se-tenant with recipes alternating in blue and black.



### BANANES AU LAIT DE COCO

6 Bananes  
Mûres  
1 dl d'Huile  
d'Arachide  
80 g  
de Sucre  
en Poudre  
2 dl de Lait  
de Coco



Recipes in black.

No recipes for these delectable dishes



Some Blanc-manger (pineapple & coconut flan) from the Antilles for dessert.



... all served under the coconut palms.



#### 4.1 PALM OF LIFE

Tourists might prefer to slosh down a pina colada (rum and coconut milk) with dinner...



American tourists will have to wait for a change in political attitudes before they can dine under the coconut palms at Restaurante "Las Americas" in Varadero, Cuba.



Prepaid un-denominated international air rate postal card issued in 2000.

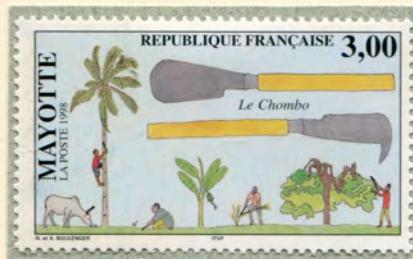
... but for local peoples, the coconut remains the *tree of life*.



## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

Copra - the husked and dried meat of the nut - is the major commercial raw product from the coconut.

Copra production begins with climbing the coconut palm to harvest the nuts...



.. a job best left to the younger generation ...



Ready to start climbing the coconut palm.



*G. Hourez*



Die Proof of Vignette  
on Manila Paper



Die Proof without Value signed by engraver G. Hourez

## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

When the mature nuts on the palms have been harvested ...

... and the fallen nuts  
have been collected ...



... they are accumulated for local transport and further processing.



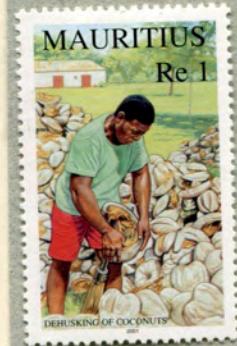
## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

The mature nuts are then inspected and selected ...

... for husking ...



... a labor intensive operation that is the same around the world.



Coconuts before and after husking.



Husk on



Husk off

SANTO, NOUVELLE HEBRIDES (12-6-1957) to (PORT) VILA, 15 centime local letter rate

## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

The husked nuts are then shelled - another labor intensive operation.



The husked and shelled white meat is then dried ...



Unusual use of RELIEF No.1 cancel at Aitape, PAPUA-N.G. 31 AU 54

... either in the sun ...



... or in special drying sheds.



## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

The local production process is neatly summarized in this strip.



From smaller islands and plantations,



... the copra is consolidated in major ports for shipping to world markets.



Plate Proof



Vava'u Harbor



Trial Color Proof



<  
1d Postal Card,  
Orange Tree Indicum

#### 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

The copra is on its way to world markets - unless our ship full of coconut products sinks ...

... which happened in 1907 to the S.S. JEBBA whose cargo consisted primarily of ebony and palm oil.



Front Only

Several types of handstamps used.

51 mm wide handstamp with SERIF CAPS

Cancelled: Freetown, Sierra Leone 4 MR 1907



36 mm wide handstamp with SERIF CAPS

Cancelled: FE 12 07 REGISTERED Bonny, Southern Nigeria

Ship grounded and sank on 18 March 07 - passengers and mail safely removed.

Mail sorted and dried in Plymouth where Registry label applied

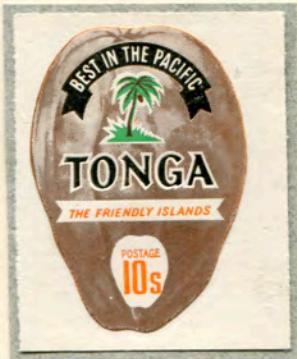
Received: 20 March 07 Glasgow

## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

Copra production is aided by both governmental and private organizations that sponsor research on the coconut palm and that promote the use of the coconut.

Coconut palm research centres in the tropics work to improve both the ...

quality and quantity



of the nuts produced by the trees.

The Coconut Research Board of India is a world leader in these efforts.



Farmers from the Caribbean to India are urged to GROW MORE COCONUTS.



The Asian and Pacific Coconut Community urges us to 'Eat, Drink, and Use coconut.'

### Asian and Pacific Coconut Community

3rd Floor, Wisma Bakrie Building, Jl. H.R. Rasuna Said  
P.O. Box 1343 - Jakarta 10013 - Indonesia

Eat coconut  
Drink coconut  
Use coconut



## 4.2 PALM OF COMMERCE - COPRA

On the island nation of Tonga, copra production was improved by the introduction of new disease-resistant coconut palm cultivars through the government sponsored Coconut Replanting Scheme.



Official Mail frank in U.L used before Official stamps introduced on 9-June 1970.

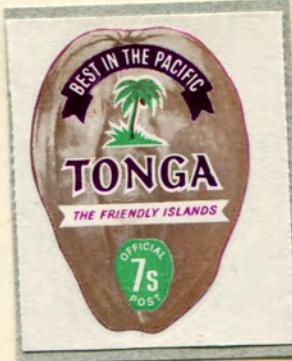
A stroke of genius for marketing Tongan copra - self adhesive coconut stamps!  
A brief philatelic study of the three issues: five values in each set, 6 - 10 seniti.

Large Coconut

Issued 9-June 1970. Embossed on gilt foil  
White Backing Paper

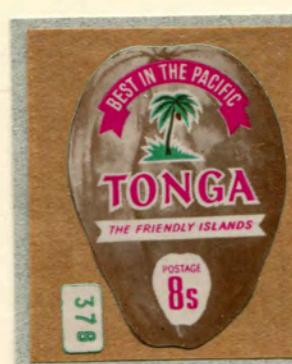


Regular

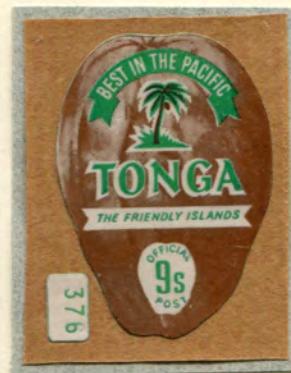


Official

Issued 30-Sept 1972. Embossed on paper  
Brown Backing Paper



Regular



Official

Small Coconut  
29-Sept 1978  
Coil Format



#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Now some of the many products made from the coconut.

Coconut oil was a major ingredient in margarine - invented in 1888.  
Germany quickly became the major European producer of margarine.



PALMIN and PALMONA oils, butter, and margarine from H.S. Glink & Co.A.G. ...



Cash on Delivery (COD) card with HSG perforated initial stamps.

KUNEROL - a favorite with Austrian housewives in 1907.  
"Feinstes Pflanzenfett aus Kokosnüssen"



Printed to Private Order Postal Card 5 Heller domestic rate.

#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Other countries developed their own coconut based oils and margarines.

NUTRO OIL from Australia.



Margarine EXCEL from France



SoLo Margarine from Belgium.



Cancelled: Barchon, 5 July 1934

#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

German cooks might use EDEKA brand margarine - 'in a tub and always fresh'



Turkish cooks would use VEGETALINE - 'Pure extract of coconuts. Replaces butter; costs much less'

تأسیسات صناعیه مؤسسه‌سی  
مرندس ر. لفروو  
منوع فابریکه‌لر تأسیس و بروزه‌لر  
احضار ایدیلیم .  
بالعموم ماکنه‌لر صایتی ، دمیر  
انشات  
استانبول : ایکنچی وقف خان

شرق مرکز اجزا تورک آنونیم شرکتی

سرمایه‌سی ۳۰۰,۰۰۰ تورک لیراسی  
مرکز اداره‌سی : سرکجده خوراسانچان خان  
استانبول شعبه‌لری : بک اوغلنده ، قاضی کوینده  
استانبوله و غلطهده در .  
عطریات قسمی : قولونیالر ، عطریات و خلاصه‌لر  
وبارس فانتزی اشیا‌ی ... الخ .  
اجزای طبیه قسمی : اجزای کیمیویه و ادلاح قلوبه ،  
قوپر عمل و آمبولر ، خلاصه‌لر و مستحضرات خصوصیه  
اسپنچیاره و اجنیمه ... الخ . او جوزلق و معتدل شرائطله  
مشتریلرخی منون ایدر .

تلغراف آدرسی : استانبول دروغی : تلفون تو مرسی : استانبول ۵۲

حقیقی

ژیلت

بیچاق واوسطوره .  
لری . حقیقی برژیلت  
اوستطوره سی ۳۵  
غروش . طوبدن  
وپراکنده . استا .  
نبوده بیکی پوسته .  
خانه جوارنده حیدریه سوقاغنده ۲۲ نومزوده  
ماقس فاراجی .

Véritables lames et rasoirs Gillette  
Un véritable rasoir  
Gillette P. 35 .  
Max Faraggi - Stamboul Rue  
Hamidié No. 22

# وَهْرَةْ تَكَالِبْ

صف اولهرق منحصراً هندستان جویزندن استحصلال ايدلشدر . صاغ ياغى يرينه قائم ودها او جوزدر .

# VÉGÉ-TALINE

Pur extrait de la noix de Coco. Remplace le beurre, coûte moins cher.

استانبول - بیکی مطبعه

Circa 1920 Turkish Postal Telegram

## 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

In 1840, Price's Candle Co. began using coconut derived stearine; the candles were *snuff free*, i.e., one no longer had to trim the wicks.



A few coconut candy and confectionary products to satisfy your 'sweet tooth'.



#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Coconut oil was an important ingredient in many soaps.

SUNLIGHT SOAP, originally produced by Wm. Lever of England, became a world wide brand through extensive advertising.



Backprints on New Zealand Stamps

A few brands you may not recognize ...

Imperial Soap



Special Cancel



PEARS Perfin



Backprints on El Salvador Stamps

Japanese soldiers during WWII had to improvise with inferior soaps. Coconut oil, useful in explosives, was too precious to waste on soap.



Japanese Army Postage Free Fieldpost Postal Card



Indicium  
(COPY)

## 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

The primary ingredients in PALMOLIVE soap were ...

palm oil

and

olive oil



Coconut



with

Olive Branch  
Watermark



12.00 ש"ח  
Price NIS 12.00



+



AIX EN PROVENCE  
CDIS B.DU RHONE  
22-12-06  
0401 00 009239  
FB749E 133950

€ R.F.  
LA POSTE  
00049  
VK 420716

Redeem this postal card for a free bar of PALMOLIVE.



#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

In Great Britain, Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Ltd. used meter stamps before the War...

S.P. 202.

COLGATE-PALMOLIVE-PEET LIMITED,  
Ranelagh Road, Grosvenor Road,  
LONDON, S.W.1.



...and a variety of printed-to-order window envelopes as postage rates increased after the War.

If undelivered please return to  
Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Limited  
145, Charing Cross Road, LONDON W.C.2.



If undelivered please return to  
Colgate-Palmolive Limited,  
76, Oxford Street, LONDON, W.I.



If undelivered please return to  
Colgate-Palmolive Limited,  
76, Oxford Street, LONDON, W.I.

L.S. 8



L.S. 88-2.

### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Perforated initial (perfin) stamps were used to reduce postage stamp theft by Palmolive employees.

Palmolive of Canada



POC - 8 hole

Palmolive Peet Corporation (USA)



PPC - 5 hole



PPC - 8 hole

Meter stamps and postal cards reduced theft and promoted PALMOLIVE soap throughout much of the world.

Pre-War Germans were enticed by these offers...



Meter stamp used until mid-1942

Postal card good for one free bar of PALMOLIVE soap.



### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

PALMOLIVE SOAP was advertised from Sweden in the north to ...



... Turkey in the Middle East.

**او قرند و بونجیا**  
متبین طریف او طومو بیلاری  
صایش: استانبوله اصناف ناقه می،  
تقسیمه: استانبول او طومو بیلاری  
قو او بر اتفیق.  
ازمیره: از میر او طومو بیلاری  
قو او بر اتفیق.  
تلفون: باک او غلی ۲۵۹۵ - استانبول ۳۳۸۷  
آنقره ده تورک هوا مجموعه می  
اک معروف قلمارک، اک معننا باز بیلاری  
رسملی صالون غر تسبیدر. ۱۰  
اکه ۱۵۰ پیک لیرا قازانه بیلاری سکر  
آرزو ایده نه نوونه نسخه می جانا  
کونده ریلیر.

**دویس هو مبولد شرکت**  
استانبول - غلطه - قره کری بالاس اتصاله  
موطوزلر، زراعت ماکنه لری، یوز مکنه لری  
وه در دلو تأسیس فته  
او پهل او طومو بیلاری  
مهندنس، موئور، یدک پارچه لری موجود

عدم اقتدار و بل کو شکله  
اک مؤثر دوا سه روین جبل بدره.  
د پومی: استانبوله سر کچیده خداوند کار  
جاده سنده علی رضا اجزا خانه سیدر - طغه  
عبدالسلام بک جمهوریت اجن خانه سنده  
دنی بولنور.

**پایا غان**  
چهارشنبه کونلری انتشار ایدر اک کوزه م مناج غزنه می  
«پایا غان» هر آی نهایتنده قارلزرت بر چون قیمتی هدیه لزو برمکده در.  
مظاظا زاده امسانه علی  
اپکلی منسوجات و بیوغا فابریقه می  
اوروبانک اک لوکس اپکلیلر اک اعلان یکانه فابریقه  
**HATTAT ZADÉ IHSAN**  
Fabrique de Soieries et de Teinture : STAMBOUL

طرافی و  
کوزه لکی  
محافظه ابه  
**PALMOLIVE**  
Le Savon  
**PALMOLIVE**  
conserve Jeunesse et Beauté.

تأسیسات صناعیه مؤسسه می  
مرندس ز. هروه  
هر نوع فابریقه لر تأسیس و پروژه لر احصار ایدیلیر  
با عموم ماکنه لر صانیشی، دمیر انشا آت  
استانبول: در دنیجی و قفق حانی.

شرق مالت خلاصه می  
اشته، قوت و سخت اچمن اک مؤثر دوا دادر.

**قوه هینور دیش پاسته می**  
PATE DENTIFRICE "JOHN NOOR"

هزوز - شانت - تدوین - شنید و درست  
مجارز راعت ماکنه لری فابرقی  
نور کیا مرکز تعبیه

استانبول - غلطه - عرب مامی - نسیب سونان نزد ۶۵/۶۲  
نیزان آر. می: استانبول هوزن زن



لدر بیز لافت ماکنه لری، نور کیا، کرمه ناسیان

تلغرافلرده کی اعلان نار ایمون استانبوله آنطاولی  
آذانی اعلانات شعبه سنه صراجت ایدیکن

LISEZ  
LE JOURNAL D'ORIENT  
Le mieux fait des journaux  
de Pétra. Journal d'informations.

پفاف دیکیش ماکنه لری  
اک صاغلام و اک قول الایشلیدر  
کرک بشین، کرک ویره سیه ساتیلیر  
استانبول باز بیدا قیلر باشی نو مر و ۹۴

نفیس  
اخصار راقی  
BUVEZ LES RAKIS  
Du Monopole

#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

PALMOLIVE used a variety of promotional gimmicks.

Sponsoring the European PGA Championship



... the Dioon quintuplets to promote it ...



... a FREE Royal Visit button with four cakes of soap ...



Same meter as top (94024) but different slogan and colour.

... and arguably their most famous advertising slogan "KEEP THAT SCHOOLGIRL COMPLEXION"



#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Coir - the retted and cleaned fibers from the husk of the coconut is a major by-product.

Working closely with the Coconut Development Board of India, the Coir Board promotes a variety of Eco-friendly and hygienic coir products.

**Coconut**

A world of health and goodness in a nutshell

**Coconut Development Board**  
(Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India)  
P.B. No. 1021, Kera Bhavan, Kochi-682 011, Kerala.  
Ph: 0484-2376265, 2377266, 2377267, 2376553, 2375266.  
Fax: 484-2377902. E-mail: cdtkochi@vanl.com  
Website: [www.coconutboard.nic.in](http://www.coconutboard.nic.in)

**अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पत्र कार्ड**  
INLAND LETTER CARD

भारत  
200 INDIA 200

**मेघदूत पोस्ट कार्ड**  
MEGHDOOT POST CARD

To \_\_\_\_\_

Shri M. C. Shukla  
158, Vrindavan Township,  
Makrand Desai Road  
VADODARA

पिन PIN 3 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5

(इस लाइन के नीचे न टोकिए और न ही भूलिए करें। Do not write or print below this line)

OLD \_\_\_\_\_ म.सु. / S.P.P. - 20 \_\_\_\_\_

ICLOSURES ALLOWED \_\_\_\_\_  
I CODE IN ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
S NAME AND ADDRESS : \_\_\_\_\_

इस पत्र के भीतर कु  
पते में पिन छोड़  
प्रेषक का नाम और पट

पिन

कथर के कास्टीन, मॉटिंग, पायदाज आद  
साफ, सुरक्षित व सुन्दर कथर  
उत्पादों का उपयोग करें  
उच्च गुणवत्ता के कथर उत्पादों के लिए कथर बोर्ड शोरूम में पायां।

फोन: 0484-351807, फैक्स: 0484-370034  
Email: [coir@md2.vsnl.in](mailto:coir@md2.vsnl.in)

↑ English  
← Hindi

#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

by hand

String or twine from coir can be made ...

or spun on a special spinning wheel.



Coir string has proven superior to synthetic cordage for growing hops (*Humulus lupulus*).

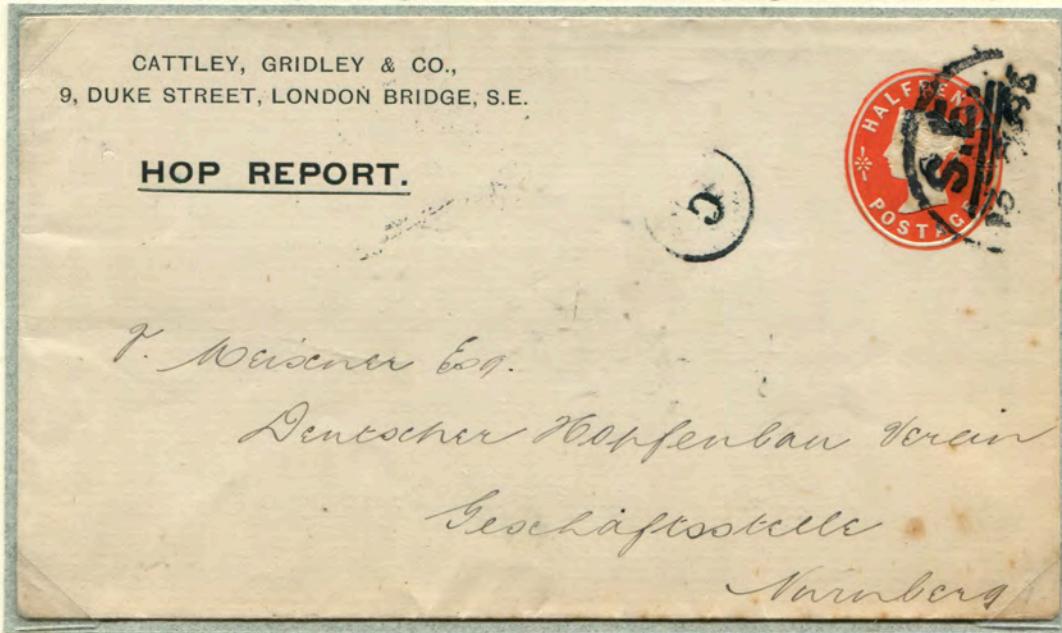
The female flower -  
used for flavoring beer.



Harvesting Hops



Hops and copra string were big business in late 19<sup>th</sup> century England and Germany.



Printed to Order Stationery London (13-5-95) to Nurnberg (15-5-95)

#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

You are probably familiar with the coir - or coco fiber - doormat.



The Laupheimer Kokosweberei GmbH & Co. (LAKO) produces a wide variety of floor mats for home and automotive use.



Coir door mats are a major export product from India.



Coir is now combined with other natural fibers for floor coverings.



#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Coir fabrics are used in many upholstery applications.  
Needle-felted coir makes excellent mattress padding ...



and stuffing ...



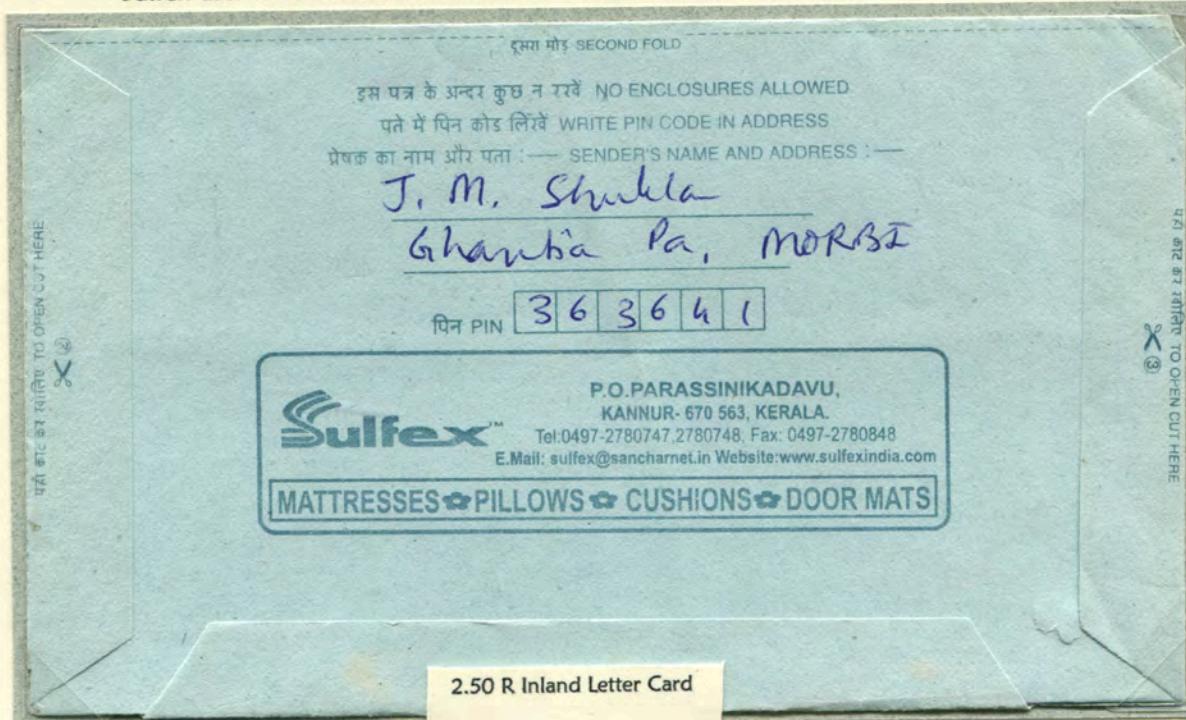
... and upholstery stuffing - especially in European automobiles.



A. Strasser for Coconut (coir) and Sisal Weaving

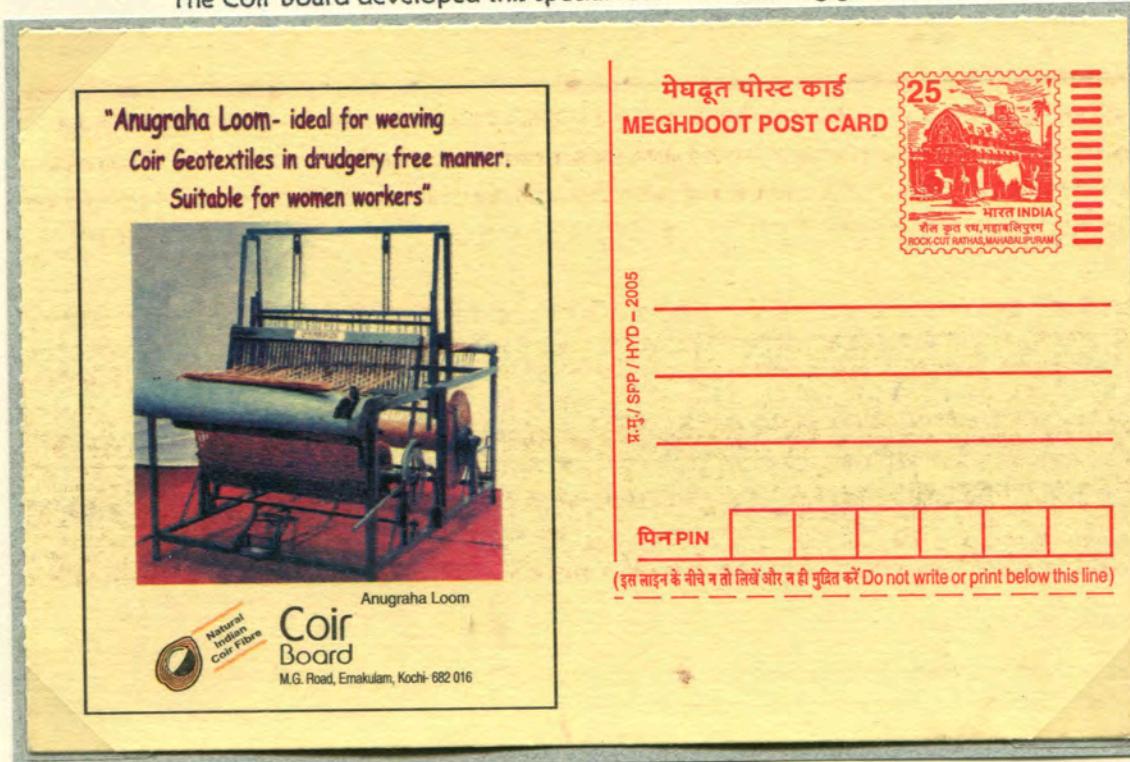


Sulfex uses rubberized coir fleeces for a wide variety of mattresses and other products.



#### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

The Coir Board developed this special loom for weaving geotextiles.



Little else of the coconut is wasted.

Coconut cake or *poonac* (after the oil is extracted) is excellent cattle feed.  
(...and what comes out of the back end of the cattle is recycled as fertilizer for the coconut palms)



mild abrasive to internally  
clean jet engines ...



The empty shells have many uses ...

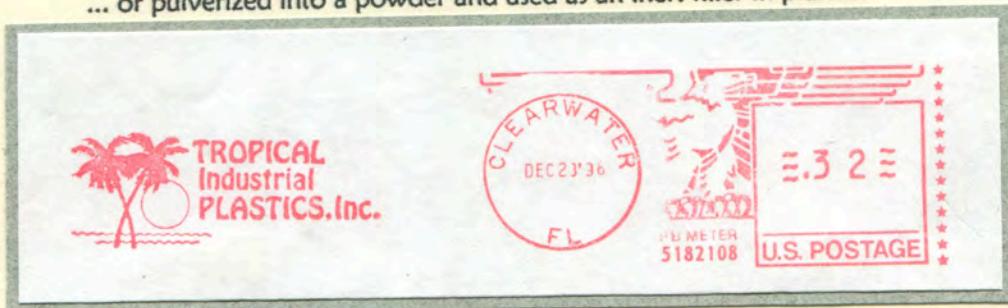
sake flasks



collecting latex...



... or pulverized into a powder and used as an inert filler in plastics.



### 4.3 PALM PRODUCTS

Activated charcoal, made from coconut shells, was the primary filtering agent in protective (gas) masks.  
for military ...



19 June 1928  
Commemorating the military exercises  
of the Special Forces in Taiwan.



Activated charcoal is no defense  
against carbon monoxide (CO)  
found in engine exhausts.



Tender Coconut Water (TCW), now a popular, refreshing, and healthy beverage, has been used as a blood plasma substitute since it is sterile, has the proper electrolytes and pH.



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 椰牛 Yeniu

恭賀新禧

海南新大食品有限公司  
Hainan xinda food CO., LTD.

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牛年我就喝椰牛

Peoples Republic of China, 2009 Lottery Postal Card  
*Yeniu* brand tender coconut water; ni is the Polynesian root word for coconut