

About Coconut Palm Wood

The coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera* L.) is the "tree of life". All parts of the coconut wood can be manufactured into commercial products. The wood is hard and durable; volumetric shrinkages are mostly smaller. The tree is non-branching and free of knots and can be used as decorative wood. The logs are cut into 4–6 m length depending on height and soundness of the tree.



Availability of Coconut Wood

Cultivated area - World	:	12.29 M ha
Cultivated area - India	:	2.14 M ha (17.41%)
Cultivated area - Kerala	:	0.79 M ha (36.92%)
Percentage of senile palms in India	:	20%
Approx. number of senile palms available	:	16700 no./year/district

Timber is graded as hard, intermediate or soft corresponding to high, medium and low densities. Coconut wood is used in construction, furniture, high-value products, charcoal, chemicals, pulp and paper. Coconut wood utilization can supplement the supply of raw materials for the wood industry and provide low-cost and durable construction materials for housing programmes in the coconut growing states and for export. Due to the low price of coconut wood, it becomes popular among the middle and low-income groups, and used as a substitute for commercially known wood species to overcome the inadequate supply of logs and help to conserve the remaining forests in Kerala.

Wood Density Distribution in Mature Coconut Palm

