

NON-TRADITIONAL COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS FROM COCOA WASTE

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A considerable quantity of waste products are thrown away in cocoa industry in Sri Lanka. In some countries valuable by-products are recovered from cocoa waste. (Knapp, 1937, Adomako 1972, 1974). So far no such studies are done in Sri Lanka.

Laboratory experiments have shown that about 8.2% pectin can be extracted from cocoa husk. Similarly ethanol in good quantities (10.3%) can be distilled from the sweating of the seed-pulp. Pectin is an important chemical in food industry, while ethanol is a industrially important solvent. Both chemicals can be produced in commercial quantities as by-products in cocoa industry.

References :

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3. Adomako D; Chemical characterisation of cocoa pectin. *Chem. Ind. (Lond)* 1974, 27, 837.