

## High quality coconut oil production at domestic level

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A novel and simple technology has been developed to extract natural, cold-pressed, high-quality coconut oil. When compared to the commercially available products, coconut oil derived from this process has a very low free fatty acid (FFA) content of 0.2% approx. This purity has been achieved without any chemical processing of the oil.

Characteristic problems in the traditional coconut oil process like too much time consumption in copra processing, wastage of energy, and impurity of the oil are not encountered with this process. The technology led to the design and development of a domestic-level manual- expeller which can be used to derive, within 2½ to 3 hours, coconut oil from freshly-grated and dried coconut. The residual coconut (`pol kudu`) from the expeller is a nutritive by-product that can be used in food preparations. The expeller is gathering popularity as evident from improved sales in domestic and self-employment applications.

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