

Coconut palms of Samoa

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This website returns the information collected during four scientific visits conducted in 2001, 2010, 2012 and 2017 on behalf the Ministry of Agriculture of Samoa, the International Coconut Genetic Resources Network, the Secretariat of the South Pacific Community, the Global Crop Diversity Trust, Bioversity International, CIRAD (French Centre for Agricultural Research and Development), the Coconut Industry Development for the Pacific (CIDP project) and the Darwin Initiative "Saving Pacific Coconuts".

General overview

Samoa, officially the **Independent State of Samoa**, formerly known as Western Samoa, is a sovereign state in Polynesia, encompassing the western part of the Samoan Islands in the South Pacific Ocean. The entire island group, inclusive of American Samoa, was known as the Navigators Islands before the 20th century because of the Samoans' seafaring skills.

Coconut is the most predominant crop grown in Samoa. Its traditional value and multipurpose uses make it one of the most important crops in the everyday lives of Samoans as an important source of food and cash.



This website was recently updated in the framework of two projects:

1. The UK [Darwin Initiative](#) project "Upgrading and broadening the new South-Pacific International Coconut Genebank" (reference 23-008) runs from June 2016 to March 2019. This project is being coordinated by Bioversity International; COGENT (the International Coconut Genetic Resources Network) and CIRAD (Centre de coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement), and is implemented in collaboration with: the Asia and Pacific Coconut Community (APCC); the curator of the South Pacific International Coconut Genebank (ICG-SP) hosted by the Cocoa Coconut Institute (CCI) in Papua New Guinea; the Global Crop Diversity Trust (GCDT); Government relevant ministries from Fiji, Papua New Guinea (represented by Kokonas Indastri Korporeesen, KIK) and Samoa; and the Pacific Community (SPC).
2. The project "Coconut Industry Development for the Pacific" (CIDP) is a joint initiative of the Pacific Community, the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States. Addition to this website were conducted in the framework of the PRAGo7 expertise led by CIRAD, on "Coconut Production and Seeds System". For more details about this topic, please visit the new website:

Coconut planting material in the Pacific region

Samoan coconut varieties

Varieties and palms identified in 2017 in the framework of the Darwin project

List of coconut varieties recorded in Samoa in 2001

Collecting the *niu afa* coconut variety



81,397

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Exportation and importation of Coconut germplasm from and to Samoa
Early Samoa, Niu afa and **the naming of Niue Island**
Old lists of coconut varieties in Samoa by **Christophersen (1935)** and **Parham, 1972**
About the first world coconut varietal contest organized in Samoa (1984)
Words related to coconut in Samoan language

Coconut research in Samoa

Nuu Research Station, in Samoa
The small coconut collection of Nuu research Station

Coconut planting material

MAF coconut nurseries in Samoa as of 2017
Planting material released by MAF in Samoa in 2017
The Old **Olomanu seed garden and Genebank**
Ideas for replanting the Olomanu Seed garden

Towards a new international genebank

Site and design proposal for the **new Samoan Coconut genebank**
The **Westec plantation** and large previous replanting projects
Landscaping two small Islands of Samoa using the Polymotu concept
Proposal for coconut conservation and seed production in small islands of Samoa
Recommendation regarding Coconut Genebanks from the COGENT Global Strategy

Boosting the coconut value chain

Farmers and coconut associations in Samoa
Public lectures and communication
Development of new handicraft using the *niu afa* coconut

Other useful information

For replanting material and techniques, please visit our website:

Planting material for the Pacific region

Old documents and books to be further studied
Smallest Islands of Samoa
A trip to **Manono Island**

Namu'a or Amanu'a Island

Landscapes of **Upolu Island (South part)**
Landscape of Upolu Island (North part)
Coconut palms varieties in Apia (in preparation)
Landscape of Savai (2001)
A survey of **Apolima Island**

Copra making near Olomanu seed garden in 2001

How to **prepare leaflet samples for molecular analysis** of coconut varieties.



Collecting coconut varieties for conservation
when Olomanu was the Samoan national coconut genebank

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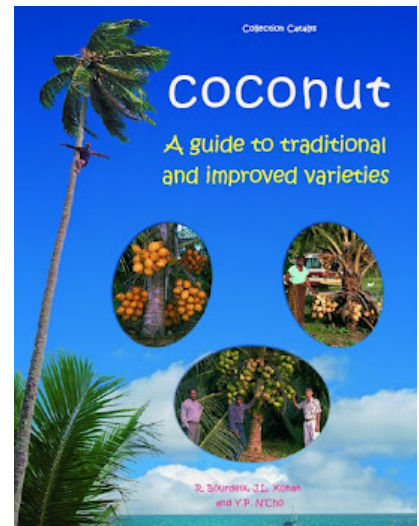
The strangest coconut...
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Polymotu
A proposal for integrating Polymotu into
the USP campus, Suva Fiji

Press release
A new coconut public lecture !

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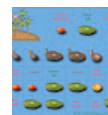
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Bourdeix, 2010 The following
list gives an update of coconut
cultivar names in Sa...



**Proposal for coconut
conservation in the small islands
of Samoa**
The Polymotu concept is to use
geographical and reproductive
isolation to conserve and
reproduce varieties of plants and trees. When a
smal...



**Collecting the Niu Afa variety in
gardens and farmer's fields**
The Niu Afa Coconut Variety is
rapidly disappearing. Most of the
existing Niu Afa coconut palms
are then in the Olomanu Seed
garden, inside ...



In Nuu Research Station, Samoa
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garden and in farmer's fields
were sent to the Nuu research
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Words related to coconut in Samoan language

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Early Samoa, Niu afa and the naming of Niue Island

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Landscaping two small Islands of Samoa using the Polymotu concept

The conservation of Samoa's niu afa coconut variety using the Polymotu concept was implemented in October 2012, with activities ongoing ...



Collecting the Niu Afa coconut in Olomanu seed garden

The March, 3th 2010 we started collecting the Niu afa seednuts in Olomanu Seed garden. Each of the 54 selected palms were climbed to get...



Copra making near Olomanu seed garden

When we made our first visit to Samoa, in 2000, a copra factory was located near the Olomanu Seed garden, just a few hundred meters before t...