

# BIODEGRADABLE PRODUCTS FROM AGRO-RESIDUES (ALTERNATIVE TO SINGLE USE PLASTICS)

CSIR-NIIST has developed several biodegradable products like plates, cups, bowls, cutleries, straws etc. from different types of agro-residues for replacing single-use plastics in food packaging applications.



















#### RAW MATERIALS (Agro residues & Bio mass)

- · Rice (Straw, Bran, Husk)
- · Wheat (Straw, Bran, Flake)
- Coconut (Coir, De oiled cake, Milk residue, coconut leaf)
- · Sugar cane (Bagasse)
- · Tea (Prunes & Waste)
- · Eucalyptus Prunes
- · Pineapple (Leaves, Peel)
- · Banana (Pseudo stem)
- · Sea food (Prawn shell, Crabshell)
- · Water hyacinth
- · Fruits and Vegetable peels
- · Palm leaf and plant fibers
- · Apple (Prunes, Peel)
- · Corn (Husk, Straw)



# PRODUCTS DEVELOPED

- · Plates (Various Sizes)
- · Small bowls (250 1000 ml)
- · Spoon, fork and knives
- · Take away containers (350 1000 ml)
- · Chopsticks
- · Tumbler glasses (75 250 ml)
- · Ice cream cups and Jam cups
- · Trays and boards
- · Straws
- · Packaging containers/boxes
- Egg trays



#### **PRODUCT FEATURES**

- · Completely biodegradable
- · Can be used for hot & cold food
- · Coated with plant oil based bio-resins
- · Hydrophobicity & moisture resistant
- · Single use item
- · Microwave friendly
- · Convertable to cattle/poultry/fish feed after use
- · Sufficient strength to hold food
- · Safe to use at any place or occasion
- · Shelf life up to one year



## SCIENTIFIC STUDIES CONDUCTED

- Biodegradable Test (ISO 14855-2:2018) and eco-toxicity analysis (ASTMD3987-12)
- · Shelf-life studies (yeast, mold, fungi) (ISO 16779:2015)
- · Toxicology studies (in-vitro and in-vivo)
- · Colour (ISO 16779:2015)
- Surface chemical composition, morphology, wetting properties (SEM, TEM, XPS,)
- · Water retention and heat retention test
- · Wetting studies (contact angle goniometry, water & oil)
- Mechanical properties of finished product (ISO 13061-5:2020)
- Fractography analysis
- · Leakage proof, bursting and tearing properties
- Sensory properties of food packed in the developed container at different conditions (ISO 16779:2015)

#### **TECHNICAL DETAILS**

REQUIREMENT	AUTOMATIC PROCESS	SEMI AUTOMATIC/MANUAL PROCESS
Electricity consumption	~50 to 70 kWh	~30 to 50 kWh
Investment requirement	~ 60 to 80 lakhs	~40 to 50 lakhs ~25 to 30 lakhs
Manpower	~2 to 3	~4 to 5
Production capacity per day	10000 plates	7000/2500 plates
Area required	1000-1500 Sq. feet for setting up of a 500kg processing plant	
Cost of a final product *	~Rs 1.5-2.0 for a 10 inch plate of weighing 20 to 30 grams	

<sup>\*</sup> Conditions applicable : dependents upon raw materials selected/type of process/type of product

#### **RECOGNIZATION/AWARDS**

- $\cdot$  'CSIR Award for S&T Innovations for Rural Development (CAIRD)' for the year 2020.
- · Recognized as Societially relevant Rural Technology by Unnath Bharath Abhiyan, Govt. of India

#### **ADVANTAGES OF NIIST KNOWHOW**

- · Less unit operations
- · Easy to set-up the production unit
- · Minimum production cost
- Enviornment friendly production with less/ zero effluents
- · Reusable as animal feed / compost manure

## SOCIETAL BENEFITS OF TECHNOLOGY

- · Replacement of single use plastic
- · Rural & Women empowerment
- Sustainable through remanufacturing, reuse & recycling
- · Waste utilization
- · Additional income for farmers
- · Boosting to the farmers for enhancing the production and cost of agri crops
- · Highly relevant to the "Atmanir bhar Bharat",
- "Make in India", "Innovate in India",
- "Swatch Bharat Mission"
- In line with the mission of "doubling the farmer's income by 2022

#### MARKET POTENTIAL

For serving & take away food items in

- · Railway Stations & in Trains
- · Air Ports & Airways
- · Food Courts at Shopping Malls, IT Parks, Amusement Parks, Mega/giga Factory Canteen etc.
- · Fast Food Restaurants, Hotels, Premium Resorts, Picnic Spots, Bakeries
- · Street Vendors
- · Canteens and Cafeterias of Offices, Educational Institutions, Companies, Factories, Hospitals
- · Tourist/Pilgrim Centres

# Contact Details Director/Head RPBD

CSIR -National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (NIIST)
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695019, India.
Email: director@niist.res.in / rpbd@niist.res.in
Phone:0471-2515226 / 2515293