Republic Act 11524 known as Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund (CFITF) Act

The **Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund (CFITF) Act**, which created the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan was signed on February 26, 2021. The program seeks to (1) Increase the productivity and income of coconut farmers' (2) Poverty alleviation, education, and social equity; and (3) Rehabilitation and modernization of the coconut industry toward farm productivity.

The CFITF shall be maintained for 50 years and used for the coconut farmers' benefit and the coconut industry's development.

CFIDP
Coconut Farmers & Industry Development Plan

Information were lifted from the Technology Guide produced by:
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CFIDP
Coconut Farmers & Industry Development Plan

COCONUT TECHNOLOGY GUIDE

FERTILIZATION GUIDE ON COCONUTS

Why fertilize Coconuts?

Philippine Coconut Authority surveys indicated that there are ten distinct classes of coconut nutritional deficiency in the Philippines. Coconut areas maybe deficient in N, P, K, Cl, S and Mg but most provinces in the country fall under N-Cl deficiency.

Proper application of fertilizers increases nut and copra yield by as much as 230%. A study in Davao City showed that with fertilizer application, a coconut farmer can realize a net income of about 180% compared to without fertilization.

What fertilizers to apply?

In the absence of soil & leaf analysis of an area/farm, the following fertilizer recommendation provides the coconut at its different growth stages and production with four most needed nutrients (N, K, Cl, S) in many coconut areas in the country.

Fertilizer rates for seedlings

Age (mos.)	Ammonium sufate (NH4SO2) + 21-0-0	Potassium chloride (KCl) or 0- 0-60	Common Salt (NaCl)
	(g/seedling)		
2	20	25	20
5	40	45	60

Fertilizer rates (per tree) for palms in coastal areas (w/in 2 km from coastline)

Palm	Ammonium sufate (NH4SO2) + 21-0-0	Potassium chloride (KCl) or 0- 0-60	Common Salt (NaCl)
year	gram/palm		
FP	150	100	80
6 mos.	200	150	120
1	500	500	400
2	750	750	600
3	1000	1000	800
4	1250	1250	1000
5 or more	1500	1500	1200
In K-deficient soil, use KCl and not NaCl			

Fertilizer rates (per tree) for palms in coastal areas (w/in 2 km from coastline)

Palm	Ammonium sufate (NH4SO2) + 21-0-0	Potassium chloride (KCl) or 0- 0-60	Common Salt (NaCl)
year	gram/palm		
FP	150	200	160
6 mos.	200	250	200
1	500	600	480
2	750	900	720
3	1000	1500	1250
4	1250	1700	1350
5 or more	1500	2000	1700
In K-deficient soil, use KCl and not NaCl			

Organic Fertilizers

Green manure like ipil-ipil and farm organic wastes such as manures of cattle, carabao, pig, goat, chicken, compost and night soil can be used to replace part of the commercial fertilizer requirements. Coconut crown residues as organic fertilizer and nitrogen fixing legumes (Flemingia and Desmodium rensonii) can substitute for AS as N-sources while cocopeat and husk for chlorine.

How to apply?

Fertilizer maybe applied in two ways:

1. In flat areas, it could be broadcasted in the ring weeded area (about 1.0 to 1.5 m radius) around the base of the palm followed by fork-in to incorporate the fertilizer into the soil

ring weeding

broadcasting

fork-in

2. In hilly areas, hole placement is recommended. Fertilizers are placed in 8-10 equidistant holes, 5 cm deep around the base of the palms and covered with soil.

ring weeding

holing

fertilizer placement

covering with soil

When to apply?

For areas with distinct wet and dry seasons, those with irregular rainfall distribution and with sandy soils, fertilizers are best applied every 6 months in split application at the start of rainy season and six months before the end of the rainy season.

For areas with uniform rainfall distribution (1.5-3 dry months), fertilizers are applied in split during the 1st year and once annually thereafter.