

Cocoa Production

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About Cocoa

- It is an important plantation crop grown for chocolates around the world.
- It is known as a crop of humid tropics and is native to Amazon basin of South America.
- It is mainly grown in an area of land around the equator between 20 degrees latitude north and south.
- Required climatic conditions
 - It can be grown up to 300 m above mean sea level.
 - Rainfall: It requires an annual rainfall of 1500-2000 mm.
 - Temperature: The temperature range of 15°-39°C with optimum of 25°C is considered ideal.
 - Soil: It requires deep and well drained soils. Majority of area under Cocoa cultivation is on clay loam and sandy loam soil.
 - It grows well in the pH range of 6.5 to 7.0.
- Shade requirement

- Cocoa was evolved as an under-storey crop in the Amazonian forests. Thus commercial cultivation of cocoa can be taken up in plantations where 50 per cent of light is ideally available.
 - Major producing regions in the world: About 70 percent of the world's cocoa beans come from four West African countries: Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria and Cameroon.
 - In India, it is mainly cultivated in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu mainly as intercrop with Arecanut and Coconut.
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Q1) What is Humidity?

It is the amount of water vapor in the air. If there is a lot of water vapor in the air, the humidity will be high. The higher the humidity, the wetter it feels outside.

Source: [Cocoa beans are in short supply: What this means for farmers, businesses and chocolate lovers](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/cocoa-production/>

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