

**A PROFILE ON COCONUTS**

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Going back in time, no one is quite sure exactly where the coconuts originate from, since they were able to disperse and evolve naturally without human interaction, it is a mystery of where exactly they started. People argue whether it came from the Americans or whether it came from Asia but in his book, de Candolle, “could find only two reasons in favour of an American origin but ten in favour of Asia” (Harries). Although people delve into these theories, there are some people who believe that the dry climates of South America is the only place this plant would have been able to maintain its existence (Harries).

Coconuts do not need human interferences to be able to spread throughout the world, although they might not be able to travel long distances, “coconuts seeds nuts can still germinate after floating in sea water for up to 110 days” (Harries). This ability to survive in the water would help them travel short distances from tropical islands. Since the coconuts in different regions vary so dramatically, scientists feel as though they can survive in remote locations but they would be considered inferior to the coconuts already there and probably get replaced in favor of planting a different breed.

The different coconuts all over the world show that although our countries could not be more different from one another, we can still find things in common, like the climate it takes for coconuts to thrive. The dispersal of coconuts did not really come from trade because, “trade in copra to Europe and North America did not begin until after 1840” (Harries). By this time, people were already debating the origins of this plant. Although the origins is a mystery, there is a lot of differences in the coconuts of the islands in India, “which is regarded as the as one of the likely centre’s for coconut domestication” (Rajesh). This shows that it could be beneficial to go into studies about the different types of coconuts found in this region.

## Bibliography

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