



# Coconut (*Cocos nucifera*)

## 1. Name of Plant

**Scientific Name:** *Cocos nucifera* L.

**Common Name:** Coconut Palm

**Hindi Name:** नारियल

**Family:** Arecaceae (Palmae)

## 2. Taxonomy Details

- **Kingdom:** Plantae
- **Division:** Angiosperms
- **Class:** Monocotyledonae
- **Order:** Arecales
- **Family:** Arecaceae
- **Genus:** *Cocos*
- **Species:** *Cocos nucifera*

## 3. Habit & Habitat

**Habit:**

- Tall, unbranched palm tree
- Height: 20–30 m

- Long pinnate leaves with a slender trunk

### **Habitat:**

- Native to tropical coastal regions
- Commonly found along seashores, islands, and riverbanks
- Cultivated widely in tropical and subtropical regions of India and the world
- Prefers sandy, well-drained soils and warm climate

## **4. Ecological Importance**

- Prevents coastal soil erosion and stabilizes sandy soils
- Provides habitat and nesting sites for birds and insects
- Plays an important role in coastal ecosystems and island biodiversity
- Contributes to carbon sequestration and climate regulation
- Source of food for wildlife in tropical regions

## **5. Economical Uses**

### **🍌 Food Uses**

- Coconut water and coconut meat are nutritious food sources
- Used in cooking, sweets, and beverages
- Copra used for extraction of coconut oil

### **🏭 Industrial Uses**

- Coconut oil used in soaps, cosmetics, shampoos, and pharmaceuticals
- Coir fiber from husk used in ropes, mats, brushes, and mattresses
- Shell used for handicrafts, charcoal, and utensils

### **🌿 Medicinal Uses**

- Coconut oil used for skin care, hair growth, and antimicrobial purposes
- Coconut water used as rehydration drink

### **🌲 Timber & Fuel**

- Wood used for construction, furniture, and fuelwood