

## Philippines Lono Tall (PLNT)

Ratnambal MJ, Kumaran PM, Bashkara Rao EVV, Pillai RV

### Conservation

Philippines Lono Tall (PLNT) is conserved at the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute in Kasaragod (Kerala) and at the research station in Aliyarnagar (Tamil Nadu), India.

### History

This variety was introduced to India in 1960. Philippines Lono Tall is also known as Luno. This is not as popular as the Philippines Ordinary Tall in India. First planting of this variety was done at Kasaragod in 1961. *Inter se* population was planted in 1991. A sub-population of PLNT is maintained in Aliyarnagar.

### Identification

The palm grows to 6-6.5 m, with 33 leaves on the crown. The stem girth measures 91 cm at 1 m from the ground level, with 28 leaf scars measured from 1 to 2 m above ground level. Leaves are long with 225 leaflets, each about 125 cm long and 6 cm wide. It flowers 10-11 years after planting. The inflorescence is 109 cm long and 61 cm wide. The palms are of the indirect-self-pollinating type. The fruits, which are yellowish green and oval, are characterized by three distinct ridges, which are prominent at the base. Husked nuts are flattened at the bottom with slight round protuberance at the posterior end. The fruit is big-sized, weighing 1509g. The husked nut weighs 795g. The kernel is thick with a thin shell. The fruits of PLNT are bigger than those of the Philippines Ordinary Tall and the Laguna Tall, but are smaller than that of the San Ramon Tall.

### Yield and production

Bearing starts 12 years after planting. The palm yields 55 fruits per year. Copra content per nut is 243g with 64.5% oil. The palms give 2.3 t of copra and 1.5 t of oil per ha.

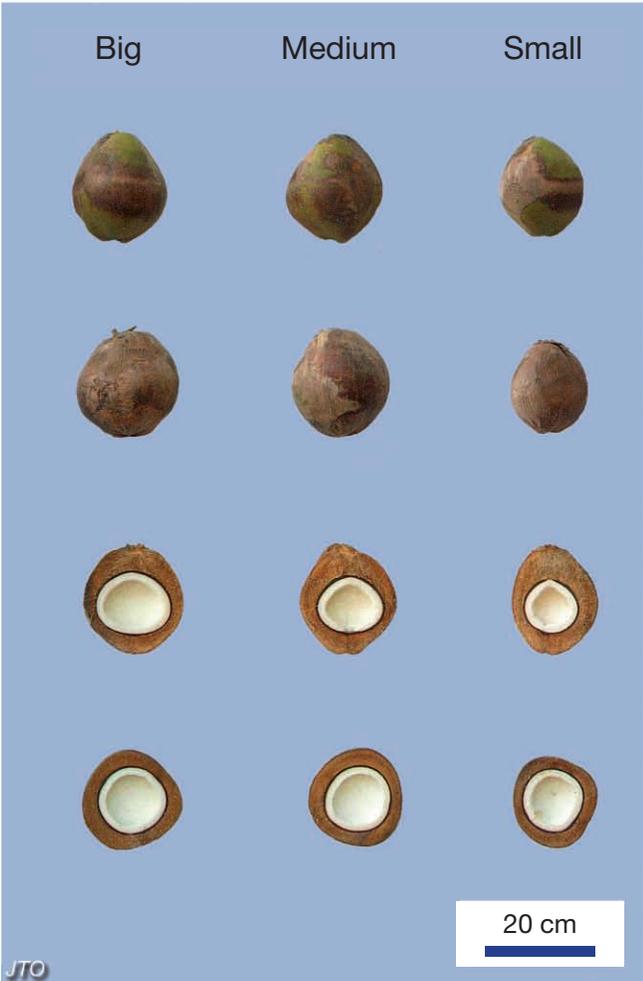
### Other information

This variety is not being used in any of the breeding programmes in India.

### Reference

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# Philippines Lono Tall (PLNT)



## Philippines Ordinary Tall (PHOT)

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### Conservation

Philippines Ordinary Tall (PHOT) is conserved at the Kidu Seed farm (Karnataka) and at the research stations of Arsikere (Karnataka), Ambajipetta (Andhra Pradesh), Veppankulam (Tamil Nadu) and Ratnagiri (Maharashtra), India.

### History

Philippines Ordinary Tall was introduced to India from the Philippines. It was first planted in 1945 and the second generation in 1961. In 1997, large-scale planting was done at the Kidu Seed Farm. Sub-populations are being maintained in the research stations of Arsikere, Ambajipetta, Veppankulam, and Ratnagiri.

### Identification

The palm grows to 10-11 m. The stem is somewhat stout with 85 cm stem girth at 1 m from ground level. It has a distinct bole. There are 30 leaf scars measured from 1 to 2 m above ground level and 39 leaves on the crown. The palm flowers 6-7 years after planting and produces about 12 inflorescences per year. There is inter-spadix overlapping of 4.2 days in 62% of the inflorescences. The fruits are medium-sized, round, and green/greenish yellow in colour. The nut inside the fruit is almost round with a thick kernel.

### Yield and production

Fruiting starts 8-9 years after planting, giving 110 nuts per palm in Kasaragod; 93 in Arsikere; 104 in Ratnagiri and 56 in Veppankulam. The fruit is heavy, weighing about 1031g with 36% husk. The copra yield per nut is 198g in Kasaragod; 190g in Arsikere; 214g in Ratnagiri and 169g in Veppankulam.

### Other information

Philippines Ordinary Tall is tolerant to drought; relatively tolerant to root (wilt) disease of Kerala; moderately tolerant to the burrowing nematode. It was released by CPCRI in 1995 for commercial cultivation in the west coast of India, including the Konkan region, coastal Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal due to its high nut and copra yield and tolerance to drought and nematode infection. PHOT has been crossed with other Tall varieties like WCT, LCT, JVT and ADOT for the production of Tall x Tall hybrids. Because of its relative tolerance to drought, this variety is being used for the production of Tall x Dwarf and Dwarf x Tall hybrids. The Dwarf cultivars used for this purpose are COD, CGD, MYD and GBGD.

### References

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Philippines Ordinary Tall (PHOT)



# Pilipog Green Dwarf (PILD) in Côte d'Ivoire

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## Conservation

Pilipog Green Dwarf (PILD) is represented by six accessions with 301 living palms in 3 countries. Starting from the Philippines, it was sent in the 1980s to Côte d'Ivoire and Vanuatu. In the Fiji islands, a green Dwarf displaying precisely this type of fruits is found in the village of Somo-Somo, not far from the international dateline. This Dwarf was apparently introduced into Fiji from Malaysia at the beginning of the 20th century.

## History

The Pilipog Green Dwarf is undoubtedly one of the most surprising coconut varieties. Its young fruits are a fairly common yellowish green colour, but an unexpected pink colour is found when they are opened. The internal fibre tissues near the place where the fruit was attached display the most intense colouring. The colouring is unstable; it oxidizes and rapidly turns orange brown as soon as the young fruit is opened. It also disappears naturally as the husk dries out, even before the fruit is completely ripe. The pink colouring is also found in the tips of large roots. This is very useful for identifying PILD in the nursery, well before they start bearing fruits.

## Identification

The intense internal pink colouring of young fruits distinguishes the Pilipog from the other Green Dwarfs. However, it is possible to a trained eye to recognize a PILD even without opening the fruits or examining the roots. The young fruits have a milky, yellowish-green colour. They are round, and seem somehow to be under pressure, swollen like balloons. The small, pointed nipple is also a very particular character. When the inflorescence opens, it is greenish-yellow in colour and female flowers display traces of the pink colour at their base. The inflorescence gradually turns a deeper green. The pink colouring is genetically recessive. The fruits are rather oblong in shape, green to yellow in colour, and their composition is good given their thin husk. They vary in weight depending on growing conditions: 542g in Côte d'Ivoire, 711 to 782g in the Philippines and up to 1305g in Vanuatu (under rich, abundantly watered volcanic soils). The nut, which is almost spherical, weighs 337-918g depending on the production site. The stem of the PILD is quite slender, with a diameter less than 20 cm in Côte d'Ivoire. On its tenth year, its height, measured from the ground to the base of the first living frond, does not exceed 113 cm on average.

## Yield and production

Under normal growing conditions, harvesting of this Dwarf begins three years after planting. It produces 70 fruits (in Côte d'Ivoire) to 95 fruits (in the Philippines) per palm per year.

## Other information

Little use has been made of the PILD in research. In Côte d'Ivoire, it was crossed with eight Dwarfs in 1993. These first generation hybrid progenies did not display the pink colouring of internal tissues. However, in the second generation, it has been possible to select plants whose fruits are outwardly a nice yellow colour, but with internal pink colouring. In addition to its aesthetic value, this colour will help in effectively identifying desired seedlings during mass hybrid production.

## Reference

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Pilipog Green Dwarf (PILD)

