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Scientific Tracks & Abstracts

Day 2

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The demystifying cocoa sector in Thailand: Bean to bar chocolate as a functional food

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Cocoa is the raw ingredient of the world's most preferable products. A mass number of consumers preferably purchases top chocolate brands from either Europe or America. In contrast, a limited number of consumers perceive domestically produced chocolate in Thailand. According to the literature, dark chocolate is polyphenol-rich food derived from the seeds of *Theobroma cacao* L. The benefit of chocolate is increasingly studied because of the high volume of antioxidant properties *in vitro* of some polyphenolic constituents. The objectives of the research are to analyze bean-to-bar chocolate in Thailand in conjunction with Thai consumer perception towards Thai chocolate as a functional food and to consequently provide nutritional benefits of Thai chocolate. Based upon qualitative and quantitative research, the rich of antioxidant flavonoid in cocoa is considered as a highly beneficial antioxidant for human health when consumed in moderation. The research is designed by producing and evaluating chocolate made from raw cocoa beans from Chiang Mai and Nakornsrithammarat, Thailand in GMP laboratory and CAPPIC laboratory of National Pingtung University of Science and Technology throughout the chemical analysis method and the texture and color analysis method. Besides, the researcher evaluates the perceptions of 10 Thai bean-to-bar chocolate makers and 400 Thai consumers throughout the Hedonic sensory evaluation and the questionnaires analyzing by the ATLAS. ti. The results of the research, therefore, elaborate nutritional benefits of Thai chocolate to Thai consumers increasingly perceive as a functional food. And significantly, the researcher promotes Thai bean-to-bar chocolate as an alternative chocolate product among the world's top chocolate brands.

Biography

Chaiwat Piankarn has studied in the PhD program of the Department of Tropical Agriculture and International Cooperation at National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (NPUST) in Taiwan. Significantly, he is researching Thai chocolate in the chocolate laboratory at NPUST which it is covered the value chain from upstream, midstream and downstream of chocolate production. Besides, he is a lecturer of the faculty of Food Business Management at Panyapiwat Institute of Management under the top food industry in Thailand; CP All Public Company Limited. And he has been working and consulting the international food business for more than 3 years.

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Best practices of gender informational empowerment through ICT-led development initiatives: Comparative analysis India and Egypt

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Information and communication technologies (ICTs) increasingly promoted as a key solution for comprehensive development, poverty eradication and empowerment of disadvantaged groups, such as women and minorities in the world. ICT-based initiatives have been hailed as "potential goldmines" for women's empowerment. However, research and experience show that to be successful, the initiatives must balance the need to overcome structural barriers to women's advancement with sensitivity to the limited space within which many women in the world navigate. In this paper, we comparatively analyzed the ICT-based initiatives in terms of gender empowerment, drawing upon two empowerment initiatives from two developing countries (India and Egypt) as case studies to compare the gender empowerment status through such ICT-based initiatives in both the two countries. Some of the findings have been found such as (1) there are certain practices has been followed to benefit the women as well as men in the studied initiatives in the various topics of the modern life (i.e. Agriculture, Health, Education, Social welfare and e-Governance), (2) the women are equally empowered to access such applied practices, (3) the ICT- based support is an effective factor against the gender divide traditional world and (4) women societal involvement has to be targeted while forming a smart empowerment strategy (5) the ICT- based training is one of the most required activity towards gender empowerment. We anticipate that the insights outcomes from this study will be useful for the purposes of effective program development and gender empowerment strategy designers of both the two countries.

Biography

MA Orabi worked as teaching assistant at faculty of agriculture, Sohag University, Egypt since 2007, got my MSc Degree from Assuit University, Egypt, then awarded the Indian Council for Cultural Relations competitive scholarship as a PhD scholar at The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi 110012 till the date and working as researcher assistant for many research projects.

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Effects of experimental lead toxicity on hematology and biochemical parameters in Lohi sheep

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The present study was conducted to investigate the hazardous effects of lead on blood, liver and kidney of Lohi sheep. The adult Lohi sheep (n=48) were divided into treatment and control groups. The treatment group was administered lead acetate at a dose of 70 mg/kg live body weight daily for a period of 90 days orally. Six sheep from both groups were randomly selected and necropsied at day 0, 30, 60 and 90. The serum and tissue samples were collected and analyzed for Pb concentration by atomic absorption spectrophotometry. The lead has significantly decreased the values of RBC, Hb and PCV; whereas ALT, AST, ALP, urea and creatinine levels were found higher in the treatment group. It is concluded that the tissue damage in Lohi sheep was dependent on the accumulation of Pb residues in liver and kidney. This indicates that the lead intoxication could be harmful to sheep and ultimately poses threat to public health. This is a first long-term experimental study which correlates the effects of chronic Pb toxicity on blood and edible tissues of Lohi sheep.

Biography

Muhammad Younus professor and principal of College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Narowal, Pakistan; Post Doctorate from University of Minnesota, USA and Doctorate in Pathology and Public Health from University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore-Pakistan; Won at least six academic merit scholarships, Star Award 2009 by South Asians Publications, Excellence Award 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 by PVMC and PVMA, Research Productivity Award 2013, 2014 and 2015 by PCST, Govt. of Pakistan, Best University Teacher Award 2014 by HEC, Islamabad. Distinguished leadership award international, 2016 by University of Minnesota, USA.

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