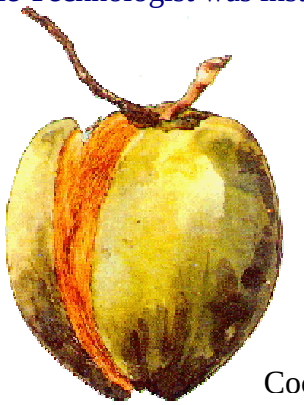
TESTING AND SERVICE FESILITIES

YEAR	ACTIVITIES	ACHIEVEMENTS
1955-56	The Technologist was instructed to concentrate on the following subjects.  Coconut  Coir Fibre Devising a suitable method for determination of the proportion by weight of “long”, “medium” and “short” fibres in a sample of Coir Fibre. Softened coir fibre by chemical means. Comparative study of the tensile strength of coir fibre, sisal fibre and aloe fibre and of the yarn made out of it.	
1956-57	Formulated standard specifications for four different grades of coir fibre based on the colour of the Fibre and degree of impurities present. 25 replicas of these standards were prepared. Board’s Coir Technologist continued to work till the end of Sept. 1957 in the Technological Laboratory of the Indian Central Cotton Committee at Bombay. Coir Technologist was deputed to the Department of Chemical Technology of the Bombay University from October 1957.	

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1957-58	The Coir Technologist reported as follows: - 1) A literature survey of Coir and reports from different scientific journals have been co-ordinated. 2) A test method for the determination of the tensile strength of coir fibre has been standardised and the tensile strength of the four grades measured. 3) Preliminary work in connection with the standardisation of a test method for the determination of torsional rigidity of coir fibre has been carried out. Efforts are being made to devise a suitable method to reduce the time involved in testing. 4) To study the morphology of the fibre, photographs of the cross sections of the fibre were taken. 5) A comparative study of the tensile strength of coir, manila, hemp, aloe, sisal and sesbania fibre has been made. 6) A method for the determination of the tensile strength of coir yarn is being standardised. 7) Experiments have been carried out to determine the weaving qualities of coir, aloe and sisal. 8) The variation in the linear density of coir yarn (Weight per unit length) of different grades has been studied. Further a method for the determination of the lignin content of coir has been standardized and preliminary work in connection with the softening and bleaching of coir fibre has been carried out. Standardisation of coir yarn is in progress.  Coir Yarn	1.Standardised a method for determination of tensile strength of coir fibres. 2.A comparitive study on the tensile strength of coir fibre, sisal, aloe etc. was conducted.

YEAR	ACTIVITIES	ACHIEVEMENTS
	A systematic investigation into the application of various classes of dyes to coir has been initiated. Board's Coir Technologist continued to work in the Department of Chemical Technology, University of Bombay. The Coir Technologist's report mentions:- Preliminary study in the dyeing of raw and chemically treated fibre has been initiated. A second test method for the estimation of lignin in coir waste, coconut pith and coir fibre has been standardised. A scheme has been drawn up to study the feasibility of the utilisation of coir waste and coconut pith as fillers in the preparation of moulding compositions and hardboard. The preliminary investigations have shown very encouraging results. Analysis of coir waste, coconut pith and one quality of coir fibre (FFFF) for their composition has been continued.	Standardised a test method for estimation of lignin in coir waste and coconut pith.
1959-60	Applications of azo dyes on coir showed that the range of shades was somewhat limited and that red and scarlet of brilliant tones could not be produced. All combinations possess fastness to soaping, though the tone of dyeing appeared dull. Prior bleaching with sodium chlorite improved the depth of tone to some extent. Investigations were carried out on the determination of the light fastness of the dyeings on coir with different classes of dyes under two different sets of conditions. Draft standards for Coir rope was prepared by the Ropes & Cordage Sectional Committee of the ISI.	1.Applied azo dyes on coir. 2.Prepared draft standards for coir ropes