

36596



Rice mill can be used for quinoa polishing

Page 2



The Ministry's Week

Page 6

SOYALLA: An Organic Soya Milk Manufacturer

Tashi Yangzo, PPD



SOYALLA is a manufacturer of organic soya milk, located at Gangtey, Wangdue. It is a start-up manufacturing firm. Ms. Sonam Yuden from Gangtey, Wangdue is the owner of the company. She holds B.A in economics and population from Sherubtse College. Previously she worked in a travel agent and when the pandemic hit, she lost her job as it

was solely dependent on tourism sector.

Therefore she started her enterprise as a home based Soya milk processing unit in the year 2021 and later founded as SOYALLA. In total she invested around Nu 450,000 of which Nu 350,000 equipment fund was supported by YERE project under Ministry of Agriculture and Forests.

SOYALLA hopes to initially make a successful effort to secure start-up financing to begin operations. Currently, it is looking forward to conduct operations at its location only to meet the growing demand for soya milk as an alternative choice for the milk. Today, SOYALLA employs three staffs including Ms. Sonam herself.

Cont...on Pg 2

Cont...on from Pg 1



She shared her plans to upscale SOYALLA in future but expressed her concerns for raw material availability. She also shared her plans to start buyback scheme to encourage farmers to grow more soya beans.

At present, SOYALLA makes a net profit of Nu. 37,100 annually and invests around Nu. 35000 annually on raw materials. SOYALLA's products include original soya milk, high calcium soya milk and flavored soya milk.

Sonam expects these products to be very popular among vegans considering their great health benefits. She said with the manufacturer of organic soya milk established within the country, we don't have to spend huge amount on its imports.

She shared "we also expect to be profitable as never before. In all, this plan is a healthy company with good growth prospects, looking to manage its orderly growth in the

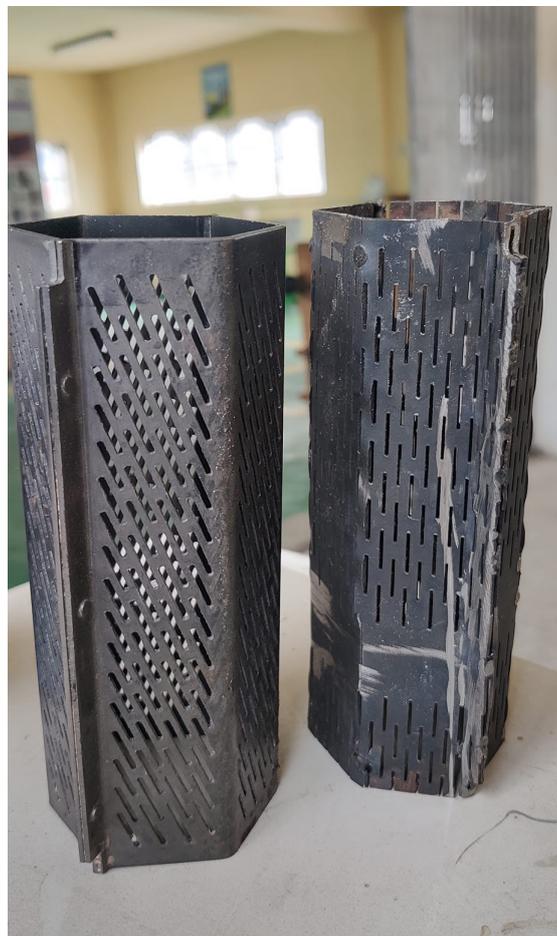
near future."

She added "I want to diversify our products and soon start making tofu and I am looking forward to give more employment opportunities to the needy people."



Rice mill can be used for quinoa polishing

AMC, Paro



Quinoa is identified as a priority cereal by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests. The need for polishing machines is felt necessary for quinoa. Therefore on the concept of small solution to small problems for bigger benefits, the research team studied different quinoa machines and concluded that the present rice mills can be used for the above purpose with change of sieve size from 1 mm for rice to 0.6 mm for quinoa.

The test as a standard procedure shall be conducted within this week and private firms selling rice mills will be advised to sell the sieve with 0.6 mm size too. This will greatly reduce the need to buy a separate machine for quinoa.





AMC is conducting an experiment to determine the soil type for paddy transplanter

AMC, Paro



There are 3 methods of paddy transplantation in the country. The manual method, machine transplantation and direct seeding method using drum seeder. The latter two are introduced by Agriculture Machinery Center. The drum seeding is picking up in southern Dzongkhags with steady expansion.

Unfortunately for machine transplanter, it has not expanded much even within Paro. We all believed only red soil is needed for its adhesive and non-weed properties. This deterred the expansion.

Accidentally we realized it's not as we perceived. Accordingly the research team is conducting an experiment for nursery raising with control as red soil, field soil (sterilized and not sterilized) without any mix and with mix like dung and paddy husk. We hope it will change in the field. We interviewed a transplanter user. He informed that he heard field soil will not work but he never tried. He has been collecting only red soil and it has become tedious and difficult for him.



Leisure

Compost

Composting is the decomposition or breakdown of organic waste materials by a mixed population of micro-organisms (microbes) in warm, moist and aerated environment.

The wastes are gathered together into a heap so that the heat that is evolved in the process can be saved.

As a result the temperature of the heap rises, thereby speeding up the basic degradation process of nature that normally occurs slowly in organic wastes, which fall on the surface of the ground.

The final product of the process is compost or humus that is of value in agriculture for improving the structure and moisture retention properties of the soil and for supplying plant nutrients as compost finally breaks down to mineral matter.

JOKES



A city guy was driving down a country road when his car broke down next to a field filled with cows.

He got out and although he knew nothing about cars, started poking around under the hood.

One of the cows walked over to the fence, leaned over, looked at the engine and said, "I think the problem's your carburettor."

The guy nearly jumped out of his skin, and ran off to the nearest farmhouse. When he got there he banged furiously on the door.

The farmer opened the door, and the guy shouted "A cow just told me how to fix my car!" as he pointed towards the field.

The farmer looked over to the field and asked, "Was it a big brown cow?"

"Yes! Yes!" said the guy.

The farmer asked, "Did she have a big white spot next to her ear?"

The guy yelled, "Yes! Yes! That's the one!"

The farmer sighed in exasperation. "That darn fool Pem," he said. "Don't listen to her. She don't know nuthin" about cars."

Did you know?

Green manuring is the practice of growing lush plants on the site into which you want to incorporate organic matter, then turning into the soil while it is still fresh. The plant material used in this way is called a green manure.

Please submit your articles for RNR-Newsletter at

communication@moaf.gov.bt

