

Read the following text:

Chocolate Could Run Out In 30 Years

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Chocolate could run out by 2050 because the crop used to make it will be harder to grow in our warming climate.

The cacao plant – from which we get cocoa beans – only grows in a narrow strip of rain-forest land that spans 20 degrees north and south of the equator. This is the only place where temperature, rain and humidity all stay relatively constant throughout the year – essential for the cacao plant to grow. Recent climate change patterns suggest that by 2050, the rise in temperature and reduction in humidity will not be suitable for the cocoa plant. Because of this prediction, the cocoa plant is considered as “under threat of extinction”.

Cocoa is the main ingredient in chocolate! 70% of the world’s cocoa comes from Ghana in West Africa. Ghana is the second-largest cocoa-producing country in the world. Unfortunately, droughts, rising temperatures and unpredictable rainfall are making it harder to grow cocoa there.

One thing being done to combat this problem is ‘agroforestry’. Instead of farming just one crop, there is a mix of different crops and trees grown in the same area. The trees planted around the cocoa plant provide shade which helps protect it from heat and rising global temperatures. The other crops that grow between the rows of cocoa plants help prevent pests from attacking the cocoa plants.

It's believed that people in South America began consuming cacao beans about 5000 years ago but chocolate only came to the UK 400 years ago and it was enjoyed as a drink primarily. Chocolate arrived in Florida on a Spanish ship in 1641, and the first American chocolate store opened in Boston in 1682. By 1773, cocoa beans were a major American import and chocolate was enjoyed by people of all classes. During the Revolutionary War, chocolate was provided to the military as rations and sometimes given to soldiers as payment instead of money. Today, the global chocolate industry is worth 127.9 billion dollars; yet over 80% of cacao farmers make less than one dollar a day.

Reading Comprehension

Answer the following questions about the text:

1. Why would it be harder to grow cacao in the future?
 - a. Because the plant's beans are becoming more expensive.
 - b. Because of climate changes.
 - c. Because cacao only grows in a narrow strip of rain-forest land.

2. What will happen to the temperature by 2050?
 - a. It will be hotter.
 - b. It will be colder.
 - c. It will stay constant.

3. Ghana is the _____ of 70% of the world's cacao.
 - a. target
 - b. source
 - c. consumer

4. Why is it difficult to grow cacao in Ghana?
 - a. Because of the production process.

- b. Because of its location.
- c. Because of the droughts.

5. What is agroforestry?

- a. Growing several types of plants together.
- b. Mixing different types of crops.
- c. Providing shade to the cocoa plants.

6. How did Europeans consume chocolate at the beginning?

- a. As a powder.
- b. As a liquid.
- c. As a bar.

Vocabulary

Choose the right definition for each phrase:

1. to run out of something

- a. To go out very fast in order to get something.
- b. To finish something so there is none left.

2. military

- a. police
- b. army

3. humidity

- a. moisture in the air
- b. heavy rains

4. forest

- a. The area around a seashore.

b. A large area covered with many trees.

5. extinction

a. A situation in which something no longer exists.

b. A war or a fight between several nations.

6. to consume

a. To eat or drink.

b. To buy or sell.

Grammar

1. Write the following numbers in words:

20, 2050, 70, 1773, 127.9, 80

2. Rewrite the following sentences as questions using the question words in brackets:

a. Chocolate could run out by 2050. (**what**)

b. The cacao plant grows in a narrow strip of rain-forest land. (**where**)

c. The cacao plant needs rain and humidity in order to grow. (**what**)

d. The cacao plant is under a threat of extinction because of the reduction in humidity. (**why**)

e. Ghana is in West Africa. (**where**)

f. Droughts, rising temperatures and unpredictable rainfall are making it harder to grow cocoa in Ghana. (**why**)

g. Different kinds of crops are grown in the same area. (**where**)

h. People in South America began consuming cacao beans about 5000 years ago. (**when**)

i. Chocolate only came to the UK 400 years ago. (**when**)

j. Chocolate was enjoyed by people of all classes. (**who**)