

UDC 338.439.4

COCOA PRODUCTION IN GHANA

© Addai R., Efimova E.A.

Samara National Research University, Samara, Russian Federation

e-mail: kemporas@live.com

Ghana is the hometown of cocoa. One of every six chocolates in the world is said to come from Ghana. In western Africa, the Republic of Ghana is abundant in gold and until independence, was called the Gold Coast, However After independence and the discovery of Cocoa, it is now the main crop produced in the country even though it is not native but because it is well suited to the environment and the soil. In the whole of Africa, Ghana is the first country to grow or produce cocoa and the second largest exporter in the world. There are about 195 countries that produce cocoa in the world today and in table 1 is the top most 5 [4].

Table 1. Cocoa producing countries in the world (2021)

COUNTRY	COCOA PRODUCTION (METRIC TONS)
Ivory Coast	2,034,000
Ghana	883,652
Indonesia	659,776
Nigeria	328,263
Cameroon	295,028

Tetteh Quashie is well-known person behind Cocoa mainly in Ghana. He was the first to Plant Cocoa trees and develop agricultural production. In 1879 he brought the first cocoa from the island Fernando po (now Bioko) in Equatorial Guinea where there was already large plantations of “slave grown cocoa” to Ghana. At Tetteh Quarshie’s farm, you can visit the first cocoa plantation in Ghana and learn about the history behind Cocoa production in Ghana and also Tafo cocoa Institute not forgetting to learn something about chocolate too [1].

In the 20th Century, Ghana became the primary cocoa exporter and the world’s second largest exporter. Cocoa was very important to the people of Ghana because it really had good effects on the lives of the people. This led the government to take sole control of the cocoa in the country when it comes to marketing and export [2].

Cocoa as the main crop, the agricultural Sector in Ghana is composed 4 subsectors which are crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry and logging. Agriculture is very important to the overall growth of the economy and it contributes to around 19.7 % of Ghana’s current Gross Domestic Product (GDP). There are over 30 crops produced and cocoa has the GDP of 10 % which is higher than all the other crops [6].

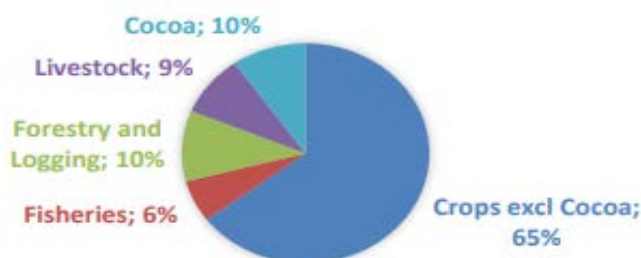


Fig. Agricultural GDP by sub-sectors, %

Figure shows the GDP of cocoa compared to other Agricultural commodities.

Cocoa production takes place in forested regions of the country. In these areas, Rainfall is 1,500–2,000 millimeters per year [3]. The areas form mainly the southern part of the country which includes the regions, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Central, Eastern, Western and Volta. Cocoa is a common export crop and its production ranks among the best in the world. In 2019 the export structure from Ghana shows Cocoa ranked 3rd as compared to other native and natural and nonnatural commodities. This means the country Generates a lot of revenue from Cocoa Export.

Cocoa is very important in Ghana even more than gold and because of that, special holidays have been created to recognize the cocoa production called Chocolate day or Cocoa day. Since Cocoa economic status is very vital, its can also be clearly seen in the national emblem a cocoa tree. Table 2. Shows the export structure of 2019 commodity Exports [5].

Table 2. Export structure from Ghana (2019)

Resources	Amount (\$US)	Share of export
Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; imitation jewelry; coin	6.19 billion	36 %
Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products of their distillation; bituminous substances; mineral waxes	5.31 billion	31 %
Cocoa	2.71 billion	16.1 %

Even though there have been problems associated with the production of cocoa such as climate change and deforestation, swollen shoot virus, child labor and sustainable livelihoods for farmers, the government and other scientific communities are developing plans to eradicate these problems

References

1. Statista.com (Tetteh Quarshie (1842–1892 Father of Ghana’s cocoa industry). URL: <https://whgbetc.com/ghana-chocolate.html> (accessed 14 February, 2019).
2. World Bank organization (Cocoa in Ghana: shaping the success of an Economy). URL: http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/304221468001788072/930107812_201408252033945/additional/634310PUB0Yes0061512B09780821387450.pdf (accessed 14 February, 2019).
3. The conversation (Cocoa production in Ghana). URL: <https://theconversation.com/ghanas-cocoa-production-relies-on-the-environment-which-needs-better-protection-134557> (accessed 14 February, 2019).
4. Cocoa producing Countries 2021. URL: <https://worldpopula-tionreview.com/country-rankings/cocoa-producing-countries> (accessed 14 February, 2019).
5. Exports structure from Ghana in 2019. URL: <https://trendeconomy.com/data/h2/Ghana/TOTAL> (accessed 14 February, 2019).
6. Ministry of Economy and Industry Ghana. Agriculture Sector review Ghana. URL: <https://trendeconomy.com/data/h2/Ghana/TOTAL> (accessed 14 February, 2019).