

2 minutes application break

Cocoa

Facts

Origin South America
Dates back Ancient Mesoamerican cultures
Ingredients Cacao seeds

A key ingredient in chocolate and other food and beverage products.

MixSing Process



Design

Shear	CFD simulations confirms $>200,000 \text{ s}^{-1}$
Design	According to European legislation and CE marked
Hygiene	Complying with EHEDG guidelines
Viscosity	Up to 75,000 cP
Accessories	Vacuum system, scrape agitator
Materials	Stainless steel: AISI 316L. All materials: EC 1935

Insight

Cocoa, or *Theobroma cacao*, is a tropical tree grown for its seeds, used to make cocoa powder, chocolate, and cocoa butter. The tree is native to Central and South America and has a long history of cultivation dating back to ancient Mesoamerican cultures.

The word “cocoa” comes from the Aztec word “cacahuatl,” which means “food of the gods.” The Mayans and Aztecs considered cocoa a sacred crop and used it in religious ceremonies and as currency. The Aztecs also believed that cocoa had medicinal properties and used it to treat various ailments.

The first Europeans to encounter cocoa were the Spanish conquistadors led by Hernán Cortés. They arrived in Mexico in 1519 and were introduced to the drink made from cocoa beans by the Aztecs. The Spanish brought cocoa back to Europe in the early 1500s, quickly becoming a luxury item consumed only by the wealthy.

In 1828, Conrad Van Houten, a Dutchman, invented a hydraulic press which made it possible to produce cocoa powder on a large scale. This made chocolate more affordable and available to the masses. In 1875, Daniel Peter, a Swiss chocolate maker, successfully combined cocoa

powder, cocoa butter and sugar to create milk chocolate.

Cocoa beans are the main ingredient in chocolate production. They are extracted from the cocoa pod and undergo various processes, including fermentation, drying, roasting, and grinding. The resulting cocoa mass is then processed to produce cocoa powder, cocoa butter, and chocolate.

Cocoa is now grown in many countries worldwide, including Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, and Brazil. However, a significant portion of the global cocoa supply comes from small-scale farmers in West Africa.