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# MICRONES- A More Efficient Palm Oil Extraction Method



PALM OIL

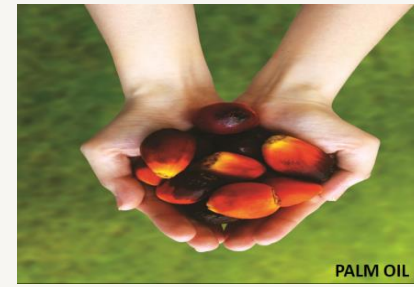


**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

&

**FIBALOY INTERNATIONAL SDN BHD**





## Economic Transformation Program (ETP)

The aim of this program is to ensure productivity gains in palm oil industry have significant impact on GNI growth

8 EPPs (Entry Point Projects) are identified to grow incremental GNI of RM47.1 billion

### **EPP 4: INCREASING THE OIL EXTRACTION RATE**

To increase OER to 23 percent by 2020:

1. Improve the quality of FFB at mill gate with the help of MPOB enforcement officers
2. Enforce proper grading on incoming FFB, based on MPOB's guidelines
3. Millers and dealers of FFB to employ competent graders, certified by MPOB
4. FFB price be valued according to the quality of FFB received

**GNI from EPP 4: RM13.7 billion in 2020**

EPP 1: Accelerating the replanting of oil palm

EPP 2: Improving fresh fruit bunch yield

EPP 3: Improving worker productivity

**EPP4: Increasing the oil extraction rate (OER)**

EPP 5: Developing biogas at palm oil mills

EPP 6: Developing oleo derivatives

EPP 7: Commercialising second generation biofuels

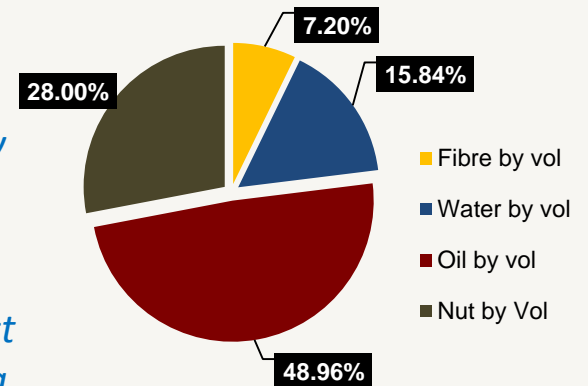
EPP 8: Expediting growth in food and health-based downstream segments

# CURRENT ISSUES

Average oil extraction rate (OER) is the amount of oil obtained from fresh fruit bunches (FFB). OER in Malaysian palm oil mills is below its optimum value;

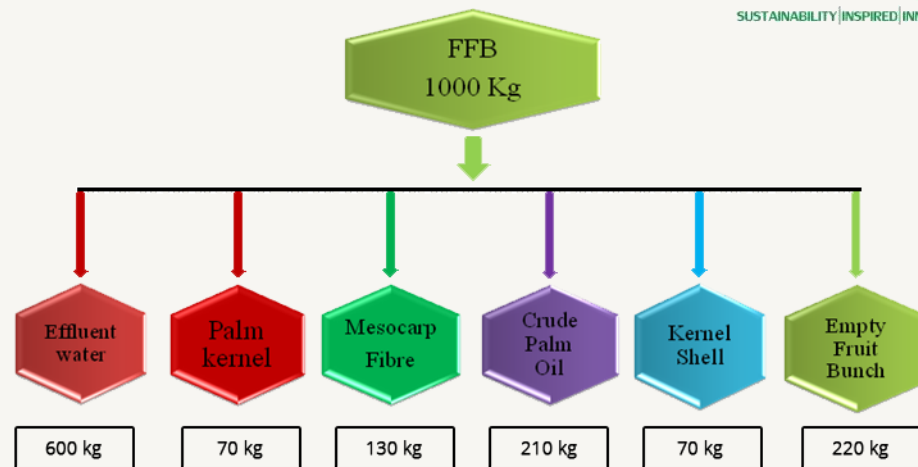
- *Significant advances in “Genotyping” which are purportedly capable of increasing oil palm yields by up to 33 percent (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 2015).*
- *Aggressive activities by MPOB enforcement officers to reject under-ripe/over-ripe FFB’s arriving at the mill for processing (PEMANDU, 2014).*

Tenera Fruit Composition



# OIL LOSSES IN PALM OIL MILL

- Inefficient milling technology particularly poor oil extraction leads to oil losses.
  - Oil losses in unstripped FFB at 0.4% oil loss/FFB or RM 3.0 million/mill/year
  - 0.7% oil loss/FFB in press fiber and kernel loss, 0.32%/FFB (50% oil in kernel) at or RM 6.8 million/mill/year
  - Oil losses in sludge at 0.32% oil loss/FFB or RM 2.8 million/mill/year
- Major oil losses in palm oil mills occur in the Fibre, Sludge and Steriliser condensate (90 % of all oil losses)
- High oil loss and % of broken kernels in press fibre is due to inefficient sterilization, digestion and screw press.
- Formation of emulsions at the oil/water boundary in clarifier leads to more oil loss.
- Oil loss in condensate occurs due to longer than necessary steriliser cycle or due to over ripe fruit.



# LRGS PROGRAM

## AVERAGE OER IN MALAYSIA

OER (ton oil/ton FFB)  
30

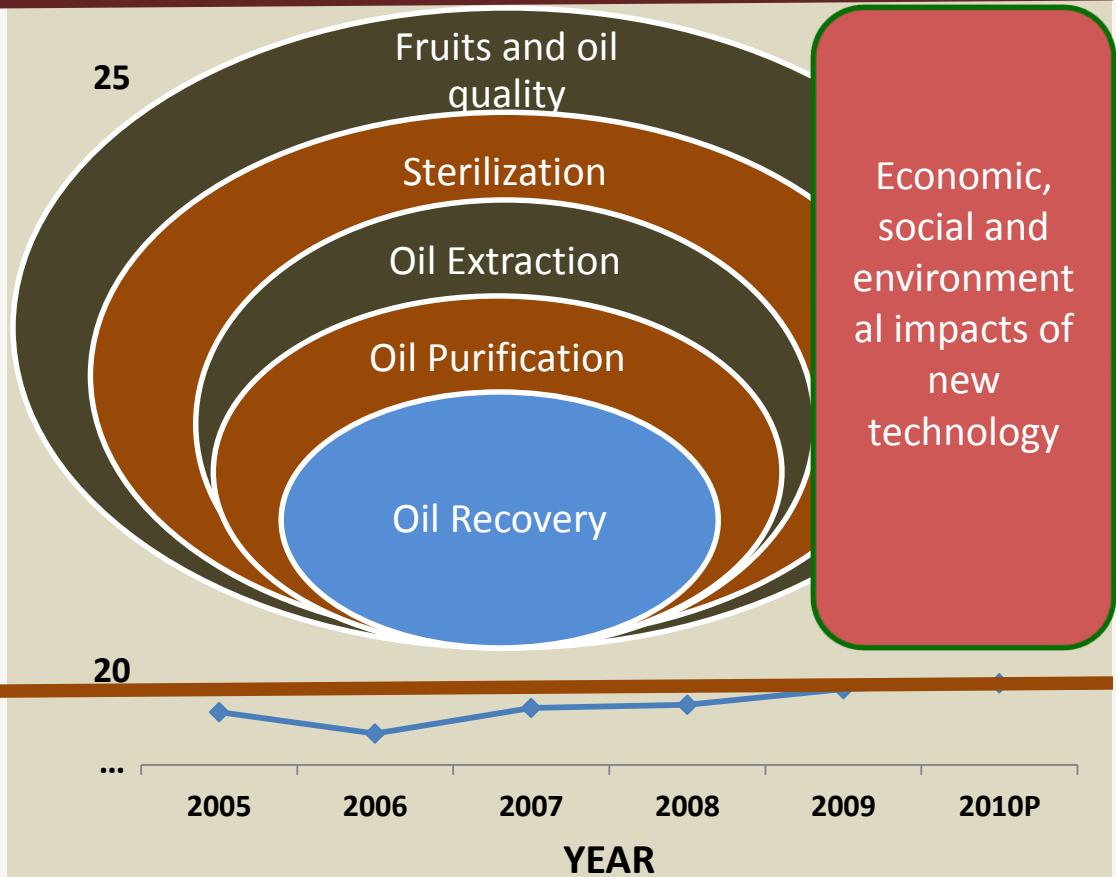
Potential yield

BRIDGING GAP

RM13.7 billion  
in GNI

National average OER

RM 5.858 million



# UPM NEW TECHNOLOGIES

RM 12 mil  
per year

Oil losses in unstripped FFB  
amounts to RM 3.0 million/  
mill/year (0.4%/FFB)

Oil losses in press fiber and kernel  
loss, amounts to RM 6.8 million/  
mill/year (0.7%/FFB)

Oil losses in sludge oil  
amounts to RM 2.8 million/  
mill/year (0.32%/FFB)

Sterilization

Extraction

Separation



# HIGH PRESSURE STERILIZATION

## Robo-REST



Kilang Sawit Bukit Kapah, Hulu Terengganu

In 2014/15 Fibaloy and Dolphin Application Sdn Bhd integrated UPM's Dr. Azis's High Pressure Sterilization patent and LRGs research into development of Dolphin's Robo-REST sterilization system.



70 psi , 30 minutes sterilization



40 psi , 30 minutes sterilization

# CONVENTIONAL PALM OIL EXTRACTION TECHNOLOGY



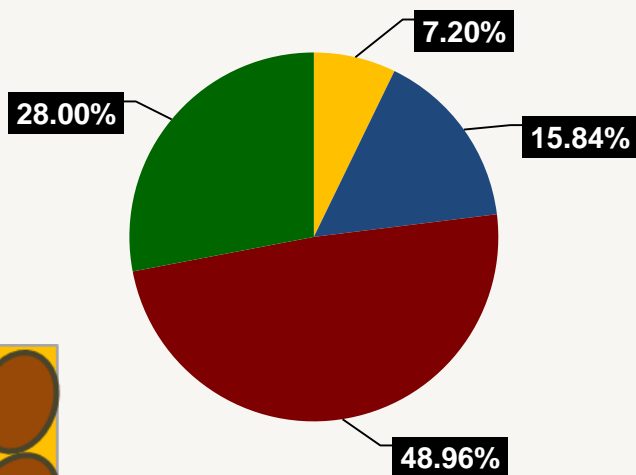
- Insufficient residence time, temperature and water in **digester** reduce cells ability to rehydrate. Thus, it is difficult to remove oil during pressing.
- 15 % of kernel nuts are broken and is lost with mesocarp fibre.
- High % of CPO remains in fibre resulting in 0.35 to 0.9 % in lost OER.
- According to Mongana, losses in **screw press** ranges between 7-15 % for 15 FFB t/h twin screw presses and are higher in bigger press .



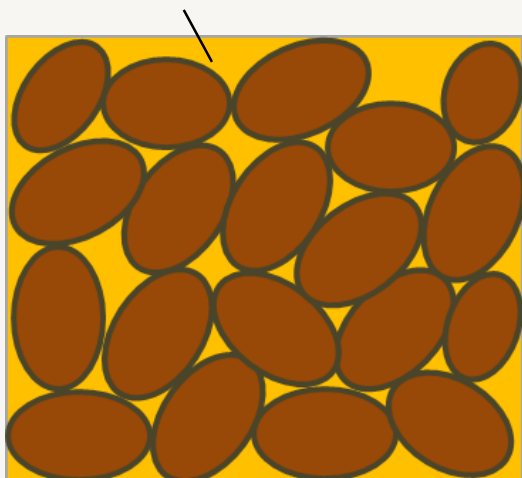
In the traditional twin screw press kernel nut and oil loss is inevitable due to the morphology of the fruit

## Fruit Composition

■ Fibre by vol ■ Water by vol ■ Oil by vol ■ Nut by Vol



The void space between nuts  
 $1.52\text{m}^3/\text{t} - 0.874\text{m}^3/\text{t} = 0.65\text{m}^3/\text{t}$   
 $0.65/1.52=42.5\%$

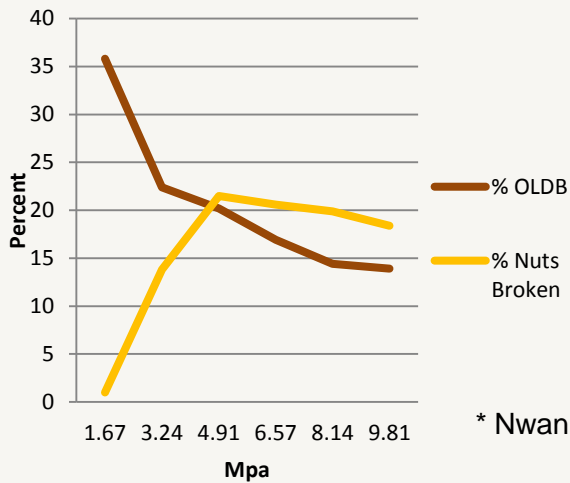


If fibre occupies 7.2% of the void then  $42.5\% - 7.2\% = 35.3\%$  of oil + water will also fill the void. Nuts will have to break to access and remove this fraction

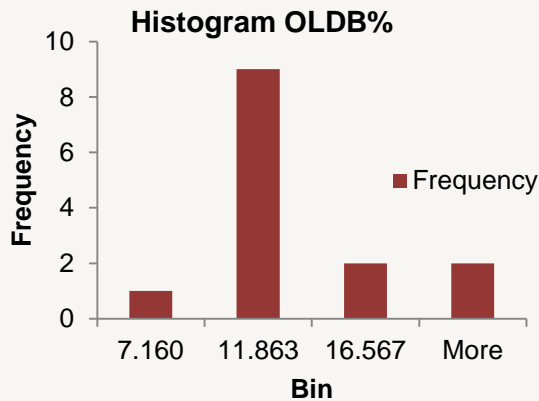


# Field study- Press oil losses

- Using the traditional method Oil / Nut loss is inevitable
- At best it's a trade-off between how much CPO to lose or how much kernel to lose



\* Nwankwojike, et al., 2011



Despite what is reported even best mills are losing 0.5% OLWB of CPO during extraction

**Tamaco is a three times winner of MPOB's highest OER award**

SAMPLE	2015	
	OLWB%	OLDB%
4-Jan	0.88	25.29
5-Jan	0.78	7.38
6-Jan	0.65	16.75
7-Jan	0.6	9.77
8-Jan	0.41	7.16
9-Jan	0.59	10.28
10-Jan	0.61	10.34
11-Jan	0.73	11.97
12-Jan	0.67	11.69
13-Jan	0.63	21.27
14-Jan	0.67	10.28
15-Jan	0.55	9.02
16-Jan	0.66	11.52
17-Jan	0.71	12.52
18-Jan	0.62	11.17
Mean	0.65%	12.43%
Count	15	15
Std Dev	0.11	5.01
Confidence	0.002	0.081
Flow Rate t/h		54
Crush Rate t/h		90
<b>1%FFB Dry basis</b>		<b>0.54%</b>

Sample of press cake fibre taken at Tamaco Mill II Sabah, 2015

# What has gone wrong?

## SCREW PRESS



As presses get bigger oil loss and nut breakage increases yet screw press manufacturers are developing and pushing bigger presses 20-30 FFBt/h

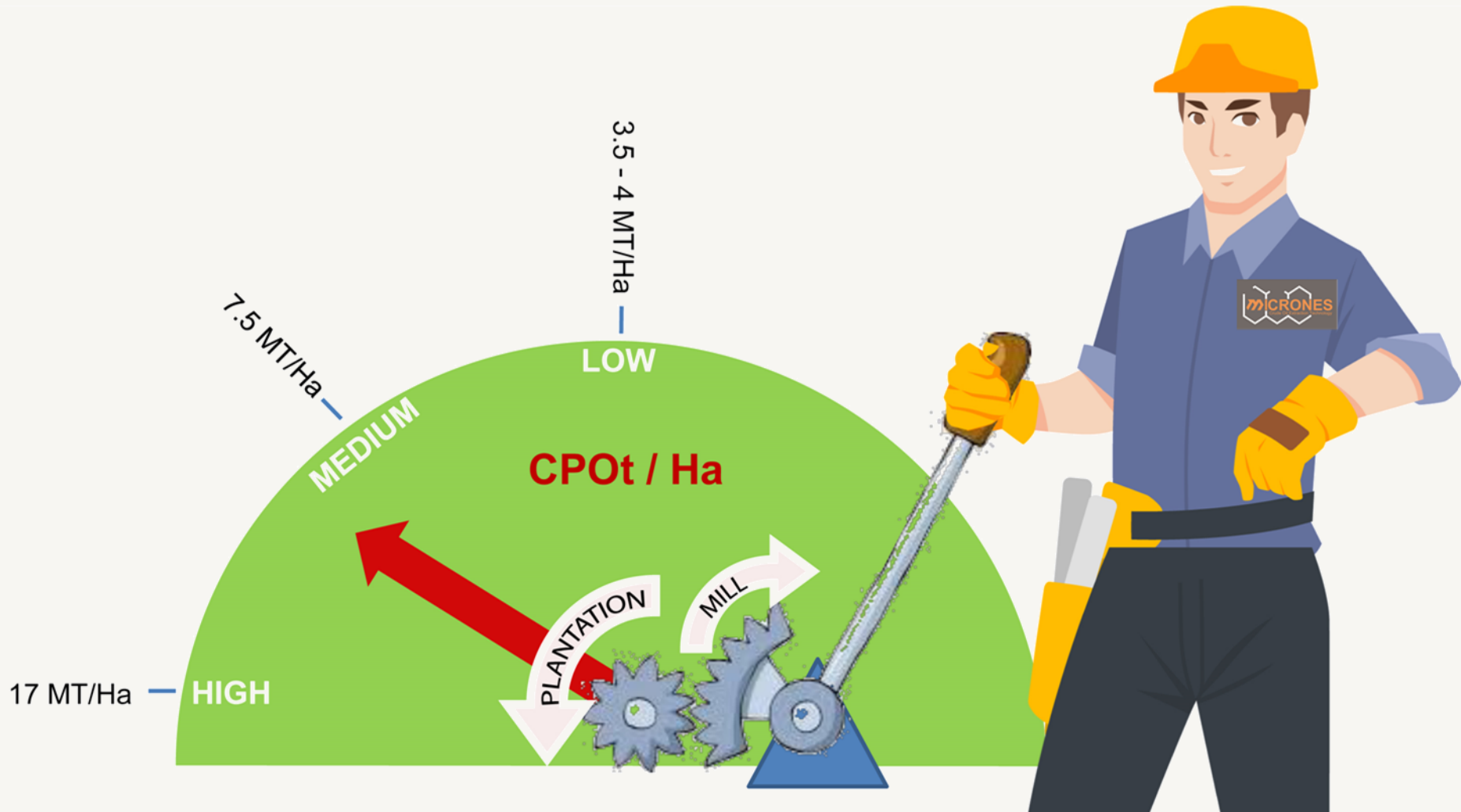


According to Mongana, small capacity presses cause 4 percent loss (OLDB) as compared to 7-8 percent loss (OLDB) associated with larger presses. However in reality OLDB often ranges between 7-15 percent for conventional 15t FFB/h twin screw presses.

What about CPOt/Ha??

# Leveraging effect of OER on yield

At 20% OER an increase in OER of 0.4%, increases CPOt / Ha by 2%





# MICRONES Crude Oil Extraction Technology

“The future of palm oil extraction has arrived”

MICRONES is an acronym for **Maceration Induced Cell  
Rupturing Oil Nut Extraction Synthesis**

Methods of extraction have not changed since the pioneering work of United Plantation’s Tan Sri Bek-Nielsen and Axel Lindquist who were inspired by Mongana CONGOPALM Society report in 1955 and later collaborated with Usine de Wecker screw press company-Luxembourg

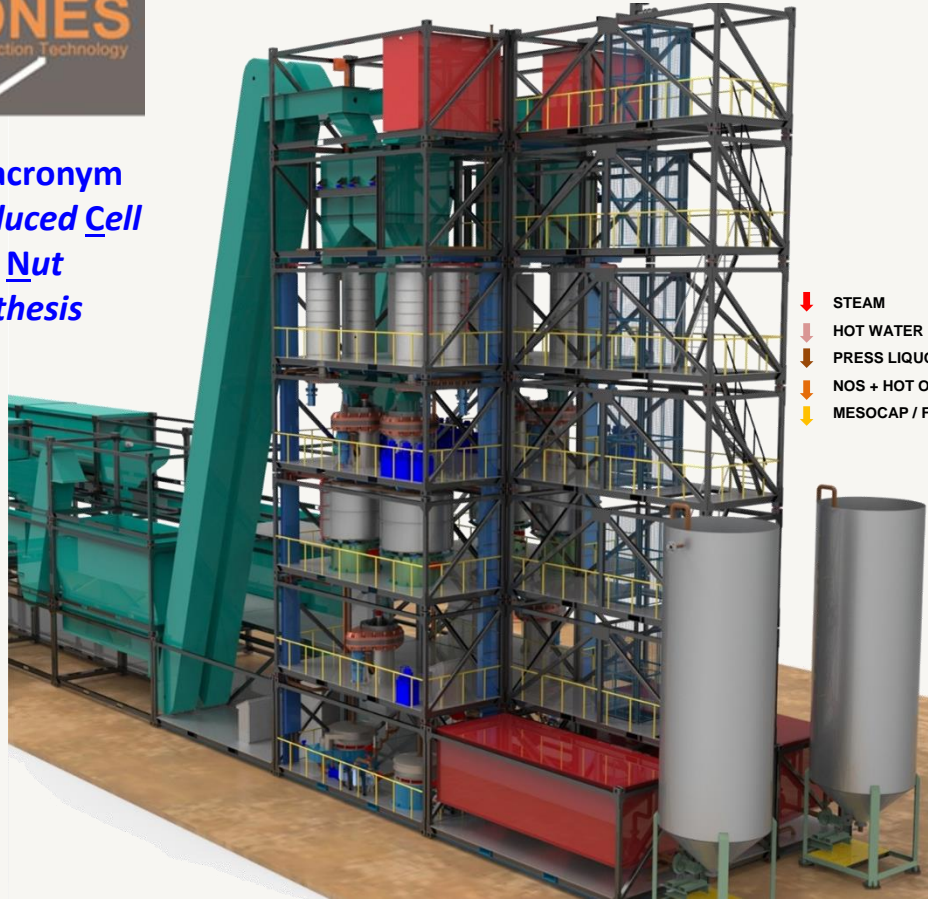
# NEW CPO EXTRACTION TECHNOLOGY



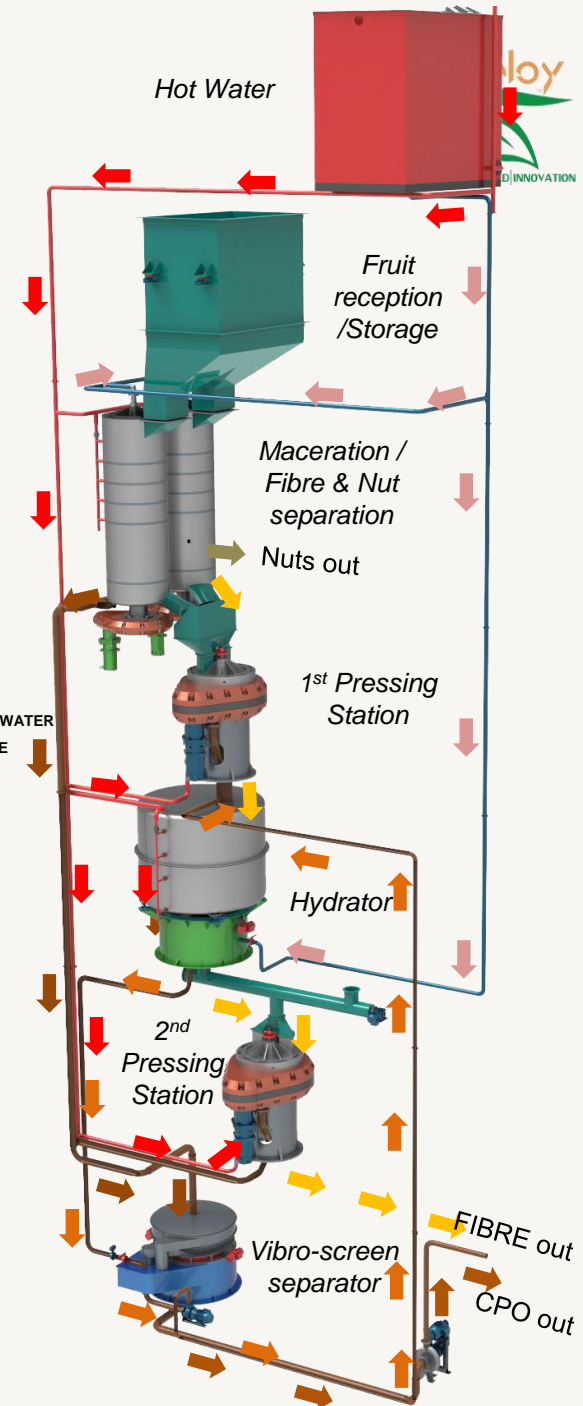
**MICRONES** is an acronym for Maceration Induced Cell Rupturing Oil Nut Extraction Synthesis

Micrones is designed to work with;

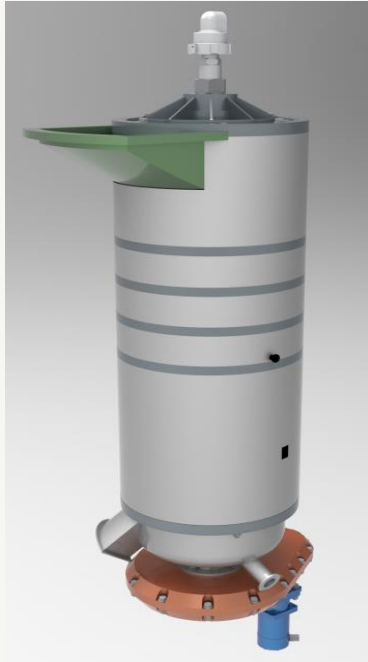
- Conventional sterilisers
- Continuous sterilizers.



**60 ton FFB MICRONES System**



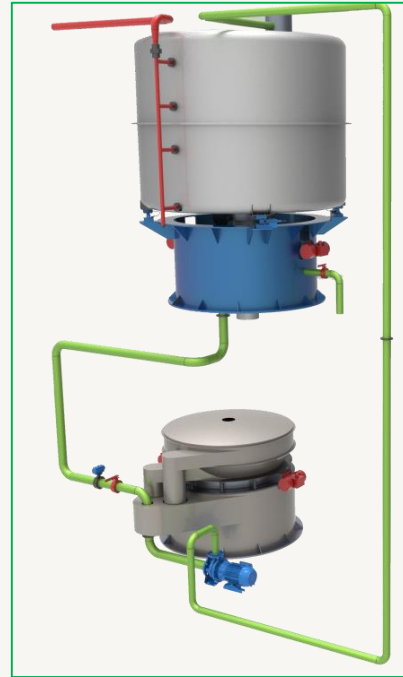
# MICRONES - Four Stages Process



**Stage I**  
Fiber & Nut  
separation



**Stage II**  
Second stage  
pressing

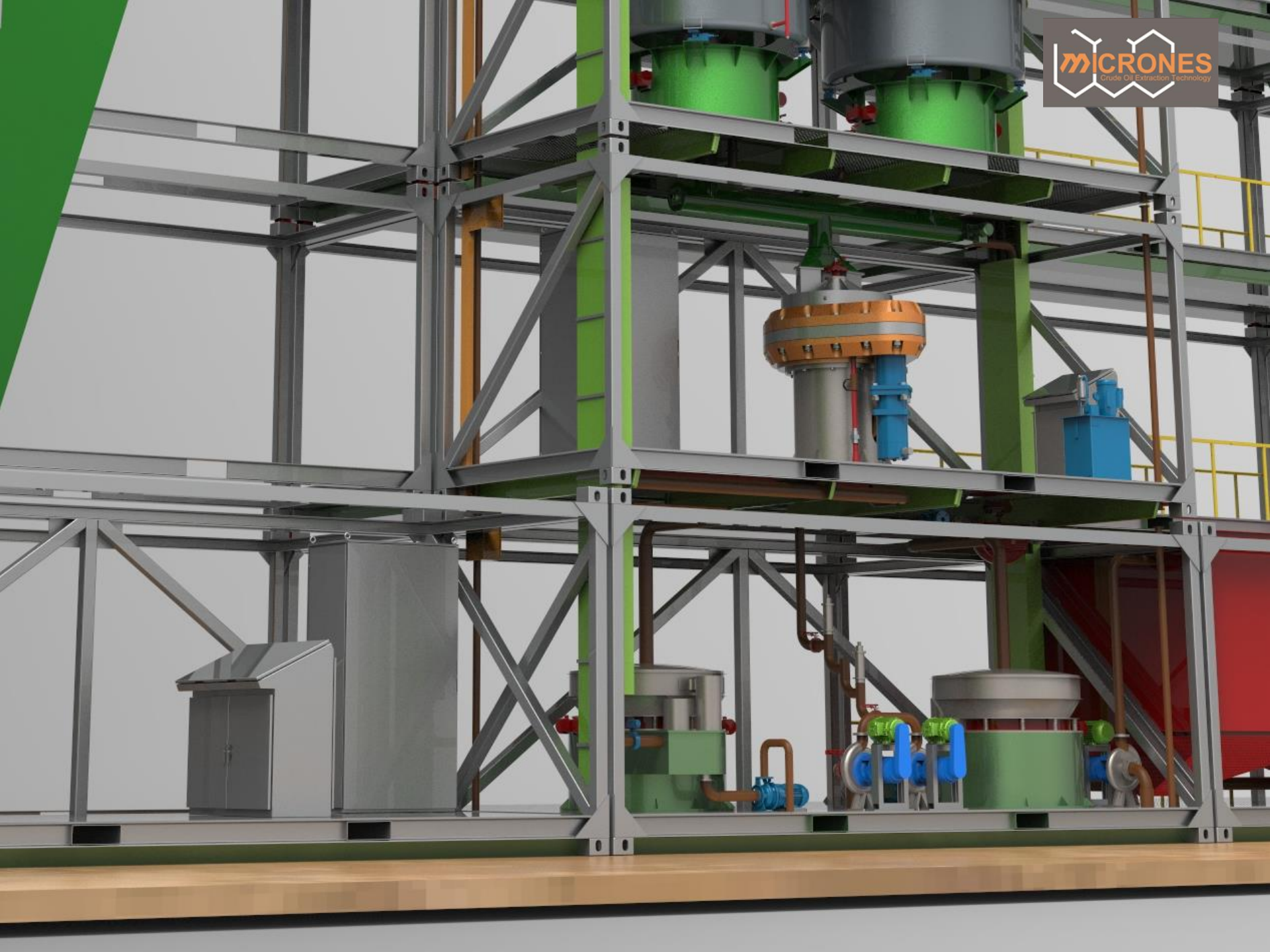


**Stage III**  
Gravitational leaching of  
oil from cells, cell re-  
hydration and NOS  
recycling



**Stage IV**  
Final stage  
pressing





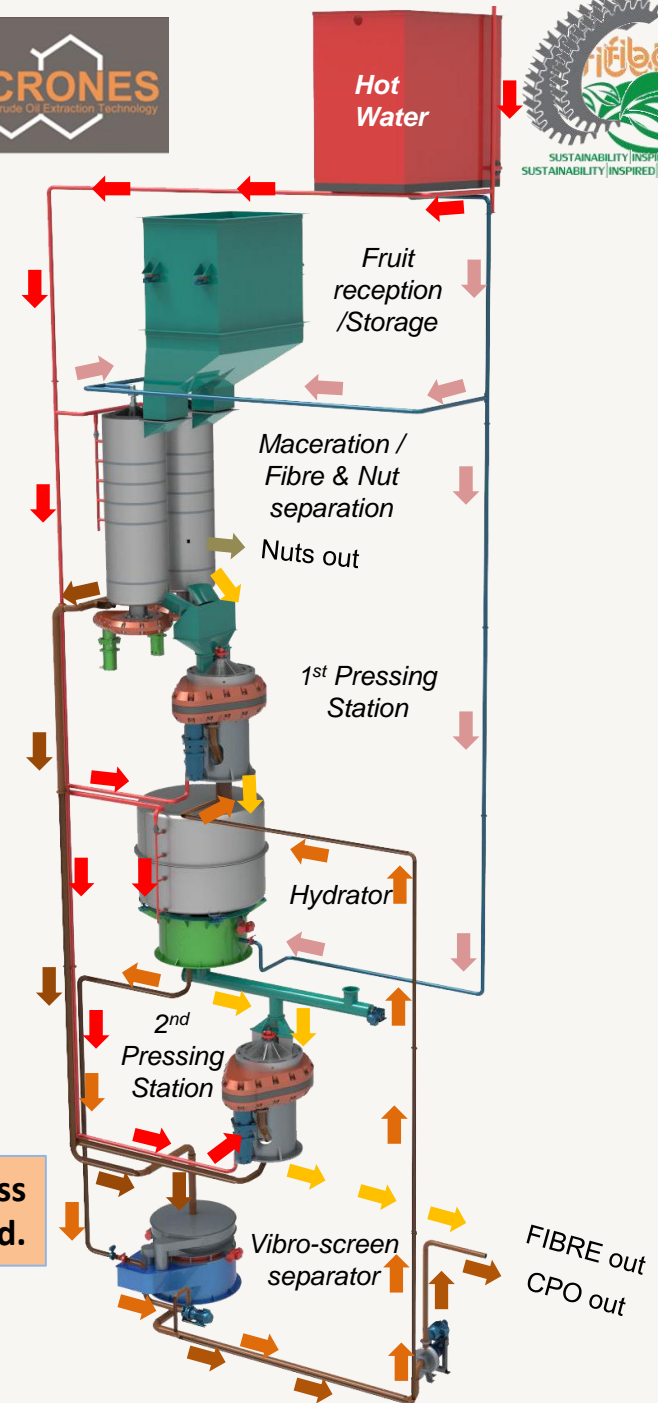
# TECHNOLOGY COMPARISON

## CONVENTIONAL TECHNOLOGY



Press fibres together with nuts to extract oil out, causing kernel/nut breakage and oil loss.

Only nut-free fibres are sent to the press while the clean nuts are collected.



# Conclusion

- ✓ MICRONES isolates and removes kernel nuts before they enter the press to ensure nuts are not broken and kernel is not lost
- ✓ MICRONES induces maceration to ensure oil bearing cells are ruptured and virgin oil is decanted early in the process
- ✓ MICRONES directs the mesocarp through 2 separate and dedicated pressing stages with a hydration phase in between to ensure the purging effect of the second pressing stage is optimal.
- ✓ MICRONES requires less power as energy is not expended breaking kernel nuts or separating kernel from mesocarp fibre
- ✓ MICRONES delivers measurable Triple Bottom Line Outcomes