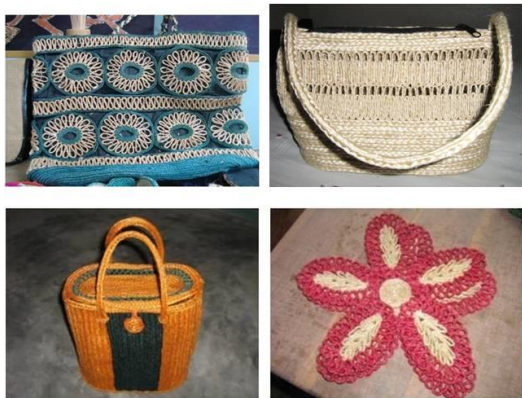


3. Powder waste:

- ❖ The waste obtained in the form of powder can be mixed with nutrients and used as feed for pigs and cattles.

Products of banana fibre:

A wide range of eco friendly items can be made out of Banana fibre, being a natural fibre it easily blends with other fibre such as jute and mestha. Products like, doormats, carpets, yarn, rope, geotextiles, travelites, luggage carriers and interior decorative items can be made out of this banana fibre.



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Value added products of Banana Fibre



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Traditionally banana is cultivated for fruits. After harvesting the banana fruit farmers usually dump other portion of the banana plant as waste and often face the problem of disposing the Pseudo stems and these huge stocks get accumulated in banana growing areas. The fruitful utilization of these stems is therefore an important issue related to Banana Cultivation. Extraction of fibre and preparation of organic manure from banana pseudo stems are found highly useful and economical to the farmers. Banana Fibre is extracted from Banana tree bark. The trunk is peeled and brown-green skin is thrown away retaining the cleaner or white portion which will be processed into knotted fibres.

The fibres are extracted manually either with serrated or non serrated knives. The peel is clamped between wood plank and knife and hand-pulled through, removing the resinous material. The extracted fibres are washed and sun-dried which whitens the fibre. Once dried, the

fibres are ready for knotting. A bunch of fibres are mounted or clamped on a stick to facilitate segregation. Each fibre is separated according to fibre sizes and grouped accordingly. To knot the fibre, each fibre is separated and knotted to the end of another fibre manually. The separation and knotting is repeated until bunches of unknotted fibres are finished to form a long continuous strand. This fibre can now be used for making various products. (As a wealth from waste concept) Banana fibre is eco friendly and biodegradable comparing to all other synthetic fibres.

Major uses of banana fibres:

The banana fibre is extensively used as blending material in textile industries. Being a natural fibre, it easily blends with other fibres such as jute and mesta. Therefore, industrial products like gunny bags, door mats, carpets, yarn, rope, luggage carrier and interior decorative items can be made out of this

fibre. It is also used in manufacture of tissue paper, filter paper etc.

By-product utilization:

1. Solid waste:

- ❖ During fibre extraction process, fibre waste is separated. The waste is identified as best organic manure which has 6% potash.
- ❖ Since the waste contains high potash, it increases the worm activities in vermiculture and enhances the compost conversion rate by 20 %.
- ❖ Acts as cleaning and binding agent with agricultural waste.
- ❖ Useful in briquette making

2. Liquid waste:

- ❖ The liquid waste collected during fibre extraction is a good neutralizer. Hence, it is used in fishery ponds to neutralize acidity.
- ❖ It is also used in dyeing industry.