

Is this goodbye? Chocolate producing plants will go extinct by 2050

By <u>Njideka Agbo</u> 9 Jan 2018

That is 32 years from now.



Ma_Rika via pixabay

This is because climate change has affected the cocoa plant which is responsible for the chocolates the human population produces. The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have said that a temperature rise of just 2.1 degrees centigrade might put an end to the chocolate industry.

Almost all the world's cocoa plants are found in two countries, Ghana and Cote D'Ivoire. With the climate change, that is warmer temperature and dry climate, only 10.5% will be usable in the future, a study noted.

There is help on the way.

Mars, the chocolate candy factory and makers of M&M and Snickers, has joined forces with scientists at the University of California, Berkeley to use gene-editing technology to develop cocoa plants that will withstand the weather temperature.

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