



Study Tour Visit to : Bio Óleo, oil seed crusher



Introduction	Bio Oil (Bio Óleo) was founded 19 years ago and today is Brazil's largest crusher of castor oil seeds. The plant undergoes annual renovations and maintenance and went through an enlargement/extension process this year. The crushing process is done mechanically (press) and chemically (extracting the oil using solvents).										
Seed Intake	150 000 tons / pa (all oil seeds i.e. castor, cotton, sunflower, jatropha, peanuts and soybeans)										
Production Cap	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>castor</td> <td>27,000 tons / pa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>cotton</td> <td>9,000 tons / pa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>soybean</td> <td>3,600 tons / pa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>sunflower</td> <td>1,750 tons / pa</td> </tr> <tr> <td>peanuts</td> <td>7,000 tons / pa</td> </tr> </table>	castor	27,000 tons / pa	cotton	9,000 tons / pa	soybean	3,600 tons / pa	sunflower	1,750 tons / pa	peanuts	7,000 tons / pa
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Pressed see cake	<p>castor and jatropha seeds, after crushed, their meal can be used as fertilisers, that is, organic fertilisers</p> <p>other oil seeds: soybean, peanuts and cotton, after extracting the oil, their cakes and meals can be used as animal feed.</p>										
Family Agriculture	castor seeds come almost entirely from small farmers (up to 90%), the so called "family agriculture" (family farms)										
Benefits for FA	The small farmer gets support/aid from the Federal Government through the "National Program for the strengthening of the small farmer, family agriculture" known as PRONAF (Programa Nacional de fortalecimento da Agricultura Familiar) and Bioóleo complements this by supplying the seeds and technical assistance aside from guaranteeing the purchase of the production.										