Chocolate is one of the most beloved foods, but it may be becoming a little too popular. Major chocolate makers have warned of a possible chocolate shortage looming in the near future.

The chocolate shortage is a classic example of supply and demand in action. The demand for cocoa is rising at the same time that the supply is dropping. The price consumers are paying for chocolate are already increasing and likely to get significantly higher if these trends continue.

Chocolate deficits, whereby farmers produce less cocoa than the world eats, are becoming the norm. Already, we are in the midst of what could be the longest streak of consecutive chocolate deficits in more than 50 years."


"The end result of higher demand for chocolate will likely be further increases in the price of chocolate. It’s also likely that chocolate makers will continue to develop candy that includes non-chocolate ingredients such as nuts, raisins or nougats to meet the demand for treats using less actual chocolate."

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