

The Agronomy of Kenyan Coffee

Presented By

by

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- **Population-40.5million(580,370sq.km)**
- **GDP per Capita 852 USD.**
- **Export Share of GDP:28%**
- **Coffee Share of exports:2%**
- **Fourth after Horticulture, Tea and Tourism**
- **Employment in Agriculture:30%**
- **Coffee Production 2011/2012:0.802mio bags**
- **Coffee area 2011/12:140,000 ha-70% small scale.**
- **Approx. 600,000 small scale farmers**
- **Approx. 2000 small/medium estates**

Coffee Growing Areas



- 🍷 1400-2100m ASL-East of the Rift valley
- 🍷 1500-1900m ASL-West of the Rift Valley
- 🍷 Max. day temp-32°C
- 🍷 Min. night temp- 7°C
- 🍷 Max. temp range-19°C (hot and cold)
- 🍷 Free draining volcanic soils min 1.5m depth
- 🍷 Soil pH range 4.4-5.4
- 🍷 1000mm of well distributed precipitation



- Started operations in February 2006
- Started Marketing Agency Feb 2007
- Managing 16 large Estate-1600ha
- Provides quality affordable agro-inputs.
- Certification compliance and sustainable prod
- Milling and Marketing services
- Feasibility studies
- Project Management and Consultancy
- Serving over 200,000 smallholder farmers
- Serving over 383 small & medium estates
- Marketing over 33% of Kenya coffee.
- Direct work force of 300 employees





Kenya Coffee History

- Arabica → in Ethiopia.
- Robusta → Equatorial forests of Central Africa.
- 600 years ago Coffee → Yemen → Globe.
- Original varieties ↔ Selection ↔ Commercial varieties.
- Late 1800 and early 1900 re-introduced in Africa
- 1897 → Kibwezi Kenya as French Mission variety-a derivative of Typica and Bourbon-grown by French in the island of Bourbon now Reunion.
- Bourbon-more upright growth, higher yield and better cup quality than Typica.

SL.28

- 🌸 Selected 1931 from a drought resistant variety in northern Tanzania.
- 🌸 Medium to High altitudes.
- 🌸 Green shoots-occasionally bronze tips.
- 🌸 Conical
- 🌸 Primaries are semi-erect and well rooted.
- 🌸 Good Yields
- 🌸 Excellent cup quality
- 🌸 Susceptible to Coffee Berry Disease and Coffee Leaf rust.
- 🌸 Recommended spacing
2.74mX2.74m-1330/ha



SL.34

- 🌸 Selected from the French mission cultivars
- 🌸 High altitudes areas with high rainfall..
- 🌸 Dark bronze tips with occasionally light green tips.
- 🌸 Dome shaped
- 🌸 Primaries are semi-erect and well rooted.
- 🌸 High yields/good quality.
- 🌸 Excellent cup quality
- 🌸 Susceptible to Coffee Berry Disease and Coffee Leaf rust Bacterial Berry Blight.









Ruiru 11

- Released in 1985
- A derivative of catimor and Typica.
- Named after the Ruiru Coffee Research Station
- Shallow developed roots
- 2mX2m to 2mX1.5m
- 2500-3300/ha vs. 1330/ha for SL varieties.
- Cup compares well with SL varieties.



Batian

-  Released in 2010
-  A pure breed-not Hybrid
-  Tall stature like SL 28 and SL 34
-  Resistant to CBD and CLR
-  High Yields and quality crop
-  Requires high nutritional regime.

Other varieties

K7, Blue Mountain and original French Mission- Very minimal.



MORPHOLOGICAL

DISSIMILARITY



BATIAN

RUIRU 11

SL28

- **6 macro-nutrients-N,P,K, Ca, Mg, S**
- **10 micro-nutrients- Zn, Cu, Bo, Fe, Mn, Mo etc.**
- **N.P.K-mainly ground app 6months before Flowering**
- **Micro-nutrients- Trace elements as foliar feeds.**
- **6months before Flowering NPK fertilizers**
- **20kg/year of organic manure.**
- **Pruning**
- **Weeding**
- **Pest and Disease control.**
- **Soil anslysis, erosion control and Shade management**



Nitrogen- Vegetative growth-shoots

- protein synthesis-better % of AA,AB,PB
- ↓ Nitrogen-High % of C, T, Lights may result to yellowing, die-bark, stunted growth.
- Flowering and bearing capacity.

Phosphorous- root development, Wood formation, berry development and early maturity.

Potassium-Berry development, mucilage formation, promotes CO2 and Translocation of foods-

- ↓ nipping-processing.



Zinc- initiates flowering and apical growth. 2months

- influences leaf size
- Plant hormone

Boron- promotes shoot growth, optimal flowering,

- fruit setting.2 months before.
- Deficiency leads to abortion incidence

Magnesium-Food formation-chlorophyll,

- Bean colour-Blue/green colour

Iron

- Chlorophyll formation, bean colour.
amber beans.

Sulphur - responsible for aroma of the roast.



Coffee Berry Disease (CBD)-*Colletotrichum kahawae*

- high altitude, wet humid/cool condition.
- black sunken spots in green rapidly expanding berries, ripe berries and flowers
- can cause 80% of crop loss
- affects quality in mature beans-BB.



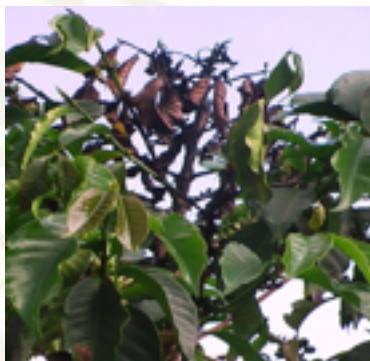
Leaf Rust- *Hemileia vastatrix*-(fungi)

- yellow sunken spots underside of leaves.
- Warm humid condition → leaf fall and die back.



Bacterial Berry Blight(BBC)-*Pseudomonas Syringae*

Rift and West of Rift. Black dark leaves and buds.



- 🍷 About 350 diseases affects coffee globally.
- 🍷 800 pests known to attack coffee globally.
- 🍷 35 known pests affects coffee in Kenya.
- 🦋 Root feeders
- 🦋 Stem/branch borers.
- 🦋 Leaf feeders
- 🦋 Sap feeders and
- 🦋 Berry/Flower feeders
- 🦋 Control mainly approved Pesticides, IPM and cultural practises.



Antestia Berry feeder. Feeds on mature green berries.

Causes Zebra lines on parchment and bitter cup.

-Pruning to open tree and IPM-use of parasitoids

Scale Pests-Sucks sap from young shoots and suckers

Can cause weak trees with shriveled beans.

IPM –use of Bio-control predators –Lady birds

Thrips- Sucks saps from leaves. Mainly dry weather,

-grey silver patches on the underside of leaves,

-no photosynthetic activity, drops off.

-coffee bush takes long to recover- Biennial cropping

and die back



- 🍒 Kenya's selective hand picking
- 🍒 90% wet washing and rest 10% dry processed
- 🍒 Picking mainly 10-14 days
- 🍒 Only red ripe cherries
- 🍒 Sorting under-ripe, diseased, over-ripe a must
- 🍒 Same day de-pulping.
- 🍒 Fermentation to remove mucilaginous sugary compound normally 10-16 hours- though weather dependent.
- 🍒 Washing and Density grading leads to P1,P2, P3 & PL
- 🍒 100% sun drying.- reduces 55%MC to 10.5% M.C
- 🍒 Regular turning and covering to avoid fast drying.



| DEFFECT | CAUSE |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Ragged beans | Lack of nitrogen, weeds, Poor pruning |
| Foxy beans | Delayed harvesting/pulping |
| Diseased beans | Brown Blight(late CBD attack) |
| Insect damage | Berry borer attack, etc |
| Antestia damage | Antestia attack |
| Pulper damage | Poor setting of pulper discs |
| Over-fermented beans | Prolonged fermentation |
| Stinkers | Severe overfermentation |
| Green-water damage | Rewetting |
| Black beans | Severe Rewetting |
| Woody beans | Prolonged storage |

| GRADE | Description of the Grade |
|-----------------|---|
| E 8.3mm | (Elephant). Two beans joined together. Mainly as a result of well nourished coffee bushes. May also result from genetic “defect”. |
| AA 8.2-7.2mm | Flat bold beans from well nourished coffee. Each fruit produces two beans. Forms uniform roast. |
| AB- 7.1-6.4mm | Flat beans, similar to AA but smaller in size. Forms good roast. |
| PB 6.6-4.7mm | (Pea Berry). One ovule develops instead of the usual two. The bean is oval in shape like peas. |
| C- 6.3-4.0mm | Smaller Flat beans. Are an indicator of dry growing conditions. |
| TT 8.3-6.4mm | AA and AB grades which are of lower density and quality(Light). Are an indicator of poor soils. |
| T 3.4mm | Smallest of the flat beans and consists of big fragments. Mainly an indicator of poor soils and poor precipitation. |
| Mbuni | Not Grade as such. Dry processed beans. They are not graded according to shape or size but by density. Very inferior in quality |

Nyeri

☪ Bright Acidity, Medium Body and Floral Flavor

Kiambu/ Muranga

☪ Bright Acidity, Strong Body and Medium Flavor

Machakos

☪ Light Acidity, Medium Body and Medium Flavor

Kitale/ Kisii/ Bungoma

☪ Medium Acidity, Medium Body and Some Flavor.



