



🏠 Locality: São Gonçalo do Sapucaí
📅 Data: 20/03/2024
👤 Coffee Farmer: Ivomar Oliveira Costa

ÁGUA DOCE PETITE ESTATE

VISIT REPORT

São Gonçalo do Sapucaí is a Brazilian municipality located in the interior of the state of Minas Gerais, in the Geographic Region of Mantiqueira, in the South of Minas. Its total area is 516 km², with an average altitude of 1031 meters. Its terrain is predominantly hilly to mountainous, with a mild climate practically throughout the year. Its coffee plantation covers 8000 hectares, standing out for the production of specialty coffees. The average annual production of the municipality is 243,000 sacks, which highlights the region, with an average productivity of 30-32 sacks/hectare.

The property spans about 6 hectares, with 3 hectares dedicated to coffee production, and is located above 1200 meters altitude.

Below are points to be observed and actions to be taken:



1 ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR

Windbreak Use: Although there are nearby trees, it is recommended to include windbreaks when renewing coffee crops; This measure reduces the impact of winds on coffee plant leaves; Reduces the impact of hail rain; Reduces fungal diseases, which have a higher infestation due to leaf injuries;



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Increases the producer's revenue through intercropping between coffee and crops such as avocado and banana. These two fruit trees are excellent windbreaks, already used.

Use of Organomineral Fertilizers: Although they return coffee husks to the fields, we recommend adopting the use of organomineral fertilizers, which promote greater sustainability in agricultural production, as their use reduces the use of chemical fertilizers by up to 30%. Additionally, they contribute to carbon replenishment, with a cumulative effect over the years, improving fertility levels and the presence of beneficial microorganisms.

Use of Biological Products: Make use of biological products, gradually introducing different products, such as bioinsecticides, bionematicides, and phosphorus solubilizers. The use of biological products in agriculture contributes to the balance of agricultural systems and facilitates, for example, the preservation of insects of interest such as natural enemies of pests and bees - which are currently threatened in various regions of the planet.

Storage of Pesticides: Expansion of the warehouse or construction of a new one, ensuring space compatible with the maximum volume of products to be stored and allowing the circulation of people; Implement a ventilation system that ensures the renewal of indoor air, through natural, mechanical, forced, or mixed means, according to legal requirements; Ensure good lighting in the environment that allows easy reading of labels and product identification; Installation of an emergency shower and eye wash near the pesticide storage area, so that operators have easy access; but ensuring that when they operate, splashes do not reach the stock; Pesticide packaging should be stored at least 50 cm away from walls; Solid products are positioned higher than liquid/pasty products; In the storage area, maintain a set of equipment and materials in sufficient quantity to deal with product spills (absorbent materials such as sawdust, etc.); Products unsuitable for use (expired, banned by inspection, damaged packaging, etc.) will be stored in a specific and separate location, to be returned to the respective manufacturers, with the appropriate notification to the competent authority.

Waste Separation: Correct waste separation makes all the difference in environmental preservation, as it prevents many recyclable materials from ending up in landfills or dumps. Some waste generated in homes is considered hazardous and should not be mixed with others. As a tip, we recommend



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starting by separating organic waste from dry (recyclable) waste, and then implementing separation by material type.

Photovoltaic Energy: Study the implementation of an energy production plant. It is important to note that solar energy has several advantages: environmentally, as a renewable energy source, it does not pollute, and has a lifespan of approximately 25 years. Economically, it reduces the electricity bill by 90%, bringing a return on investment in around 5 years and requiring minimal maintenance.

2- SOCIAL PILLAR

Sanitary and Comfort Conditions in Rural Work: Despite the proximity of the fields to the headquarters, it is essential to have structures easily accessible to employees, providing drinking

Training: Continuously train employees, enabling them to master updated technology and manage their own work, so that they achieve the desired productivity and remain in work/employment. Training contributes not only to the personal and professional fulfillment of the worker but also water



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for them to have their meals, rest, and also for personal hygiene (bathrooms). Such areas are of utmost importance for the well-being and comfort of workers.



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