

Locality: Três Corações-MG

Data: 23/04/2024

Coffee farmer: Orestina Silva Reis e Outros

BREJINHO ESTATE

VISIT REPORT

Três Corações is a Brazilian municipality in the state of Minas Gerais. It's located in the Intermediate Geographical Region of Varginha. The terrain of Três Corações is typically plateau, and the climate is highland tropical. The vegetation in the region transitions from Atlantic Forest to Brazilian Cerrado, showcasing characteristics of both biomes. With a total area of 827 square kilometers and an average altitude of 959 meters, it hosts a coffee plantation covering 8,032 hectares, producing an average of 250 thousand sacks annually.

Brejinho Farm is managed by brothers Aldo and Lucas, with support from their mother, Orestina. The property spans 237 hectares, with 27.25 hectares as legal reserve, 19 hectares as permanent preservation areas, and approximately 140 hectares of coffee crops situated between 930 and 1040 meters altitude, ensuring the production of excellent quality coffee year after year. During our visit to the plantations, we observed good health and adequate nutrition. Annual foliar and soil analyses are conducted, weed control is managed through mechanized mowing and chemical herbicides, and organic coffee husks are returned to the plantation as fertilizer. The coffee growers receive assistance from experienced Agricultural Engineer Ronaldo Vilas Boas, who has been involved with the farm for years.

At the post-harvest area, special mention goes to the water collection system, which is channeled into drying terraces and directed to a well.

In conclusion, among the various attributes required in the sustainability report, we can consider it satisfactory, as a large part is met, always requiring attention and adaptation to the constant changes in technical, environmental, and social aspects of agriculture in our country.

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

ENVIRONMENTAL PILLAR

- Windbreak Use: Although there are nearby trees, it's recommended to plant windbreaks during coffee plantation renewals, reducing wind impact on coffee plant leaves, reducing hail impact, fungal diseases, and increasing revenue through intercropping with crops like avocado and banana.
- Organomineral Fertilizers Use: In addition to returning coffee husks to the plantation, adopting organomineral fertilizers is recommended for greater agricultural production sustainability, as they reduce chemical fertilizer use by up to 30%, contribute to carbon



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replenishment, and improve fertility levels and the presence of beneficial microorganisms over time.

- Biological Products Use: Increasing the use of biological products like bioinsecticides, bionematicides, and phosphorus solubilizers contributes to agricultural system balance, preserving insects like natural enemies of pests and bees, which are threatened in various regions.
- **Pesticide Depot:** Expanding or constructing a new depot, ensuring space for maximum product volume, ventilation systems, good lighting, emergency showers, and eye wash stations, and proper packaging storage and waste separation.
- Waste Separation: Correctly separating waste helps preserve the environment, preventing recyclable materials from ending up in landfills. Starting with organic and dry (recyclable) waste separation and progressing to separation by material type is recommended.
- **Photovoltaic Energy**: Studying the implementation of an energy production plant, which provides environmental benefits as a renewable energy source with a lifespan of approximately 25 years and economic benefits by reducing electricity bills by 90% with a return on investment of around 5 years.

SOCIAL PILLAR

- Sanitary and Comfort Conditions in Rural Work: Despite the proximity of the headquarters to the plantations, accessible structures providing potable water, meal areas, rest areas, and personal hygiene facilities (bathrooms) are essential for worker well-being and comfort.
- Training: Continuously training workers to master updated technology and manage their work contributes to achieving productivity goals, job retention, personal and professional fulfillment, improved quality of life, and daily activity performance with economic and social gains.

Below are some images that highlight our visit.







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Biodiversity and Conservation



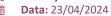
Soil and Nutrient Management







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Agrochemicals











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Coffee Processing Area













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More Pictures from the Visit











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Responsible Agricultural Engineer

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