

Data: 01/04/2024

Coffee farmer: João Lincoln Reis Veiga

Congonhal Estate

VISIT REPORT

Nepomuceno is a Brazilian municipality in the state of Minas Gerais. It is located in the Immediate Geographic Region of Lavras, with a total area of 582.553 km². It has a hilly to mountainous terrain and is in the transition zone between the cerrado and Atlantic Forest biomes. Its average altitude is 920 meters. It boasts one of the largest coffee estates in the region, covering an impressive 13,823 hectares, with an annual production of 380 thousand sacks and an average productivity of 29 sacks per hectare.

The farm is managed by João Lincoln and his daughter Ana. Initially belonging to their grandfather, the farm produces not only coffee but also avocado and soybeans. They preserve watercourse springs and the fauna in 110 hectares of legal reserve and APPs. They currently have 104 hectares in coffee crops and employ various strategies for good management.

The farm is extremely organized, featuring a cafeteria, locker rooms, areas with drinking water, an office, leisure and resting areas, a warehouse, eye wash showers, an area for oil storage, and various machinery for post-processing the harvested coffee.

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

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; 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.

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,



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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.

SOCIAL PILLAR

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 favors an improvement in the quality of life and the full exercise of their daily activities, with economic and social gains.

In conclusion, among the various attributes required in the sustainability report, we can consider it very satisfactory, but attention and adaptation to the constant changes in the technical, environmental, and social aspects of agriculture in our country are always necessary.

Below are some images that highlight our visit and the attributes addressed.





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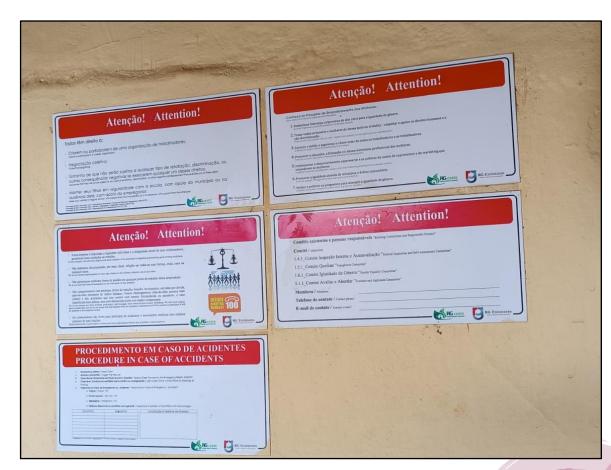


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