

CAN PROGRAM AREAS

CaN COMMUNITY AGROECOLOGY NETWORK is an international network committed to sustaining rural livelihoods and environments by integrating research, education, and trade innovations.

Our three program areas are:



Trade Innovations

Connecting small-scale coffee farmer cooperatives, coffee roasters, researcher liaisons, the Santa Cruz Farmer's Market, university dining halls, students and household consumers to create alternative trade models.



Action Education

Creating applied learning opportunities for students through internships and field studies. Organizing the annual international short course in Agroecology and supporting technical training and leadership development with partner organizations.



Participatory Action Research

Fostering long-term relationships between CaN researcher liaisons and farmer organizations. This connection supports sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation. The research is based on local needs and engages farmers in the process to support a democratic development model.

**Working together
to support small-scale farmers,
protect the environment,
and humanize global trade.**

Engage Communities

Experience Sustainability

Educate for Healthy Food Systems



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AGROECO®

BASED ON RESEARCH AND RELATIONSHIPS



**COFFEE THAT REALLY LETS YOU KNOW
WHAT'S BEHIND THE CUP**



CAN CONNECTS SMALL-SCALE COFFEE FARMERS, ROASTERS, AND RESEARCHER LIAISONS



UCA San Ramón, Nicaragua is the Union of Agricultural Cooperatives located in the municipality of San Ramón.

A cooperative of farmers founded in 1992 with 450 members.

Now includes 1,084 members (36% women).

Being a member means that the entire family is a part of the cooperative, including spouses and children.

- Yadira Montenegro
Cooperative Development Organizer

Purchasing AgroEco® coffee

supports cooperative programs such as:

- Rural housing & access to credit
- Organic production assistance
- Health services & gender equity
- Student scholarships & adult literacy
- Tree inventories & community surveys



Santa Cruz Coffee Roasting Company (SCCR)

Founded in 1978, a small-batch roaster with the motto:

"Quality coffee for quality life"

SCCR's unique achievements include:

- 1st licensed Fair-Trade Roaster on the California Central Coast
- Producing *In Our Hands*, a documentary that examines sustainable relationships in specialty coffee purchasing.

SCCR is committed to maintaining a strong relationship with CAN and UCA San Ramón to help promote the AgroEco® trade model.

AgroEco® coffee is available in a Full City medium roast:

Smooth and balanced flavor with notes of bittersweet chocolate and toasted nuts

To learn about Santa Cruz Coffee Roasting Co. visit them at:

www.SantaCruzCoffee.com



AgroEco® Researcher Liaisons have been collecting data on sustainable agriculture and community livelihoods for 10 years.

10 years of research have shown that:

- Although Fair Trade certification has led to increases in returns to farmers, not all coffee is sold at Fair Trade prices because there is not enough demand by consumers.
- Challenges in the organic certification process prevent farmers using organic practices from receiving a premium.
- Food security and community livelihoods are not resolved by certifications alone.
- Planting different species of shade trees increases the food supply and creates habitat for migratory birds.
- Long-term market relationships provide income stability for farmers.

To read the full results of the research published by CAN Researcher Liaisons Christopher Bacon, Ernesto Mendez, and Nicholas Babin visit our website at:

www.canunite.org

INVENTORY OF SHADE-TREE DIVERSITY



Cirio Castillo, a student scholarship recipient with UCA San Ramón, assists in performing an inventory of shade-tree diversity on a coffee farm.

VISIT BY DARLING RAYO OF UCA SAN RAMON



Darling Rayo (center in black shirt), another student scholarship recipient, gave a presentation at Santa Cruz Coffee Roasting Company's Coffee Learning Center. Here she is shown with SCCR and CAN staff.

A summary of the results of their research can be found in the Sustainability Facts Label on the back of the AgroEco® coffee bag.

The 14 species of shade trees is exceptionally high when compared to other coffee plantations with 2-3 species of shade trees.

AgroEco® Coffee Sustainability Facts	
Community - San Ramón, Nicaragua	
Unión de Cooperativas Augusto César Sandino (UCA San Ramón) Founded 1992	
• 1084 members	• 366 women
• 430 growing coffee	• 718 men
Environmental average	
Average size of coffee parcel	1.6 ha. (4 acres)
Number of shade trees	541 per hectare (ha.)
Diversity of tree species (Including citrus, mango, cacao and others)	14 species per ha.
Social coop. avg.	
Size of household	5 people
7-18 yrs. old children in school	75%
Economic coop. avg.	
Household food grown on farm	50%
Household coffee production	756 lbs/yr.
Price paid per pound to UCA San Ramón	Conventional - \$1.25 Fair Trade - \$1.55 AgroEco - \$2.00
AgroEco Community Sustainability Projects	
• Nicaraguan Youth Scholarship Fund	
• Youth capacity building workshops	
• Cooperative youth giving adult literacy classes	
• Community social and environmental research	
<small>*Research data collected by cooperative youth program members and CAN's Participatory Action Researcher Chris M. Bacon, Ph.D.</small>	