

Results Report: Interview with Coffee Growers on Coffee Leaf Rust

Project: Coffee Rust: Unintended Consequences of Organic/Bio Certifications

Country: Guatemala

Municipalities: Nueva Santa Rosa, Mataquescuintla, Acatenango, Sololá, Colomba

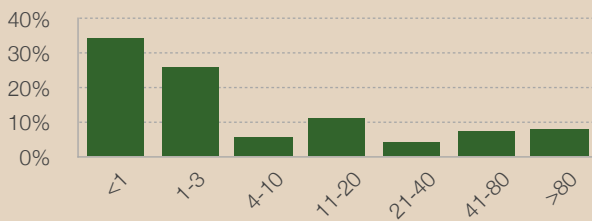
Number of interviews: 46

Date: December 2021

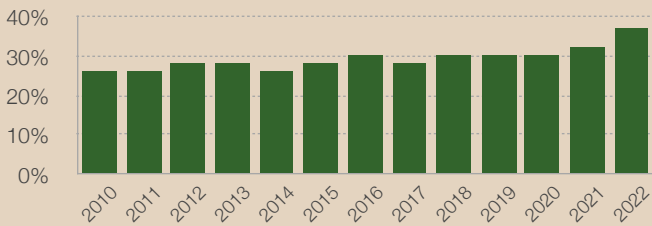


Characteristics of Coffee Farms:

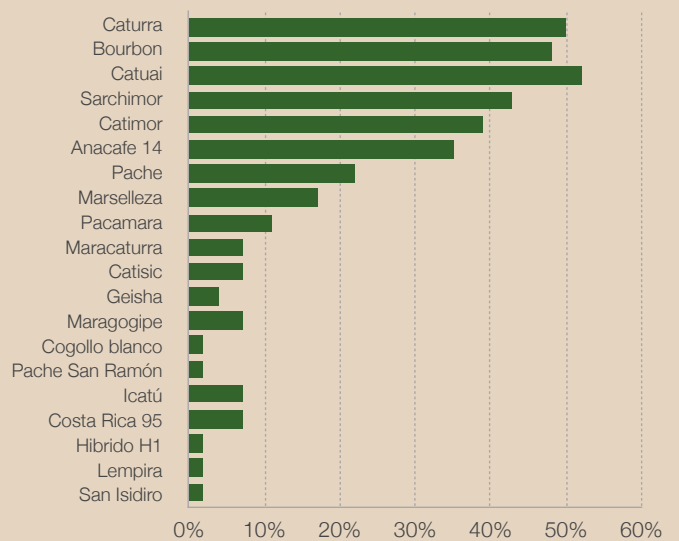
How big is your coffee farm? (Hectares)



¿Su café ha estado, está o planea que este certificado?

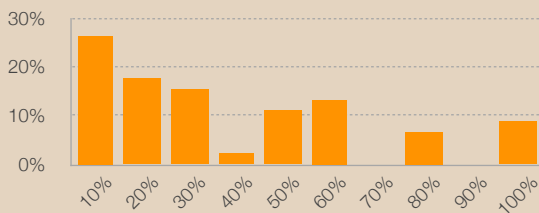


What varieties of coffee have you planted?

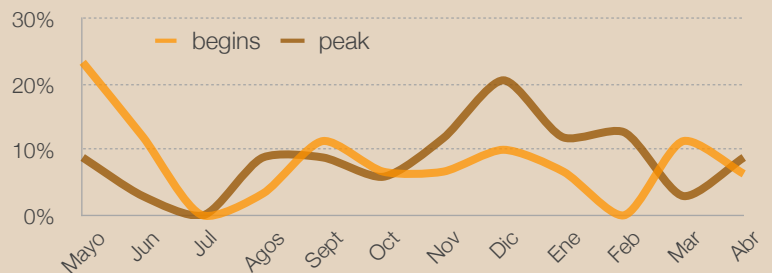


Coffee Leaf Rust Monitoring (2020/2021 season):

What percentage of your farm was affected by coffee rust?

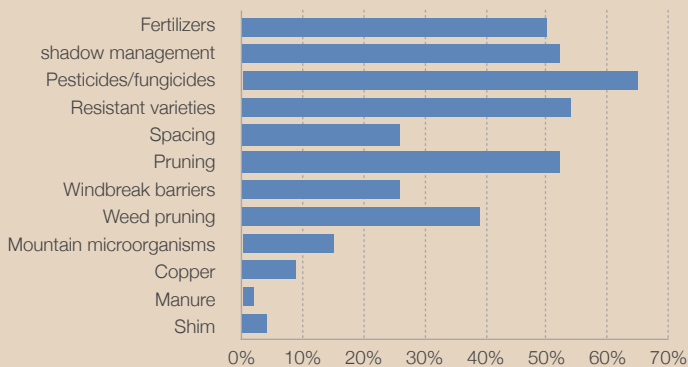


In which month do you detect coffee rust in your crop?

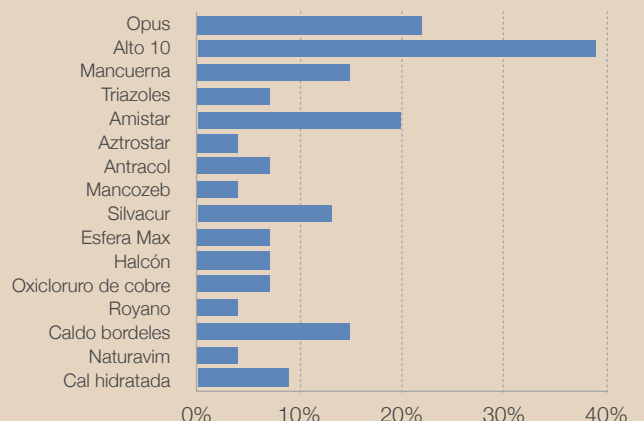


Preventive Measures against Coffee Leaf Rust:

Measures implemented in 2021 against coffee rust.



What fungicide do you apply?



Quotes from Focus Groups:

Do you think that the coffee rust in the region (not in your plot) could affect your plantation? How?

"It is alarming because, if the neighbour already has the rust, it affects me."

"If the neighbour's coffee plantation is full of rust, we carry the dust on our clothes and when we enter our coffee plantation, we contaminate it."

"If the neighbour is full of rust and he doesn't worry about it, it's going to create a problem, as the air is going to bring us rust."

Do you coordinate with your neighbours when you apply fungicide? How?

"Cooperatives train us for the application of pesticides, but the timing is up to each one of us."

"Here we understand that each one has their own different management. The problem is that there is no coordination."

"The rust attack is strong because we never agree, we do not spray at the same time."

What are the advantages and/or disadvantages of fumigating?

"What we did was to change varieties, however, the rust is still present: the only thing left to do is fumigate."

"In the end, all we want is to produce and that the plant is healthy. I don't care if it is organic or not."

"With rust everything is preventive, there is no cure."

"My experience is that if I want to eliminate a disease, I must prevent it from spreading, remove it when it is small."

Do you think the coffee rust problem can be solved? who should be responsible?

"There has to be help from the central government."

"The problem is that the support (from the government) is not permanent."

"A monitoring system is needed in the prevention stage."

"It would be good to have a training to see which fungicide is less harmful and is more effective to combat the rust."

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