

ETHIOPIA



Region

Sidamo

Producer

Sidama Coffee Farmers Cooperative
Union

Altitude

1,800 - 2,000 masl

Variety

Heirloom cultivars

Harvest Period

Nov - Dec

Processing

Washed

ETHIOPIA WASHED ARABICA SIDAMO GRADE 2 ORGANIC

elegant • smooth • tea like • bergamot • peach iced tea

Ethiopia is considered the cradle of coffee and famous because it was in the Kaffa region's forests where *Coffea Arabica* grew wild. Nowadays, coffee is grown in many different regions within Ethiopia and is mainly produced by smallholder farmers, with traditionally small production plots and low yields. They deliver their cherries to central washing stations rather than processing their coffee with their own machinery. At the washing stations, the beans are carefully sorted before being processed. Coffees from the Sidamo region have a distinct character and unique cup profile that justify considering them as some of the best coffees in the world.

Following the typical smallholder structure of the country, the Sidama Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union, founded in 2001, represents around 50 first-level cooperatives counting more than 80.000 members spread throughout the mountains and valleys of the Sidama region in southern Ethiopia. Together, the farmers produce about 165.000 bags of organic Arabica coffee per year.

The smallholder farmers benefit from their membership as the SCFCU provides scholarships to hundreds of children and has funded three new school buildings for local primary schools. Many first-level cooperatives use the premium from the certification to improve the infrastructure in their communities. They build communal offices, warehouses and install electricity lines reaching more than 5.000 community members.

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