

ETHIOPIA



Region

Sidamo

Producer

Sidama Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union (SCFCU)

Altitude

1,800 - 2,000 masl

Variety

Heirloom

Harvest Period

Nov - Dec

Processing

Washed



LIST + BEISLER

ETHIOPIA WASHED ARABICA SIDAMO GRADE 2 FAIRTRADE (FLO) + ORGANIC

pleasant • bright • round • black tea • lemongrass • yasmine

Ethiopia, considered the cradle of coffee, is 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. 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 Sidama have a distinct character and unique cup profile that justify considering them as some of the best in the world. The region hosts some of the country's highest altitudes for coffee cultivation, ranging from 1,500 to 2,200 masl. As a result, coffees ripen slowly and hence develop more intense flavors. Sidama is also the source of many of Ethiopia's grade 1 and grade 2 beans, its two highest quality grades.

The Sidama Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union (SCFCU) is located here. Founded in 2001, it represents around 50 first-level cooperatives counting more than 80.000 members spread throughout the mountains and valleys of Sidama. Together, the farmers represent the second largest coffee producing cooperative union in Ethiopia and produce about 165.000 bags of Fairtrade and Organic Arabica coffee per year.

The farmers benefit from their membership as the SCFCU provides scholarships to hundreds of children and has funded three new buildings for local primary schools. Many first-level cooperatives use the Fairtrade and Organic premium 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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