

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report Form

Project Title	Biodiversity and Colombian Coffee Farmers: Capacity Building for Added Value
Country	Colombia
Organisation	CABI Commodities and Cenicafe
Project Ref. No.	162/11/014
Report date	<i>April – September 2003</i>

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

Database construction: Through extensive discussion it was agreed that a website would be the best format for this database. Cenicafe has committed itself to develop its own website and work is well advanced on this, an operating version will be available by the end of 2003. The database will be placed on this website.

Participatory rural appraisal: completed, analysis underway. Preliminary results available and suggest that bird diversity, the indicator used by Cenicafe, is greatest in unshaded coffee plots associated with forest fragments, rather than shaded coffee.

Field manual: format and chapters agreed, execution still behind schedule.

Stakeholder workshop: successful workshop held in Sept 03 with 60 participants. It was agreed that far more needs to be done to promote specialty coffees in Colombia, to provide the knowledge and information to farmers to help them make rational choices as well as the research to underpin this. We are now in the process of preparing a document to summarize the needs. This will include an assessment of the relative economic value of shade vs sun coffee in regard to quality and potential consumer premiums. Presentations will be placed on website.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments, that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will effect the budget and timetable of project activities. Have any of these issues been discussed with the Department and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

From the points raised from the review of the first annual report, some activities have been scaled down. We have agreed that it is too early in the project to produce video and information leaflets for broad dissemination, and number of farms to be surveyed have been reduced. Forest surveys are now limited to fragments associated with coffee.

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures.

None.