

Fazenda Sucuri e Araujos



Location: Coromandel, Minas Gerais

Biome: Cerrado

Area property (ha): 1,714

Coordinates property: -18.5178, -46.8977

Cleared Area

42	hectares	Period clearance: August to December 2024	Type of vegetation: Savanna Park
829	tons of CO ₂		

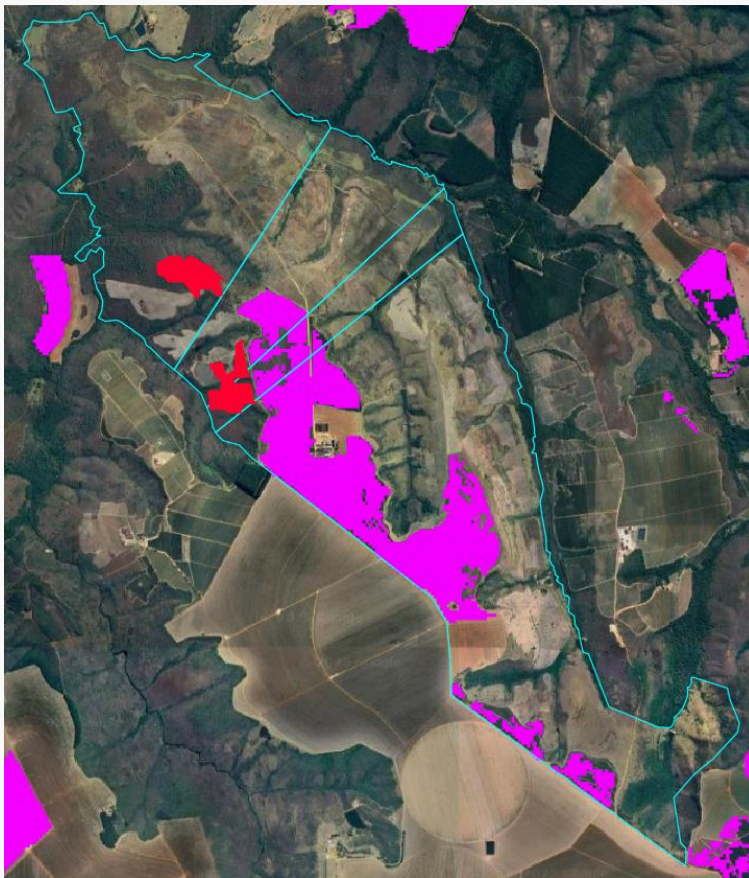


Figure: Fazenda Sucuri e Araujos (marked with blue line, divided in several parcels). The deforestation (in red) is adjacent to the coffee production area (in purple), based on Mapbiomas (2023). About 6.5 ha of the clearing falls into the definition of FAO Forest. Source: AidEnvironment

About 6.5 ha of the native vegetation cleared area falls into the FAO Forest definition and is non-compliant with the EUDR

August 2024



December 2024



Imagery: Fazenda Sucuri, before and after clearing. Source: AidEnvironment. Imagery ©2024 Planet Labs Inc.

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Ownership & Business relationship

Owner: D'Barbosa Coffee / RQ Participações	Company response: <i>JDE Peet's: In response to these six (February 2025) coffee cases shared with JDE Peet's in March 2025, the company responded that "since the plots in question have undergone deforestation that precludes any possibility of coffee harvesting before 2026, these cases could not be linked to JDE Peet's operations". In turn, AidEnvironment pointed the fact that any clearing of forest after the EUDR cut-off date may involve future risks for coffee companies if coffee beans of the cleared plots would enter the European market from January 2026. Moreover, JDE Peet's indicated that "one of the cases you label as deforested actually relates to restoration of coffee plants" but does not further clarify which case this concerns.</i>
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Environmental sanctions

Embargoes:	No -
Environmental fines:	Yes On 28 November 2024, Danilo Barbosa, owner of D'Barbosa Coffee, received a fine of BRL 42,000 for clearing flora in Coromandel (Minas Gerais). This is likely linked to the detected clearing in this case study. Status of the process (in February 2025) is "for approval/defense deadline".

Case description

Fazenda Sucuri in Coromandel (Minas Gerais) cleared 42 hectares of native vegetation between August and December 2024, of which 6.5 ha of the vegetation can be classified as forest under the EUDR.

While in the official Brazilian land management system (SIGEF, 2019) the farm parcels are registered under ownership of company RQ Participações (a holding company of non-financial institutions), the company website of D'Barbosa Coffee clearly links Fazenda Sucuri to company Barbosa Café Exportação LTDA, under leadership of Danilo Barbosa (1). Other than the Sucuri farm in Coromandel municipality, the company also operates coffee farms in Carmo do Paranaíba municipality, under the names of Bravinhos, Cachoeira, Paraíso Morcego, Santa Maria, and Chapadão, as well as the Joia Rara farm in Patrocínio, and the Esperança farm in Campos Altos, all in Minas Gerais state. Two Barbosa farms, Cachoeira and Chapadão, in Carmo do Paranaíba (MG), have been certified under Rainforest Alliance (RA) (2). The Rainforest Alliance's 2020 Sustainable Agriculture Standard emphasizes the conservation of all natural ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, peatlands, savannas, grasslands, and shrublands (3). While the farm under investigation Fazenda Sucuri is not RA certified, the reported clearing in this case would be likely noncompliant with the RA standard, highlighting that farm owners can be sustainably certified in one farm, while clearing native vegetation in another farm by the same owner.

Based on online research, AidEnvironment found a supplier-buyer relationship between Barbosa coffee and Montesanto Tavares Group (through Ally Coffee) (4), with Sucafina (5), and with Starbucks (based on logo on company's website, see source (1)). According to the information on the sale of coffee from Fazenda Sucuri (6), the property has 4C, C.A.F.E. Practices (Starbucks) and Cerrado Mineiro Region Designation of Origin certifications (7). Between 3 January 2021 and 18 November 2023, Barbosa Café Exportação exported 750 metric tonnes (MT) of green coffee beans, mainly to consignees Orange Brown in Toronto (Canada), to logistical company Southampton Freight Services in the UK, and Dubai Tea Trading Centre in the United Arab Emirates (8). Sucafina Belgium imported 13 MT of coffee beans from D'Barbosa in January 2021, while another 19 MT was exported and imported by D'Barbosa from Brazil to Portugal in February 2023. Montesanto Tavares Group and Sucafina are confirmed suppliers (9) of the world's second largest coffee producer JDE Peet's. The CEO of RQ Participações and former congressman Romeu Queiroz, has been six years in prison for Criminal Action 470 (10).

- (1) Website D'Barbosa, online: <https://www.dbarbosacoffee.com.br/en/producao>, viewed in January 2025.
- (2) Website Rainforest Alliance, online: <https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/business/certification/certificate-search-and-public-summaries/>, viewed in January 2025.
- (3) <https://www.rainforest-alliance.org/resource-item/guidance-m-natural-ecosystems-and-vegetation/>
- (4) <https://www.allycoffee.com/coffees/fazenda-santa-maria-danilo-barbosa-yellow-catuai-natural/>
- (5) <https://sucafina.com/na/offerings/d-barbosa-cerrado-natural>
- (6) <https://expocacer.com.br/produto/edicao-especial-cafe-campeao-danilo-barbosa-250g-grao/>
- (7) <https://expocacer.com.br/certificacoes/>
- (8) Brazilian shipment data.
- (9) Ibid.
- (10) Agência Brazil, online (published 5 August 2014): <https://agenciabrasil.etc.com.br/politica/noticia/2014-05/barbosa-suspende-trabalho-externo-de-condenado-no-mensalao>, viewed in February 2025.