

Fazenda Santa Rita de Cássia



Location: Pimenta Bueno, Rondônia

Biome: Amazon (Brazil)

Cleared area (ha): 244 (2021-2025)

Coordinates property: -12,03795, -60,81550

Clearing details



Imagery: Farm boundaries (in blue) of Fazenda Santa Rita Cássia (a.k.a. Lote 14 - Gleba 05 – Corumbiara) in Pimenta Bueno, Rondônia. The red polygons demonstrate deforestation and degradation of 244 ha of the vegetation type “transition area between Forested Savanna and Rainforest” between 2022 and 2025, of which 159 ha in the left image polygon and 85 ha in the right image polygon. Source: AidEnvironment, based on rural cadastre data (SIGEF and CAR) and ©2025 Planet Labs Inc.



Imagery: Before and after images of Fazenda Santa Rita Cássia. Image © Planet Labs.



All (244 ha) native vegetation cleared falls into the FAO Forest definition and is **non-compliant with the EUDR**





Ownership & Business relationship

Owner: Valdinei Correa Pereira	Company response: In response to a draft version of this case study shared with JBS and Marfrig on 12 June 2025, JBS states that: “all wood purchases are made with the issuance of invoices that are, by law, mandatorily accompanied by the required documentation, such as the DOF (Documento de Origem Florestal – Forest Origin Document). The DOF is certified by Ibama, which verifies the circulation of goods throughout the supply chain in accordance with environmental regulations.” Marfrig stated (30 June 2025) that “the information presented does not reflect the company’s procedures. The facility in question has not been operated by Marfrig since October 2024. Furthermore, Marfrig has consistently upheld rigorous environmental responsibility standards across all its production units.” Marfrig’s full response can be read here .
Brazilian buyers of wood: JBS, Marfrig, Amaggi, Indusparquet	
European buyers of wood: CPF Parquet, United Construction Products, BRW Floors, Planchers De Bois Exotique	

Case description

This case, investigated in partnership with Repórter Brasil (1), highlights how a timber producing farm with legality violations is likely linked to the main beef producers in Brazil: JBS and Marfrig. The meatpackers have been indirectly purchasing timber from a farm where the Brazilian authorities identified deforestation and the use of enslaved workers. JBS reports to use wood biomass as fuel for its industrial boilers (2).

In September 2019, federal government inspectors rescued 17 workers from conditions analogous to slavery at the Santa Rita de Cássia farm (a.k.a. Lote 14 - Gleba 05 – Corumbiara), a 2,223 hectares farm in Pimenta Bueno, Rondônia. The workers were clearing native forest and loading logs onto trucks. The inspection team reached the group following a report of a worker’s death at the site - he was struck by a tree during deforestation. The workers, all employed informally, were reportedly (3) found in degrading labour conditions, exposed to imminent risk of accidents, and lacking proper protective equipment. Initially, they were sleeping out in the forest, but reported that after their coworker’s death, the employer removed them from the area and brought them to the main part of the farm, fearing an inspection might take place. Moreover, the precarious conditions recorded by the inspectors did not change. The workers were not allowed to use the farm’s sanitary facilities and were forced to relieve themselves in the woods. Drinking water was taken from a nearby stream. Additionally, they were sleeping on the ground or in tents. The farm owner and employer responsible for the labour, Valdinei Correa Pereira, was added to the Brazilian “dirty list” of slave labour three years after the inspection, in October 2022 (4).

In 2019, the Rondônia State Environmental Department embargoed 205 hectares within the Santa Rita de Cássia farm due to environmental violations found on the property (5). The Santa Rita de Cássia farm has received approval for clearance of 489 hectares of vegetation between 18 November 2021 - 2022 (6). In May 2025, 244 hectares have been cleared of vegetation type “transition area between Forested Savanna and Rainforest”. Ongoing clearing is expected based on visual confirmation.

Data obtained shows that in 2022 and 2023, slaughterhouses in Rondônia belonging to JBS and Marfrig - the two largest beef producers in Brazil - purchased firewood and wood residues from various sawmills supplied by the Santa Rita de Cássia farm, even after the farm had been added to the “dirty list” (7). Other major companies that acquired wood or wood residues from sawmills supplied by the farm include Amaggi, Gazin Colchões - one of Brazil’s largest mattress manufacturers - and Indusparquet, a major exporter of wooden flooring to the U.S. and Europe.

Between 2022-2023, Indusparquet has exported various wood products (e.g. HS 4409, HS 4418) to buyers in France (e.g. CPF Parquet), the U.S. (e.g. United Construction Products, BRW Floors), and Canada (e.g. Planchers De Bois Exotique) (8).

- (1) <https://reporterbrasil.org.br>
- (2) JBS CDP Forests questionnaire 2022, online: https://www.jbs.com.br/storage/2023/10/2022_Forests.pdf, viewed in June 2025.
- (3) Labour inspection report, online: <https://www.gov.br/trabalho-e-emprego/pt-br/assuntos/inspecao-do-trabalho/areas-de-atuacao/relatorios-op-2019/op-73-de-2019-fazenda-santa-rita-de-cassia-v-c.pdf>, viewed in June 2025.
- (4) The “dirty list” edition including the employer’s name, online: https://reporterbrasil.org.br/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/cadastro_de_empregadores-050424.pdf, viewed in June 2025.
- (5) Rondônia’s environmental state department (available upon request).
- (6) Forest exploitation permit for the area (available upon request).
- (7) Forest Origin Documents (undisclosed).
- (8) Brazilian shipment data, filtered for Indusparquet exports between 1 January 2022 and 30 November 2023.