



The ancestral tribe surrounding this YCFCU co-op in the Gedeo Zone of Yirgacheffe is called "Adado," which where the co-op gets its name. There are eight mills in the Adado region, with about 7,000 farmers represented. The Adado region produces 20 to 30 containers annually.

The YCFCU was organized in 2002 in an effort to establish stability amidst fluctuating coffee prices. Recognized under the national labor union, the YCFCU represents 43,794 farmers over six districts, including Yirgacheffe, Gedeb, Wanago, Dilla Zuria, Bule, and Kochere.

Shortly after this the Ethiopian government, in support of small producers, added coffee into the Ethiopian Commodities Exchange (ECX). This would allow, amongst many things, for farmers to get paid in a timely manner. The nature of exchanges is to homogenize a product and sell it at a market price hence it doesn't allow for premiums to be paid for a superior product. With this we saw a decline in quality.

Cooperatives, like Yirgacheffe Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union (YCFCU), are exempt from going through the ECX. We are working alongside YCFCU to pay

## ID# 7186

Origin Ethiopia

Region Yirgacheffee, Gedeo

Zone

Farm Adado Cooperative

Variety Various heirloom Ethiopian varieties

Altitude 2000–2350 masl

Proc. Method Fully Washed



premiums for better cherry selection at the washing station level to bring back the classic Yirgacheffe profile that was obscured for some years.

The video above is from YCFCU Konga, the primary cooperative of the Yirgacheffe Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union.

## From <u>yirgacheffeunion.com</u>:

The Yirgacheffe Coffee Farmers Cooperatives Union (YCFCU), currently represents over 43,794 farmers belonging to more than 300,000 families, and was established in June 2002. Its currently 23 member cooperatives are all located in Gedeo, southern Ethiopia. This area is in a region that is famous for coffee growing in the country. The 62,004 hectares gardens that are dedicated to coffee alone, on average produce 9,000 tons of Yirgacheffe and 3,000 tons of Sidama washed coffee each year. The area also produces 24,000 tons of sun-dried coffee annually.

The Ethiopian traditional coffee growing method is mainly manifested among the Yirgacheffe coffee-growing farmers. While the protection and handling of the coffee is carried out on a manual basis, the development is done with the use of natural fertilizers. Pests are controlled by biological natural means. In this manner, the development work is done through the application of the age-old cultural traditional means, rather than the artificial modern pest, insect, and weed control by chemical and fertilizers.



## Gallery Adado Grade 2 - YCFCU FLO ID 2520 (GrainPro)











