

# PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832



## The Cup:

Clean and citric with cocoa and herbal flavors.

## Farm: PRODECOOP

PRODECOOP is a second-level cooperative organization that groups 38 grassroots cooperatives made up of 2,300 small producers, 27% of whom are women. These producers and their respective cooperatives are located in the departments of Esteli, Madriz, and Nueva Segovia, in northern Nicaragua. On average, they export 30,000 coffee bags, of which 50% of the total volume is organic and Fair Trade certified. Over its existence, PRODECOOP has developed a long line of programs that aim to support their members in a multitude of different ways. They are able to fund these programs using their Fair Trade premium. Study Through Coffee Each year 3,000 packages of school supplies and backpacks are delivered to school children, encouraging school attendance and proficiency. Women's Initiative A fund exists that gives women producers, producers' wives, and producers' daughters access to loans. This allows for ventures and opportunities such as starting small businesses. Once a loan is paid off, one can apply for more. Cultivating Health Promoters trained in the prevention of cervical cancer give talks to interested members. Health-care provision and raised awareness has allowed for screening

**P# 16438**

<b>Farm</b>	PRODECOOP
<b>Process</b>	Washed
<b>Variety</b>	Bourbon, Catimor, Caturra, Typica
<b>Elevation</b>	1250-1350 MASL
<b>Country</b>	Nicaragua
<b>Harvest</b>	October – March



of more than 3,000 women so far. This program is made possible through Grounds For Health and Nicaragua's Ministry of Health. Productivity and Quality This program is directly focused on the increase both quality and productivity of coffee by means of education of pest and disease control, diversification of varieties, and specifically combating leaf rust. Food Security and Sovereignty As most of the producing families are very small in size, the recent changes in climate patterns have a greater effect on the livelihoods of smallholders. This program is dedicated to educating people on diversifying their food securities through the farming of different crops and maintaining livestock, such as chickens, pigs, and cattle. PRODECOOP is a cooperative organization comprising 38 smaller member cooperatives and more than 2,300 farmer members. About 30 percent of the membership is female. The cooperative is certified Fairtrade and 100 percent of its members participate. The average annual export for the co-op is 30,000 bags, about half of which is certified organic.

## Program: FTO Nicaragua PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832

Fair Trade- and organic-certified coffees from Nicaragua are fairly common, as many smallholder producers have organized themselves into democratically run cooperatives due to the small average farm size (1–10 hectares) and long history with cooperatives: The first cooperative of coffee growers was established here in the 1920s.





## Process: Washed PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832

Many producers deliver their cherry to a central processing unit such as a mill or cooperative, where it will be depulped and fermented in open-air tanks for 8–12 hours before being washed, generally speaking. Coffees are usually dried on patios.



## Variety: Bourbon, Catimor, Caturra, Typica PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832

Although this offering is not traceable to a single variety, it is likely comprised of Bourbon, Catimor, Caturra, and Typica — the most common varieties cultivated in this region.



## Country: Nicaragua PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832

While Nicaragua has historically been planted with traditional varieties such as Typica, Bourbon, Caturra, Maragogype, areas of relatively low altitude (800–900 masl), the remoteness of the small farms, and battles with coffee-leaf rust in the past decade have remained obstacles in the way of the country achieving clear, prized single-origin status. The largest country in Central America, Nicaragua, continues to develop its reputation as a coffee origin to watch. Coffee is still its most important export, accounting for over \$1.2 billion in exports, and about 15 percent of the country's labor force is somehow involved in the coffee sector.



## Sourcing: Nicaragua Sourcing PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832

While Nicaragua has primarily been a source for full-container Fair Trade– and organic-certified coffees for Café Imports, in recent years we have been exploring different partnerships for more specialized coffees from individual producers or groups, and even investigating the possibility of microlots. We see great potential in the Nueva Segovia region, with its higher altitudes and the producers' growing interest in quality varieties and experimental processing.





## Gallery PRODECOOP - FLO ID 832















