**F13CF - Interview farmer #13 male, Mistrato, 55 - 15-7-2022**

**Well, first tell us who you are, what's your name, what do you do...**

Well, my name is [name]. We have been here for about 42 years. You cannot stay any longer... Of course, one hasn't been always here since we have left. We left the property like that, and we have come back. It belonged to my dad. And after my dad passed away about 14 years ago, we are here.

**How old are you?**

I am 55.

**Your whole life here.**

Yes, all my life. All my life. Yes, I went out there to Bogotá, to Cali, and I returned.

**You came back here, what are you doing here on the property?**

For now, we are cleaning. Weed removal is over, and we are already ready to continue collecting coffee.

**How is a normal day for you? For example, what did you do yesterday?**

I didn't do anything yesterday because I was sick. I have been out of work for almost three weeks now, as it has been… My mom died 15 days ago, so we have not worked. My brothers were here, and they left on Saturday, and the two of us are left. Now [name] comes, the other nephews, and [name].

**Keeping track of everything. And what did you normally do?**

Yes, they keep track, and now my wife and I stay here at night because in the village we hardly like it. No, we don't like it enough to go out for a little while and that's it.

**And on a normal day, when you were working, what did you do?**

Oh, no, yes, I went out with the workers to collect coffee. I also get involved and work out there.

**What time do you start the day?**

At... Right now, we are starting at around half past six and leaving at four.

**How many workers do you have now?**

Currently, we have these boys, three, and the scythe worker, while he is scything, and when they finish, they leave.

**And do they stay here, or do they come to work?**

No, they live up here, on the top. Yes, they live close. They have their own schedule and a motorcycle. And my pet…

**What products do you have here at the property?**

Now we have coffee and bananas, and pasture too because there are some paddocks out there as well. There is pasture there.

**Are the cows yours?**

No, we have rented them. The pastures, per month.

**Who do you sell the coffee you produce here to? Or what do you do with it?**

Some is sold in the cooperative, and the cooperatives take it to roast.

**Do you belong to the association?**

To the one of…

**Asocafé Manantial?**

No, ma’am, we don't belong to it. At least, as far as I know, not. My mother was a member of the cooperative. Yes, my mother was a member of the cooperative.

**Well, and when you want to rest, for example, what do you do?**

I go to the village for the weekend.

**And how do you go? Do you have a motorcycle?**

I'm going with the car.

**Oh, do you have a car?**

Yes.

**Does transportation pass through here?**

Yes, there is transportation every day.

**What time and how does it work?**

In the morning at 7:30, it goes by around 8:30, and in the afternoon it goes up again.

**It is easy. Is it quiet around here, safe?**

Yes, nothing happens here. It's quiet.

**In the village, what do you do to rest?**

No, nothing, relaxed.

**Do you sit in the square?**

I sit in the square.

**Alright. What do you like most about working on the property?**

The thing I like the most is that one does not have to give explanations to anyone; it is at one's expense.

**What would you like to change, for instance?**

What would I tell you... Perhaps having all coffee plantations new.

**Would you like that?**

Yes.

**How big is the property?**

Like that, as Juan Sebastian said, from twelve to thirteen.

**How much do you have in coffee? Half of it?**

Like half of it, around half.

**What do you do for example? Do you clean and remove the weeds, leaving space between plants?**

Yes, we do so, and if it's time to buy coffee, the stick is scraped to fix it, and then it is cut with the scythe.

**What is your favorite activity on the property? The one you say that you like the most.**

No, rather, I wish I didn't have to work. No, but everything, I like doing everything

**When do you get out? Every eight days?**

No, I almost don't. I have always been going out with one who does only here.

**For instance, when you have to go out, do you drive?**

No, Jorge is the one who drives. He drives. When I have mine, I drive.

**Each one handles his own.**

Yes.

**For example, do you fertilize the property?**

Yes, of course. I think that right now we are going to distribute the inheritance. That is the goal.

**So, everyone gets their part?**

Yes, but we continue to work here.

**Great! Well, everyone is here.**

Yes.

**Do you fertilize, do you add fertilizer? How often?**

Well, now, it was a long time ago because it was raining a lot, and we could not fertilize. Thus, it doesn't stop raining all the time. We are barely fertilizing. With *revoltura*.

**What is *revoltura*?**

From urea, ammonium, we buy a composition of several fertilizers.

**How much more or less do you apply here to each little tree?**

80.

**80 grams?**

Yes. That, but not strong, neither fumigation, no. We usually don't fumigate here.

**For instance, if you need to call or communicate with someone here, how do you do it?**

I have the cell phone there.

**And does it work?**

Yes. Another thing is that there is a signal.

**Oh, well.**

Before, I was talking to my sister, the one who lives in Cali, and in Spain there are also two.

**You have family in many places! You have two in Spain, one in Cali...**

Yes, and cousins.

**And, for example, then, if you are going to communicate, do you call someone?**

Yes, or they already call me.

**Do you have internet here?**

No, nothing. They cannot install it here.

**And the water, where does it come from?**

We have an aqueduct for water up here.

**Do they bring the water?**

But we also go to the river for it. We have to pay 4,000 monthly.

**Does the water reach here?**

Of course.

**And energy?**

Energy as well. Yes, for that one we have to pay sometimes 30, 40. There is no other option.

**For example, when you have a question. If you want to find out about something, do you search the internet?**

Well, I hardly know how to handle that. I go to my nephew, and he helps me.

**What has changed in recent years here on the property? That you say that...**

What has changed?

**Or is everything the same?**

Well, it has always been a long winter, the weather, that's what has brought the harvest here. Yes, because if it blooms and a lot of water is falling, the water destroys it, and if it has green coffee, it also destroys it. That's why there has been barely harvest here yet.

**If you could change something that is happening, what would you change?**

Like what? For instance, the weather? I would like the weather to change for a few days.

**A few days, and, for instance, is the village organized?**

Well, there's a village board there, but they hardly hold any meetings or anything. That man is like a very bad leader.

**Does it need someone there to lead?**

Yes, but people are too lazy to do that. He is the only one who signs up.

**For example, if you have meetings or something, can you talk?**

Yes, one can speak, of course.

**And is it normal? Don’t you feel kind of scared?**

No, yes, it is normal.

**For example, what things do you do here to take care of the environment, to avoid polluting?**

Well, we collect the rubbish, we collect it there. Any plastic you see out there, you pick it up, but most people don't do that. That car there, from the ground, comes for the garbage every month. One picks it up here at home, packs it up, and they come for it.

**For instance, in the coffee processing**

The processing, what is it? The washing?

**What do they do with that, with the washing?**

Down the glen, down there.

**And the pulp?**

We have the pulp there detained. That one we do not…

**To take care of the house, the food and all that, how do you do it?**

Ah, the village, I go there, and in the store.

**Do you go to the market every day?**

No, that is bought for approximately 15 or 20 days.

**Who cooks here?**

Both of us.

**Oh, how nice!**

That's why Rut comes, and she prepares the food, and so on.

**Returning to the subject of the property, do you apply pesticides or something like that for the coffee rust?**

No, not for that. There is a coffee trunk that needs to be fumigated.

**What do you fumigate it with?**

With a product called *Impact.*

**But how often do you use it more or less?**

No, we haven't fumigated in a long time. Right, Jorge? A long time ago.

**Who built this house?**

Well, when we arrived, this house was already... It's more than 100 years old. We have lived here for more than 43 years, and when we came…. And now I am alone here

**This house is big**

It is big and small at the same time.

**Why?**

I don't know, sometimes the whole family arrives and has nowhere to accommodate.

**Regarding… Here it is very quiet.**

Everything is quiet. Here, one goes to bed safe. That road is very calm, motorcycles always pass by at night, like that, but no... Nothing happens with people.

**Is this profitable? The coffee.**

Well, yes, we here, well, thank God, we have paid the debts.

**Do you have a loan for this?**

My brother and I are going to plant a coffee, and it is still being paid. We have only one debt.

**To save money, does this enable to save?**

If one wants, yes, you can save money.

**You must be organized….**

Of course.

**What do you like most about what you do?**

All. All. Or the chickens.

**You told me that you study until seventh grade. Did you receive courses?**

No.

**So, who taught you?**

I studied like this... I forgot the program... It was that of the rural farmer. They taught only on Thursdays, one day a week. Here it came. They came here on the property, up there, to the school to teach.

**Oh, did they come to the property?**

To the top, yes, they had to go up to the school.

**How did you go there?**

I used to go on foot, it's close here.

**Close? Your perception of being close... For example, if they tell you that you can fulfill your dream, what would your dream be? With the property, with your life?**

Well, yes, one's dream is to have a well-mounted property, with a small house in the village, owned, and his car. And be fine.

**Do you have children?**

No, I do not have children.

**Thus, there are the nephews.**

There are my nephews.

**For instance, when you are going to make a decision on the property...**

We met. When we are all, we meet. And if not, you talk to them, and everything is discussed.

**How has your health been?**

Well. These days I got that normal flu. I had to […] and everything.

**And everyone here has been kind of healthy?**

Yes, of course.

**But then, have you always been healthy?**

Yes, I never...

**And for the food, do you have special or normal food?**

Normal.

**The three meals?**

I already had them. The food must be very balanced. For the heart.

**For the sugar?**

The heart.

**So, do you have to control what you eat?**

Yes.

**What do you like to do? What is it that makes you happy, that you say like "I love doing this"?**

What can I say... Like what?

**For instance, when you are stressed, what do you do to calm down?**

Me, nothing, I relax.

**And what do you do? Do you sit down?**

I sit down, I watch TV, or I go for a walk out there.

**And, when you have a concern, who do you tell about it, or what do you say?**

To my brothers, to them.

**Are you very close?**

Yes, we had to become closer.

**Well, that is needed. The neighbors, how are they around here?**

Good neighbors.

**For example, on that side, what neighbors do you have, or how does that work?**

Here, a lady named Marta, and further down, Mr. Pascual.

**Everyone knows each other**

Yes, everyone. If you need something, you go there, and they do you a favor.

**Excellent!**

Yes, if you need something out there, some device, then go.

**Well, very good! Regarding, for example, the workers, how many did you tell me you had?**

Well, we have four.

**How are they? Do they come only one day?**

No, all week. They already finished.

**Oh, from Monday to Friday.**

Yes.

**Saturday and Sunday they don’t work.**

No.

**And again, from Monday to Friday. But do you work on Saturdays? Or what do you do on Saturdays?**

Yes, I go out there, or to the village.

**Are you in the village? Do you do different things?**

Yes, with my wife.

**Coming back to the issue of waste, you tell me that the pulp is accumulated. What do they do with the pulp?**

We have some pits down here, they gave us some pits from the cooperative to make them ourselves. Some pits so that the water does not fall on it, to make a roof.

**And what did the cooperative give you?**

It gave us few bricks there, some tiles that are there, and we haven't been able to finish it.

**Did not reach.**

Not enough, no ma'am.

**Was that with a cooperative program?**

Yes, with a cooperative program, yes.

**Is it just that or also for more people?**

For those who are members of the cooperative, that mom was skilled, so they gave us that. But it was not enough for us; only some bricks that are barely there to build a little bit. We had to build a high wall.

**Ah, you must build a high wall, so it was not enough.**

No, it was not enough. The pulp comes out there.

**Is that pulp used in something?**

Yes, for fertilizing. Yes, that's what one throws at the plants.

**What plants do you put that on?**

To the banana, or to the coffee again.

**And how much do you apply? Or how does one calculate that?**

No, one throws it there, one takes it there on the street, as fertilizer that is vegetable.

**But do you let it dry or put it right there when it comes out?**

No, when it's dry. There it is, that becomes earth there; yes, we take soil too. If we are going to make seedbeds, the soil is obtained from there and we no longer pay pesos for it.

**How much is the coffee production more or less?**

No, ma’am, I wouldn't have it... Because those coffee harvests out there give two, and four little loads, and that's it.

**And the charge, how much is it?**

The load, 125 kilos.

**Oh, it depends on the time of year.**

Yes, it depends on the harvest time. There, we are collecting a little bit, slowly.

**And if they told you... Let's see, the proposal is this. So, I'm going to tell you a little bit about the project, and then, perhaps you can tell me if you think we are crazy. So, well, the idea, the proposed project is called BioHub, and what we are looking for is a win-win. For example, this would be your property. Hence, the idea would be to collect the waste from the property, for example, the pulp, we would take it to a site, to a factory, for instance, where it is transformed and becomes fuel, like a kind of gasoline or something like that. It is a crude that looks like this.**

For cars?

**For airplanes. It can be used for airplanes or for boats. And this same liquid could be used to make paints, plastics, fertilizers.**

That of the pulp too?

**It could be... In other words, the pulp is transformed in these little factories and converted into these products. So, for example, this oil is a biofuel, and carbon also comes out, which can be used as compost, or organic enhancer. The idea is that it returns here to the property, but it could also be used for energy or water. Therefore, this is what we are evaluating that could be done. What do you think of that idea?**

Well, a good idea.

**Really? And, for example, would you be willing to participate?**

Of course, why not?

**Why?**

Well, I see that so that the pulp doesn't remain there, lying there or anything, which is also contaminating.

**Haven't you ever done anything with it?**

No, only what I told you.

**How could they pick it up? To say something, if we tell you, “Take it to Mistrató”, would it be possible? Or how could it work?**

That pulp could… Well, to transport it there wet… That's why you have to have the pit with a roof.

**Exactly. You would have to have some infrastructure first for that.**

Yes, of course.

**Alright. Also, if you were told that we are going to buy that, what would you say that is needed for it to be bought?**

Yes, because where it is, it's already rotten, it's wet. And for one to collect that in tow and everything...

**So, it would have to have a little roof, some things to protect it.**

Yes, a roof for the drying.

**Do you think this can improve things for you?**

Yes, it seems to me that it does work, of course... Of course.

**Well, this would be like the proposal. So, well, in general, what do you think?**

No, it looks good to me. It's a good idea.

**Right now, from the questions I asked you, we are going to make a kind of classification. For you, which is the most important, and which is the least important? Of some specific topics. Thus, for example, this is going to be the most important, and this is going to be the least important to you. For instance, taking care of the environment. What number would you give it? One, low? Or six?**

I think up here.

**Six. Good. Food, eating well? How much? Five. Residence? Having a nice house?**

Having a good house, of course...

**Which number?**

Here, fourth.

**Four, okay. Physical health, being healthy?**

Yes.

**How important is it?**

Here, I believe.

**Really? In three? Or do you want to put it up here?**

Or up here. Can it be placed there?

**Yes, you can place it wherever you want. You can put several in the same place. Okay, in six. Self-determination, deciding and doing things?**

This one, three.

**Alright. Job? That you like what you do.**

The one. That is also important.

**Having the possibility of moving? Six.**

Six.

**Social relationships, having a good relationship with others?**

That is a good one.

**Five. Leisure, games, relax, having time and space to calm down? How important is it? Three.**

Sure, the one also enjoys.

**Mental health, being calm?**

Here too.

**Five. Good. Education, how important is education?**

Excellent, that also down here.

**In four?**

Yes, that one there too.

**Safety, having a quiet space, feeling safe? Which one do you put it on, five or six?**

Six.

**Participating, being heard, participating in public things? Three.**

Yes, being...

**Then, you were telling me that you were receiving benefits from different institutions, that they helped you, they gave you things...**

No, just from the cooperative.

**Only the cooperative?**

Yes.

**The mayor's office...?**

No, the mayor's office hasn't given us anything.

**Never?**

Never.

**Why did you start with this?**

Because we don't like to go and be there, “Ah, I need paint, what I need for the roof…” We didn't like that.

**Never?**

No ma'am. For asking, "Ah, I need some paint for the house, help for the roof." Before, there was a mayor who was like very…always well-known, so she already told him, “Oh, what Don Javier, that, a roof…” and he had almost delivered it.

**Excuse me?**

He was almost to deliver it.

**And did he help you with that?**

Yes. In politics, “Oh, you see, you see, with money, collaborate with us, do it”, but we don't go that way. We don't like Javier. We don't like *Action*.

**Do you sell coffee only to the cooperative?**

And to agencies out there as well.

**And how do you sell it, dry?**