



COFFEE INDUSTRY BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY, 1991

41 YEARS OF THE COFFEE INDUSTRY BOARD

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Introduction

The Board is appointed by the Minister of Agriculture in accordance with Section 14 of the Coffee Industry Regulations Act 1948. It comprises nine (9) Members: five (5) Growers' representatives and four (4) Nominated Members.

Members of the Board during the year were:-

Mr. Keble Munn - Chairman
Mr. Douglas Graham
Mr. Donald Menzies
Mr. Dennis Boothe
Mr. Ronald Thwaites
Mr. John O. Minott
Senator Courtney Fletcher
Mrs. Alvira Stewart
Mr. A.S. Sinclair

Twelve (12) meetings were held and they were well attended.

Acknowledgement

The Board takes this opportunity to record its appreciation of the loyalty and dedication of its employees and of the assistance and co-operation of all coffee growers and related organisations which contributed to the industry's success during the year.

Staff

Mr. L.G. Brown was re-employed to the CIB on 18th February, 1991 and Mr. Carlos Griffith was employed on contract as Project Manager for the Claverty Cottage/Shirley Castle Blue Mountain Project as of 21st January, 1991.

PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Production

National Coffee Production for the year under review was 347,140 boxes of cherry coffee which was 17.8% more than the 294,624 boxes produced the previous year. The increase in production is attributed to continued recovery of some coffee farms from the devastating hurricane Gilbert in September 1988 and new bearing from recently planted coffee, mainly in the Blue Mountain areas.

**Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC)
3,000-acre Blue Mountain Loan Programme**

This programme was severely affected by Hurricane Gilbert which resulted in several farms being abandoned and others being replanted. It is estimated that of the 2,693.3 acres planted during the period 1982-1989 only 1,350 acres (50.1%) were still in coffee and were in various stages of rehabilitation.

**Claverty Cottage/Shirley Castle Programme (CC/SC)
3,500-acre Blue Mountain Loan Programme**

In the year under review CIDCo continued to maintain its 168 acres while private farmers established 639 acres, bringing the total planted by private farmers to 1,291 acres and an overall total of 1,459 acres planted under the programme.

During this year 268.5 acres of Chepstowe property in the Parish of Portland were sub-divided and distributed to 32 farmers. The OECF agreed to an expansion of the project area to include parts of the Blue Mountains outside of the parish of Portland. These two factors contributed to the greatly increased planting of coffee during the year when 639 acres were planted.

EEC 1,500-acre Coffee Development Loan Programme

During the year under review 61 acres were established, bringing the total planted (1986 - 1991) to 683 acres and benefiting 203 farmers. Planting was reduced because of the lack of rainfall during June, resulting in a shortened Spring planting period.

The proposal to expand the project into the Blue Mountain area was not approved, therefore emphasis was placed on establishing the remaining 817 acres in the original project area to complete the 1,500 acres target by July 1993.

Nursery Production

2,194,297 seedlings were distributed during the year. CIB's nurseries distributed 1,882,561 seedlings (85.8%) while private nurseries distributed 311,736 seedlings. Demand for seedlings was very high because of the rehabilitation and establishment programmes and farmers' anxiety to rehabilitate their farms which had been affected by the 1988 hurricane.

U.K. Rehabilitation Programme for the 16 Lowland Co-ops

In 1990 the U.K. made a grant of £500,000 for rehabilitation of 1,000 acres of small coffee plots in the 16 Lowland Co-operatives. This grant provided for growers to be given the equivalent of J\$5,000 per acre for resuscitation and rehabilitation of their fields. During the year, 207 acres involving over 700 farms were rehabilitated under the programme.

Co-operatives	No. of Boxes Delivered		
	1988/89	89/90	90/91
Brought forward	24,020	64,616	31,818
North Manchester	7,236	13,016	13,094
North East Clarendon	7,351	13,320	16,311
NW St. Catherine	10,019	12,958	13,752
St. Elizabeth	3,490	9,532	7,174
South Clarendon	5,145	5,208	5,030
South Manchester	18,863	16,703	23,868
Trelawny	624	1,854	2,760
Western St. Andrew	184	215	684
Western St. Ann	<u>4,386</u>	<u>14,751</u>	<u>5,961</u>
	<u>81,318</u>	<u>152,173</u>	<u>120,452</u>

1 box of coffee = 60 lbs. cherry coffee.

Production by the Co-operatives for this year was disappointingly low and was the result of severe drought which occurred at the critical development period of the berries, causing many of them to become dry on the trees. During this period also the industry experienced a high incidence of Leaf Miner, resulting in severe defoliation and crop loss.

Price to Farmers

Net prices paid by the CIB to coffee farmers for the 1990/91 crop were \$146 and \$472 per box for Lowland and Blue Mountain cherry coffee, respectively. These prices compared favourably with the previous year's prices of \$96 and \$255 per box for Lowland and Blue Mountain coffee, respectively. The continued devaluation of the Jamaican dollar and higher export prices accounted for the improved prices paid to farmers for the 90/91 crop.

Industry Cess

The industry cess remained at \$30.80 and \$13.96 per box of cherry coffee for Blue Mountain and Lowland coffee, respectively.

Marketing

Jamaica continued to be a member of the ICO. Demand for Jamaican coffee remained high on the export market. Export sales totalled 1,802,064 lbs valued at US\$10,453,846 while local sales amounted to 775,236 lbs valued at J\$14,875,974. Total coffee sales for the year was J\$84,729,619.

The CIB continued to export coffee to its traditional buyers in Japan, the USA, the UK and CARICOM.

UCC/CIB Development Project

This project, begun in 1990, was aimed at commercial coffee development in the Lowland area. Financing is provided by Ueshima Coffee Company of Japan and CIB. Some 262 acres were established under this programme during the year.

Hillside Farmers Support (IFAD) Project

This programme is being administered by the Agricultural Credit Bank through the various Peoples Co-operative Banks. The role of the CIB was to provide technical supervision and farm inputs to coffee loan recipients.

During the year 126 acres were established under this project. In addition 15 acres were resuscitated. The resuscitation component of this project did not perform well because there were similar programmes with more favourable terms available to the same coffee growers in the project area.

Operations at CIB's Central Factories

The CIB's six (6) central factories were in operation during the year. A summary of the receipts for the crop years 1989/90 and 1990/91 is set out below:-

Factory	1989/90	1990/91
	Boxes	Boxes
Aenon Town	31,885	31,563
Bog Walk	34,640	41,613
Clarendon Park	43,381	56,854
Maggotty	25,585	23,705
Trout Hall	<u>54,580</u>	<u>27,755</u>
Total Lowland -	190,071	181,490
Wallenford	<u>19,848</u>	<u>52,542</u>
Total Lowland and Blue Mtn factories	209,919	234,032

Coffee Co-ops

Coffee supplied by the sixteen (16) Lowland Coffee Co-operatives is set out below:-

Co-operatives	No. of Boxes Delivered		
	1988/89	89/90	90/91
Catadupa	4,190	3,762	5,042
Central St. Catherine	4,515	8,797	9,090
Central St. Mary	1,493	2,061	1,742
Darliston	269	949	1,366
East St. Ann	2,147	2,431	943
Frankfield	8,557	43,005	11,099
Guys Hill	<u>2,849</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>2,536</u>
Carried forward	<u>24,020</u>	<u>64,616</u>	<u>31,818</u>

