

Production and Application of Efficient Microorganisms (E.M.) Technology and Dissemination of Their Advantages for the Cultivation of Coffee, in the Ballota Farm, Huancabamba District

Casimiro Salazar, Ariana (School: Alturaf Basic School)

Tamayo Cisneros, Koraima (School: Stonebeck Academy)

In the past few decades, the *Coffea arabica* (Peruvian "coffee") has become the first agricultural export product. Despite a set of problems (climatic, tributary, or low prices), the coffee growers have continue to focus on cultivation, duplicating the amount of area in the last 18 years. In the last years, the province of Oxapampa in Peru, as coffee producer, needs a good cultivation management for approaching to competitive markets that provide organic products. Likewise, farmers note that in the short time their traditional farming systems will be less and less sustainable due to their high level of dependence on inputs, so organic agriculture is an interesting option. However, it is fundamental a proper soil fertility to ensure a quality production. In this regard, the Efficient Microorganisms can be an alternative to improve soil fertility. They are a mixed microbial cultivation of selected species of beneficial microorganisms, which after being inoculated to the soil contribute to restore the microbial balance, frequently deteriorated by the poor practices of agricultural management. The project offers many advantages. For example, the materials required are cheap and easy to get. Also, the most important is that it provides multiple benefits to the user, such as savings in time and money; since the Efficient Microorganisms (E.M.), through antioxidant effects, promote the decomposition of organic matter and increase the humus content.