



Coffee & Part 2

the Environment

Coffee Impact and Influence

Did you know?

Coffee is the second largest commodity traded in the world next to oil, earning \$60 billion annually. 25 million farmers world-wide depend on coffee as their staple income. Americans consume 400 million cups of coffee every day. It's important to understand the environmental impacts.

What happens between the farm and your cup?

Transport: After the coffee has been allowed to sit in storage to mature it's loaded into large crates and placed on cargo ships for a long journey across the ocean to the final destination country. In general, the cargo freighters are more affordable than other transportation but very inefficient due to carbon emissions. Some importers buy carbon credits to help offset the negative impacts.

Roasting Techniques: Once the coffee arrives at the roaster, they have options of how to prepare the coffee. Roasting darker and longer not only removes much of the coffees' natural flavors but requires more heat and causes charcoal-like smoke. Also, micro-roasters have the advantage of roasting on demand, rather than roasting and wasting coffee that may not be purchased or goes stale on the market shelf.

Brewing: Remember that 400 million cups consumed in the US? Use an unbleached filter or naturally bleached filters. The French Press brewing method is filterless and produces less waste.

Composting: Once brewed, the coffee grinds make an excellent base for an active compost for gardens. The worms love it! We send our compost to a local farm.