

# Partners & Certifications.



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## Rainforest Alliance

A key development in our sustainability efforts has been our successful certification progress with the Rainforest Alliance. Our Juice operations are now certified across two dimensions:

- **Farm-level certification:** 6 new farms certified in 2016 (São Francisco, Maria Sophia, São Sebastião, Morrinhos, Pedra Branca, Rincão dos Coxos), adding to the 5 farms already certified in 2015 (Monte Belo, São José, Santo Antônio da Barra Nova; São João; Santa Ângela) totaling 11 certified farms.
- **Chain of custody certification,** so that we can help to ensure the traceability of the production from Rainforest Alliance Certified™ farms. The Matão plant and Santos Terminal, Brazil, as well as the destination terminal in Ghent, Belgium, were already certified in 2015, and in 2016 the Bebedouro plant in Brazil also received this certification.

The certification process has resulted in several immediate benefits, both environmental and social:

- Dedicated and assigned Group Administrator who is responsible for ensuring that the respective sites are constantly meeting the requirements of the certification standards
- Formalized process in working with neighboring communities
- Further expansion of our Environmental Education program which allows us to promote environmental responsibility through farm tours, seedling planting and training
- Implementation of a Resource Management plan to reduce the consumption of water and electricity,

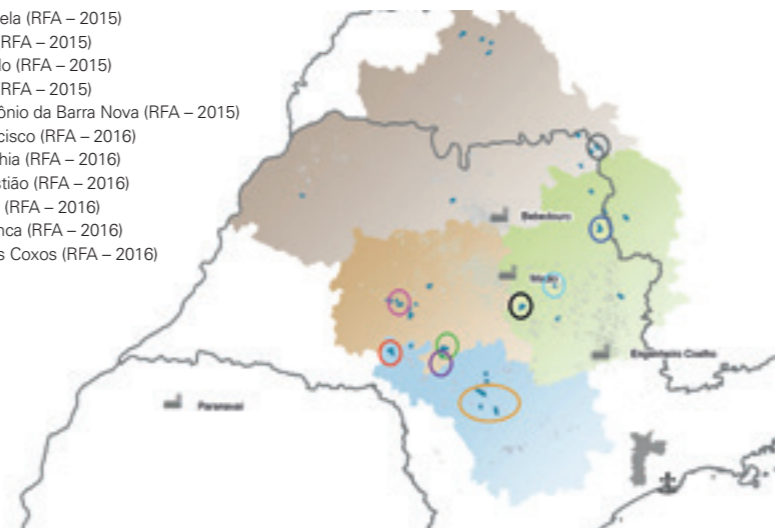
to manage solid residue waste and to reduce the use of any crop protection products which may have toxic effect. The farms adhere to only using inputs from a strict list of crop protection products, which are considered safe for the environment.

In 2016, as part of the process to obtain the certifications and verify our impact in the communities in which we operate, social diagnoses were performed in the cities of:

- Pedregulho – SP (Vila Primavera, Estreito)
- Ribeirão Fundo – SP (Guarapiranga)
- São Carlos – SP (Santa Eudóxia District)
- Itatinga – SP

The audit team visited some municipal nurseries, schools, health offices, social assistance centers, workers' unions, among others, in order to have a social overview of the area.

- Santa Ângela (RFA – 2015)
- São João (RFA – 2015)
- Monte Belo (RFA – 2015)
- São José (RFA – 2015)
- Santo Antônio da Barra Nova (RFA – 2015)
- São Francisco (RFA – 2016)
- Maria Sophia (RFA – 2016)
- São Sebastião (RFA – 2016)
- Morrinhos (RFA – 2016)
- Pedra Branca (RFA – 2016)
- Rincão dos Coxos (RFA – 2016)



To gain certification, our farms are assessed against strict criteria on the following dimensions, as per the Sustainable Agriculture Standards:

- Social and Environmental Management
- Ecosystem Conservation
- Wildlife Protection
- Water Conservation
- Fair Treatment and Good Working Conditions for Workers
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Community Relations
- Integrated Crop Management
- Soil Management and Conservation
- Integrated Waste

## Sharing of Best Practice: Programa Compartilhar



The Juice Platform is conscientious in training its own employees and local communities, as well as in offering training to third party fruit suppliers. The program's goal is to share best practice with partners and raw material suppliers. Through this program our aim and ambition is to ensure alignment with LDC's policies, as well as with technical and legal requirements for the sector, sharing sustainable methods of production. Over 20% of volumes have been purchased from third party producers trained through this program.

A wide variety of subjects are addressed in the meetings, and this year these included NR 31 (legislation), safe use of crop protection products, environmental protection and requirements by the ministry of labor. In 2016 we had 42 participants in the program.

*Taking part in this program is great, I already participated in two events and we always see different subjects. We are more attentive to updates, and learn more in detail about safety, for example.*

*Valdete Aparecido, worker at Capão do Vale farm, Guaraci, São Paulo state*

*Every program that helps the citrus producers is important, because we are in the field and we don't get the chance to do updating trainings frequently. I will take part in all events to come.*

*Spencer Nazzi, owner of Morumbi farm, Estrela d'Oeste, São Paulo state*

## Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI)

Whilst our operations equate to Gold Grade under SAI Platform's self-audit standard, we continue to work with this important association to learn, share, develop and improve across all areas of our activity related to juice production.

## Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit (SMETA)



LDC has been a voluntary member of "Supplier Ethical Data Exchange" (Sedex) since 2010, and is committed to the continuous improvement of ethical and social responsibility performance through the SMETA 4-Pillar Audit Report (Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit), developed by Sedex.

The SMETA 4-Pillar is an audit procedure, compiling best practice in the following areas:

- Labour Standards
- Health & Safety
- Environment
- Business Ethics

The juice terminals are audited under this scheme as are three of the Brazilian processing plants (Bebedouro, Matão and Paranavaí – the last one was included in 2016).

## Customer Centricity Projects

Serving the needs of our customers as proactively and responsibly as possible has always been our principal goal.

We encourage all our employees to incorporate quality themes in their working lives on a daily basis, and introduced several initiatives to support this in 2016. For example, VOQ (Visita de Observação de Qualidade – Visit and Quality Observation), encourages our employees to assess our locations to monitor and observe if quality and hygiene norms are being respected.

In addition, the Quality team also hosts "pop up events", showcasing to our employees all the products that we manufacture, (juice itself, fruit, oil and animal feed) stressing the quality standards we follow. The idea is to increase awareness among our employees about the importance of observing procedure, in order to deliver a quality final product.

## Fairtrade



The Juice Platform is also successfully working with the FairTrade certification program, with its focus on smallholder producers. The program assesses the small holder farmers against key criteria around labor and environmental standards. The FairTrade certification allows them to command a premium, which is to be invested in projects to further enhance social, economic and environmental development.

We now have more than 40 certified small producers who deliver their FairTrade-certified fruits to the LDC Paranavaí Plant.

## Other Certifications

The Juice Platform has an impressive range of other certifications, all reflecting its commitment to food safety, quality management and best-in-class industry standards. These include:

**SQF Code– Level 2**  
Food Safety and Quality Management System (Recognized by GFSI): Matão, Bebedouro, Paranavaí and Santos Terminal

**SGF (Sure Global Fair)**  
Food Safety, Authenticity, Hygiene, Sustainability, Traceability and Labelling: Matão, Bebedouro, Paranavaí, Santos and Ghent

**ISO 9001:2008**  
Quality Management System: Santos, Ghent and Rotterdam

**ISO 14001:2004**  
Environmental Management System: Santos

**OSHAS 18001:2007**  
Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Services: Santos

**FSSC 22000:2005**  
Certification Scheme for Food Safety System: Ghent

**Halal Certificate**  
(required by the Islamic community)

**Kosher Certificate**  
(required by the Jewish community)