Education and Biosecurity as Solutions to Waterborne Coffee Rust in Guatemala
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The Problem
Guatemala receives an excessive amount of rainfall each year and is one of the world’s largest coffee suppliers. These two factors have produced the problem of *hemileia vastatrix*, commonly known as Coffee Rust.

What are the effects of Coffee Rust?
- Defoliates plants
- Decreases annual yield
- Financially affects multiple farmers
- Minimizes exports and revenue

Location in Guatemala
Stakeholder: Guatemalan families

Our Impact
Upon request, created an informational brochure about Coffee Rust to incorporate into a preexisting educational plan for farmers, helping them to be more successful.

Our Path: Research Plan
- Evaluated the problem
- Researched the issue
- Chose the most important aspect of the problem
- Conducted interviews and attended a Coffee Conference
- Created a brochure to send to Guatemalan farmers

Our Goal:
Educate farmers about reducing Coffee Rust by partnering with two organizations.

Solutions and Recommendations
- Distribute the brochure
- Confirm that distributors speak the native language of the area
- Check in periodically
- Improve this method in the future if needed

References


