

# NCHENGO ESTATE

## NCHENGO ESTATE FARM PROFILE

### LOCATION

Country-Kenya

Region: Kiambu county, Juja Sub- County, Kiaora Location.

Altitude:1585 metres above sea level.

Farm Size:135.25 Hectares (90.05 hectares under coffee and 42.5 hectares buildings, roads, forest and mulch land)

The estate is 45 kilometres Northwest of Nairobi and 8 kilometres west of Juja Town along the great Thika superhighway with the farm lying between two rivers, Thiririka and Ndarugu. Farm office is at a geo-Location -1.00611°S: 36.9935°E.



**Map1.** The map of the coffee estate

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## **OWNERSHIP**

The farm is owned by Henkin Limited and is run by a Board of Directors under the Chairmanship of Peter Kinyua. The farms name Nchengo is derived from a Meru language word meaning savanna.

The farm was originally owned by Mr Warren who planted the SL coffee varieties in the year 1955 and was then known as Ndongoini Estate which included today's Mtaro, Kiaora and Azania Estates. Coffee Research Foundation (CRF) currently Coffee Research Institute (CRI) acquired today's Nchengo and Azania estates in the 1970's. In 1986 the estate was bought and named Nchengo estate.

## **COFFEE VARIETIES**

The estate has deep red well drained volcanic soils which are ideal for coffee farming. Area under coffee is 90.05 Ha with 126,644 of mature coffee trees. The estate is planted with Arabica coffee where SL 28 constitutes 84% while the rest 16% is under Ruiru 11.

Coffee produced by the farm is wet processed Arabica, fully washed with fresh water from the rivers that originate from Aberdare Mountain Ranges, and then sun dried on raised beds to produce the distinctive cupping profile of the Nchengo coffee: Mild florals, mild citrus acidity, dark chocolates, caramel, berries and full body.

Since protecting nature is a top priority the farm is Rainforest Alliance and UTZ certified and has shade trees in all the coffee blocks which also creates a nice ambience and improves the farms' ability to sequester carbon dioxide thus mitigating positively on the effects of global warming /climate change.

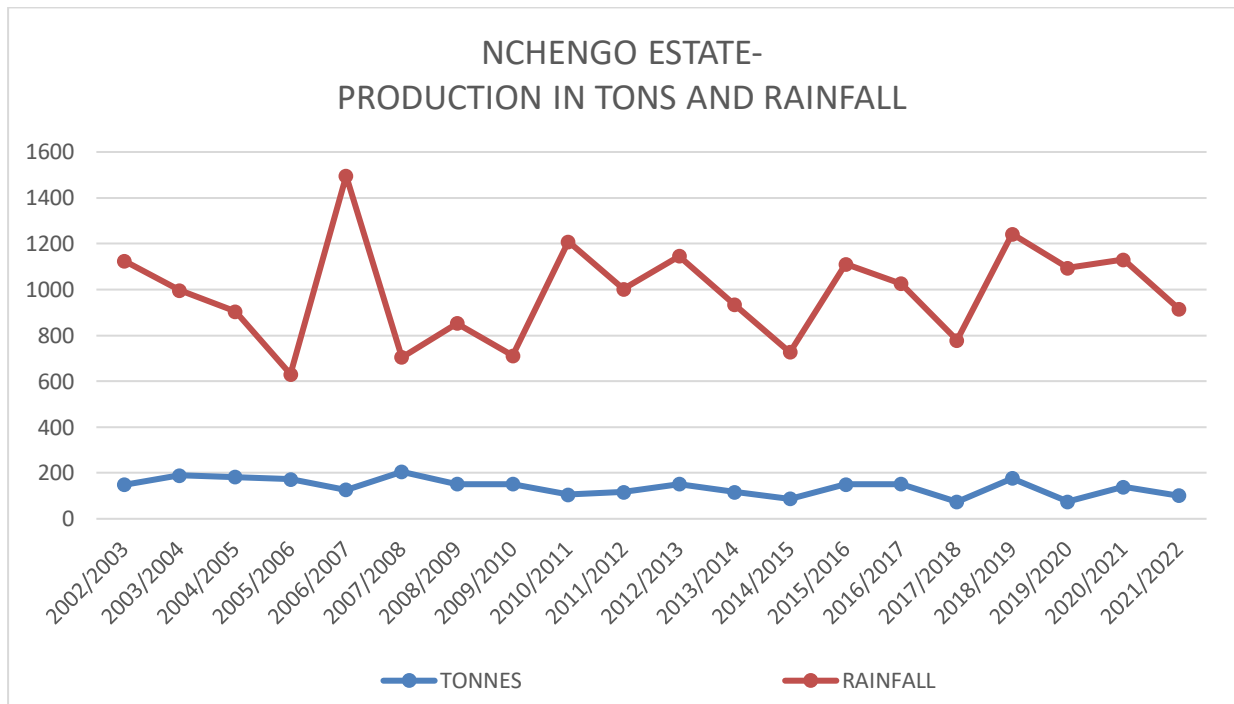
## **MANAGEMENT REPORT.**

The farm has been under the management agency of Tropical Farm management Kenya Limited since 1986 and on average produces 139 tons of clean coffee per year. The average rainfall received per annum is 987mm which is supplemented by irrigation, in the past via overhead sprinkler irrigation system, but the farm has migrated to basin irrigation which is efficient in terms of water targeting to the plant and its utilization. Through ideal management techniques assisted by periodic soil analysis the soil Ph has been maintained within a range of 5.2 to 6.0 which is ideal for efficient nutrient absorption by the coffee tree.

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The farm is rainforest Alliance and UTZ Certified as it is committed to maintaining very high standards in reference to employee’s welfare, farming procedures, waste management and disposal, pesticide usage and overall environment management leading to a good working environment.

Canopy management and coffee nutrition is always guided by science and production levels, with periodic soil sampling and analysis done, which ensures the ideal balance of the coffee tree is maintained for optimal cropping and efficient utilization of inputs. On average over 85% of the processed coffee falls between class 4 and 5 and grades AA,AB,PB constitutes at least 75%of coffee produced.



**Chart1: Long term production and rainfall**

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*Photo 1: Farm office*

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***Photo 2: Coffee trees with shade trees***

5(February 2023)

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*Photo 3: Coffee-pulping-Machine*



*Photo 4: Coffee Washing Channel with skin driers on the right*

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*Photo 5: Fermentation tanks*



*Photo 6: Coffee Drying beds.*