

9-4-1991

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Tyroler, Deborah. "Guatemala: Coffee Export Income Down." (1991). <https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/noticen/6318>

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Guatemala: Coffee Export Income Down

by Deborah Tyroler

Category/Department: General

Published: Wednesday, September 4, 1991

In recent statements to reporters, Rodolfo Juarez, secretary of the Council of Organized Coffeegrowers Associations (CANCOR), predicted a \$200 million loss in coffee export revenues this year result of world market price deterioration. Market oversupply conditions over the past three years, he said, have resulted in a total \$600 million loss. Since 1989, coffee prices have dropped from \$140 to about \$79 per quintal (hundredweight, approximately 92.4 lbs.). Daily newspaper Prensa Libre reported that fertilizer sales were down 40%, which was expected to affect the quality and quantity of the 1992 coffee crop. On Sept. 3, Alfredo Chinchilla, president of National Coffee Association (ANACAFE) predicted \$160 million in export revenue losses for the year. Guatemalan coffee exports this year are expected to total about 200,000 metric tons. (Basic data from Cerigua Weekly Briefs, 08/18-24/91; ACAN-EFE, 09/03/91)

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