

CSM Graduates 12 from Coffee Quality Management Course

June 2005



Tepic, Nayarit, Mexico- Cafés Sustentables de Mexico (CSM), S.A. de C.V., a coffee quality management company, completed graduation ceremonies marking the end of its second annual Coffee Quality Management Course. The course is held in Tepic, Nayarit, Mexico, with the support of San Cristobal Coffee Importers, the collaboration of the Universidad Autónoma de Nayarit, and help from the Consejo Nayarita de Café.



CSM's quality management pilot course was launched in 2004 with the help of Coffee Corps® volunteer Ed Canty. The number of graduating students has doubled in 2005 and the course was expanded to increase emphasis on responsibility in coffee production and the Utz Kapeh Certification.

The course teaches growers how to produce coffee with an emphasis on critical evaluation of samples and improvement of the end product. Students are exposed to all aspects of responsible coffee production, from the farm to the cup. The importance of each step of the process is presented and discussed, including formal grading, precision roasting, and formal cupping.

"There are many programs worldwide that teach coffee growers how to produce coffee, but I know of no other that bases the training program on documentation and quality control procedures," explains Jaime Luna, CSM general manager. "We show our students how to improve their coffee through a process of critical evaluation and feedback."

Jim Kosalos, president of CSM, owner of San Cristobal Coffee Importers and member of the Specialty Coffee Association of America's technical standards committee comments: "I believe this program is unique in the world; each graduate is trained to evaluate coffee using the SCAA standards selected by the Coffee Quality Institute (CQI) for its Q®-auction program. We are preparing these growers and their communities for the e-commerce era by giving them the tools to produce and certify Q®-level coffees."