



Improved Bag Marking Standards And Barcodes To Provide Inventory Control And Full Traceability For Green Coffee

San Cristobal Coffee Importers

www.sancristocafe.com

Cafés Sustentables de México, S. de R.L. de C.V.

www.cafesumex.com

Introduction



No Standards Currently Exist For:

1. Labeling bags of green coffee to provide:
 - Origin Community
 - Process used to produce the coffee
 - Physical description of the coffee
2. Bag Inventory Barcodes

Here We Present The FincaLab[®] Green Coffee Marking And Labeling System In Use Since 2006; Included Are:

1. Extended ICO marks that provide bag content information
2. Human-readable barcodes for transporting, warehousing, and end-to-end tracking

High Value Coffee Should Be Identifiable



- Specialty Coffee And Commodities Coffee Are Both Shipped In Bags With No Standardized Information Regarding Coffee Origin, Type, Or Quality
 - Most shippers label bags with no more than the “marks” required by the International Coffee Organization (ICO)
 - The ICO marks have no information about the detailed origin, process, or quality of the coffee in the bag
- At The Very Least, We Should Have A Better And More Consistent Labeling Scheme For Specialty Coffee !!!

Standard ICO “Marks” Are Required By Law



Every Bag Of Green Coffee Is Required To Be Labeled Using Standards Set By The ICO

016 - 02922 - 0003



016

-

02922

-

0003

Origin Country

Exporter ID

Lot Number

EXAMPLE

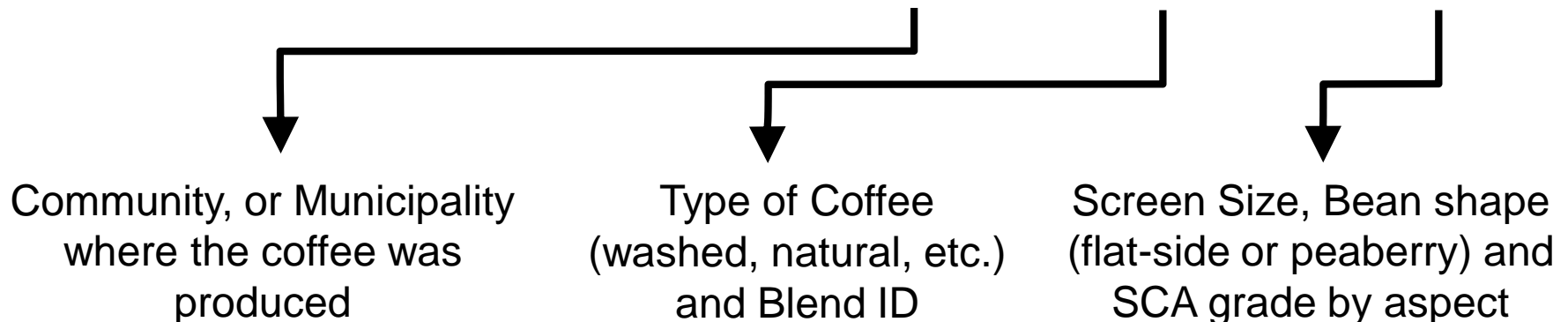
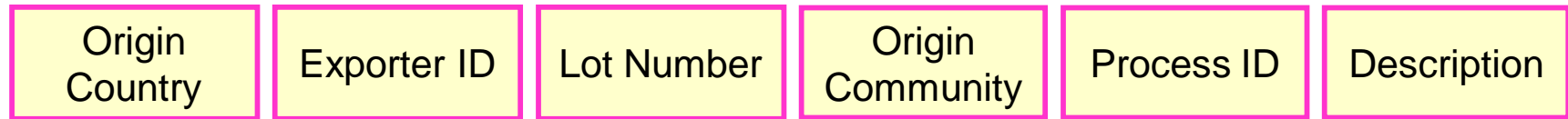
Extending The Marks Adds Much Information



Standard
(Numbers)

Extended
(Alphanumeric)

016 - 02922 - 0003 - 0000 - PPP - DDD



Field Definitions For Extended ICO Marks



1. Origin Community:

- Uniquely identifies the community or municipality where the coffee was grown. In the event that the coffee is blended across communities, this group contains “XX” and traceability is maintained through “Blend ID” in the next number group.

2. Process ID:

- Identifies the coffee as Washed, Semi-washed (de-pulped natural), or Natural, and gives the Blend ID, a code that uniquely identifies the wet mill and patio lot of all the coffees in the blend

3. Description:

- Description of the coffee by its aspect. Three fields are used to show screen size, bean shape, and SCA grade by aspect, respectively



Augmenting Information: An Example

Using Extended Marks To Better Inform Customers:

016-2588-001-D-NDA-SS2

Extended ICO Marks (7 characters in three groups) provide valuable information about the coffee in each bag.

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
D	N D A	S S 2
Two Fields for Origin ID (Community or Municipality)	Three Fields, one for coffee process and two for blend ID	Three Fields, one each for screen size, bean shape, and SCA grade by aspect

Example CODES are given on the next slide



ICO Extended Field Parameters



Field	Description	Code Examples
Community	The Community or Municipality were the coffee was grown or produced	A = El Cuarenteño B = Palapitas D = La Yerba XX = Blend
Process	Identifies the coffee process, Washed, etc.	L = Lavado (traditionally washed) M = Lavado (mechanically washed) D = Depulped natural (“Honey” coffee) N = Natural
Blend ID	ID of Wet-mill / patio-lots used	AA, AB, AC, ZW, ZX, ZY, ZZ
Size	Screen size	7 = screen 17, round 5 = screen 15, round 1 = screen 11, slotted S = Sin seleccionar (unselected)
Form	Shape of the bean	P = Planchuela (normal flat sided) C = Caracol (peaberry) S = Sin seleccionar (unselected)
Grade	Formal classification to SCA standards, full defects in a 350 gm sample	0 = max 2 full defects 1 = max 5 full defects 2 = max 10 full defects 3 = max 22 full defects

Human Readable (HR) Barcodes



A Standard Linear Barcode With Adjacent Text That Allows The Coded Information To Be Read Without A Scanner



- Used For FincaLab[®] Inventory Control And Traceability
- Barcoded Bag Serial Numbers Facilitate Warehouse Scan In-Out For Complete traceability

FincaLab® HR Barcodes

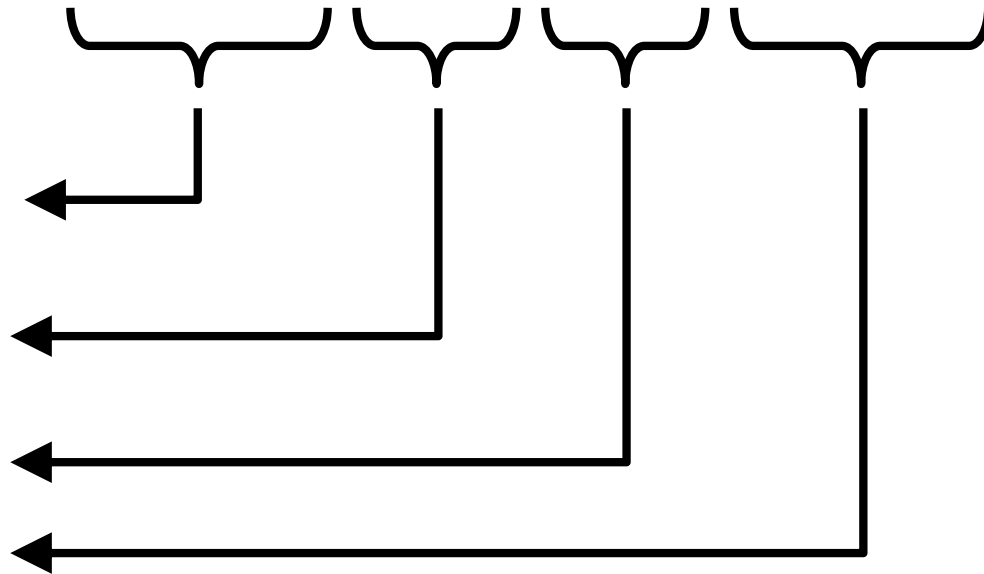


FincaLab® Inventory Codes Use A Ten Digit Alphanumeric



There
are 4
FIELDS

1. Producer/Exporter ID
(Like an airport code)
2. Invoice/Container
sequence number
3. Sub-lot number
4. Bag serial number





Using Extended Marks And Bar Codes Together

- FincaLab[®] Labels Allow Us To Identify And Track Coffee From Each Grower To Each Roaster Customer
- We Developed This Unique Technology With Our Warehouse Partner Costa Oro

Raw / Green Coffee

San Cristobal Coffee
Kirkland, WA 98034
Tel: 425-825-9106
www.sancristocafe.com
Contract: MP-2660
Lot ID: GTN5015
ICO Marks: 016-2922-005-D-NBF-SS1

Grupo Terruño **Afrutado Reserva**
Nayarita **Womens Natural**



* G T N 5 0 1 5 0 0 6 *

Enter this code at: www.trackyourcoffee.com



FincaLab[®] labels uniquely identify each bag and its contents; the labels are sewn into the bags as they are sealed at the dry mill.

Click tag to track this coffee

- The Information Data Base Is Accessible To The Public At www.trackyourcoffee.com



Summary Of FincaLab[®] Label Information



Buyer/Contract # →

ICO Marks with extensions →

Exporter/ Origen →

HR Barcode →

Raw / Green Coffee

San Cristobal Coffee
 Kirkland, WA 98034
 Tel: 425-825-9106
www.sancristocafe.com
 Contract: MP-2660
 Lot ID: GTN5015
 ICO Marks: 016-2922-005-D-NBF-SS1

Grupo Terruño **Afrutado Reserva**
Nayarita **Womens Natural**



* G T N 5 0 1 5 0 0 6 *

Enter this code at: www.trackyourcoffee.com

QR[®] code
 direct link to
www.trackyourcoffee.com

ICO Extension denotes
 coffee origin
 community, type,
 blend, bean size,
 bean shape and
 grade by aspect

Click tag to track
 this coffee

Company ID
 Container ID
 Sub-Lot
 Bag S/N

Name or Description
 of coffee

The HR barcode references an online REPORT generated from FincaLab[®] database information (producers, producer organizations, communities, wet mills, dry mills, cup characteristics, etc.) available at www.trackyourcoffee.com



Summary



- Transparency In The Chain Of Custody:
 - Quick, easy identification of green coffee is a key component of the traceability needed for Food Security and Certification
Farm, wet mill, dry mill, exporter, importer, warehouse, roaster



- FincaLab[®] Users Have Been Using And Benefitting From This Simple Technology Since 2006