

JANUARY 2021



EJO HEZA



AS WE REFLECT ON LIFE BEFORE AND AFTER THE pandemic, we realize a lot of the challenges have been out of our control. This is also one of the challenges of trying to build long-term relationships in the coffee industry: Life happens.

Since 2018, we have been working to build a collaborative partnership in Rwanda with Ruth Ann Church, of Artisan Coffee importers, and Gervais Kaiyitare, Executive Director of Kopakama Cooperative. This partnership is dependent on commitment from the cooperative, shared responsibility and cooperation with the importer, and goals that are mutually beneficial for the farmers and Blueprint Coffee.

A nonviolent political coup occurred within the Kopakama organization this year which harms our trust that the cooperative can maintain quality and manage capacity. This also puts into question their commitment to the soil health goals we have been working towards over the past three years. In short, it puts the relationship in serious jeopardy.

So, what does this mean for Blueprint Coffee? This is not our first disappointment, and we still believe it is worthwhile to try to build relationships with our origin partners. So, we will dust ourselves off, review our options and build anew. Maybe if we can restore assurances from Kopakama, you will see this coffee again in the future.

To read more about the role of coffee in Rwanda's economy, including past political and social unrest, scan this QR code or visit: blueprintcoffee.com/our-perspective-for-sourcing-coffee-from-rwanda/.



WORDS: Andrew Timko

PHOTOS: Andrew Timko

ABOVE: Raised drying beds at the Kopakama Cooperative's mill.

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COUNTRY:	Rwanda
PRODUCER:	Ejo Heza
REGION:	Western Province; Rutsiro
ALTITUDE:	1600 - 1900 MASL
PROCESS:	Washed
HARVEST:	April - June 2020
VARIETIES:	Bourbon, Jackson
SOURCING PARTNERS:	Ejo Heza (Farmer Cooperative) Kopakama (Cooperative and Mill) Artisan (Importer)

SUGGESTED PARAMETERS

DRIP RATIO:	1: 16.5
ESPRESSO RATIO:	1: 2.5
WE TASTE:	cherry, raspberry, molasses, lime, citrus

BODY ● ●
SWEET ● ●
BRIGHT ● ● ●



ABOVE: L to R: Andrew Timko, Blueprint Coffee; Marthe Uwiherenimana, Ejo Heza Farmers' Cooperative; Ruth Ann Church, Artisan Importers; Gervais Kaytare, Kopakama.