



DRWakefield

EST. 1970

Peru

APRYSA

A small cooperative founded in 2014 by Katsuhiko, embraces a family ethos, focusing on quality and certification uplifting the lives of those involved.



Peru

APRYSA



<i>Cooperative</i>	Asociacion de Productores Integral y Sostenible de Amazonas (APRYSA)
<i>Region</i>	Rodríguez de Mendoza, Amazonas
<i>Members</i>	+/- 250
<i>Altitude</i>	1400 - 1900 masl
<i>Varietals</i>	Catimor, Caturra, Mundo Novo, Typica, Geisha, Pacamara ++
<i>Processes</i>	Washed, Honey
<i>Harvest</i>	March – September
<i>Certification</i>	Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Organic

APRYSA was legally founded in 2014 by Katsuhiko, a Japanese man who moved to Peru 15 years ago when he met his wife who is Peruvian, and splits his time between Mendoza and Tokyo. Before that, they had been loosely working together with another coop, Perunor, who still provide Q grading services when needed. Katsuhiko is supported in his presidency by Flor as vice president, who has had the role since 2020. They have 7 full time employees, all from the Amazonas region. Most of the farms are roughly 1.5 hectares; the largest extends to 9 hectares.

They are one of the smallest cooperatives in the area (7 or 8 currently) but like it that way and intentionally keep it so. This makes it feel more like a family enterprise for them and the improvements that their focus on quality and certifications really help them to improve the lives of those involved. The FT premium is spent covering the cost of technical training and materials that their agronomist, Jerry, recommends.

He went to university in Chachapoyas and is in charge of the groundwork, helping with compliance and certifications.

Peru was divided into 24 departments before the 2002 addition of the Callao province and a collective renaming to regions. The Amazonas region in northern Peru borders Ecuador and is known for its dense cloud forests, rugged Andes Mountain terrain and ancient ruins. Rodríguez de Mendoza lies to the south east of this province and has a huge importance based on soil fertility.

Climate change has had an effect on yields with too much rain, and the lack of fertilizer availability through the pandemic further impacted this in 2022. 2023 though is expected to be an 'up' year, another factor that has played into volumes, but a regular part of the harvest cycle.

Left - Katsuhiko, Aprysa President. Right - Jerry the agronomist with pacamara

