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Monitoring the Environmental Sustainability of a Coffee Farm

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Abstract

The Cerrado, a savannah region, is Brazil's second largest ecosystem after the Amazon rainforest and is also threatened with imminent destruction. A graphical tool was employed to assess the environmental performance of the production of coffee in a traditional farm in Cerrado region, Brazil. The graphical tool allies the properties of the equilateral triangle and the emergy concepts. The present study presents the environmental assessment performed in the farm located in Coromandel, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Results indicate that Brazilian green coffee production is adequated to environment index evaluated by other academic studies, about agriculture. They also allow to analyze production's data related to environment indicators, in which can be observed an optimized production range with fine environment performance.

Keywords: coffee production ,environmental account, emergy, ternary diagram
