

Coffee Cultivars in Brazil

**L. C. FAZUOLI^{1,2}, H. P. MEDINA-FILHO^{1,2}, O. GUERREIRO-FILHO¹,
W. GONÇALVES¹, M. B. SILVAROLLA¹, M. M. A. LIMA^{1,2}**

¹Centro de Café e Plantas Tropicais, Instituto Agronômico de Campinas, CP 28,
13001-970, Campinas, SP, Brazil

²CNPq fellowship and supported by CNPq, FAPESP, FUNDAG and PNP&D/Café

SUMMARY

A thoughtful choice of cultivars associated with appropriate farming management is one of the most important components assuring the success of coffee cultivation. Research on genetics and coffee breeding at the Instituto Agronômico de Campinas, SP, started 67 years ago and led to the development of tens of cultivars and lines and the accumulation of considerable knowledge on their characteristics and behaviour in the diversified growing regions of Brazil. More than 90% of the 4 billion coffee trees presently cultivated in Brazil derive directly from this program. This contribution spans as well to 5 other main research institutes where breeding and regional selection started after 1970. The overall result of these programs is the present distinct recommended cultivars and lines. This provides the growers with a range of options to meet particular requirements of climate, farming technologies and final products. Among arabica cultivars, all are seed propagated and can be grouped into: a) tall, susceptible to leaf rust, b) tall, resistant to leaf rust, c) short, susceptible to leaf rust, d) short, resistant to leaf rust, e) with distinct cup quality. Among robustas, available cultivars are a) seed-propagated, b) clonal-propagated and c) nematode-resistant rootstock. In each group there are several lines, in a total of 70. The main characteristics of them such as potential yield, size and type of beans, color of fruits, earliness, resistances, recommended spacing, general adaptativeness, reaction to pruning and distinguishable attributes are summarized in this paper.