

Certification is the way to go.....

BOFA (Bufumbo Organic Farmers Association) was founded in 1997 as the Bufumbo Farmers Group. Two years later, it was linked to the National Union of Agri-business and Farm Enterprises (NUCAFE) and started receiving training on coffee management practices and business. As membership grew, they agreed to change their name to the now “Bufumbo Organic Farmers Association” on 8/Aug/2014 with now over 343 members. “We now have a higher bargaining power than the individual farmers that we were; we are able to achieve collective targets and have tried to improve on the quality of life in the,” said Gibezi.

One of the major reasons for the good quality is the abundance in rainfall which averages to 1183 mm and the temperature here averages 23.0 °C giving room for coffee production of Arabica coffee. And above all the willingness of the farmers of Bufumbo to take new practices and technologies in order to improve on the quality and quantity of coffee.

The association is currently using a leadership system that allows all group chairpersons to become association chairpersons in a rotational method and this has removed chances of leadership wrangles and allowed prosperity in the association. This has also allowed farmers to bulk coffee. The farmers in Bufumbo have been looking for markets that offer better prices because of their good quality

To ensure smooth running of the association’s activities, the business manager Mr. Yunusu Gibezi has continuously sensitized the farmers and on the importance of bulking coffee together and the numerous benefits that will come with it. And this season Bufumbo 268 kilogram bags of AA and 62 Bugisu AB certified organic fair trade (container 468). With acquiring of the certification, there has been a significant reduction in child labor, conservation of the environment through implementing climate smart practices and with the rising incomes, the coffee farmers are assured of sustainability and improved standards of living.