

Leaving Their Coffee Crops: Nicaragua

Family members of Nicaraguan women producers who left the country since the coffee leaf rust crisis of the 2010's

A fungus called coffee leaf rust is creating new economic challenges for farmers in Nicaragua. The disease is moving to higher elevations due to climate shifts, causing a crisis in the region in the 2010's. Families have to replant their coffee, diversify their income, or leave home to make a living. Women are often left behind when family members leave. In a 2017 study, 65 women (ages 18-75) from 4 cooperatives reported how many family members migrated internationally since the onset of coffee leaf rust.

