

Topeca Coffee is receiving national recognition for a blend of its coffee. The Ethiopian Nigusse Lemme was listed as a finalist for the 2014 Good Food Awards. The coffee was one of only 22 finalists selected out of 1,450 submissions, making it one of the top 1.5 percent of coffees in the nation currently. Topeca released a statement saying it is proud to be recognized as a Oklahoma-based company providing quality and sustainability to the specialty coffee industry. Seedling Projects announced that the finalists represent the best from America's growing movement of talented and socially conscious food entrepreneurs. From among the finalists, 100 Good Food Award Winners will be announced Jan. 16 at a gala in San Francisco. Zeke Emanuel will be master of ceremonies; Nell Newman, founder of Newman's Own Organics, will give the keynote address; and the awards will be presented by renowned chef and Seedling Projects board member Alice Waters. This year's 1,450 entries — double the number since the awards launched in 2009 — came from all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands.