



EJO HEZA WOMEN-GROWN – part of KOPAKAMA COOPERATIVE



Region/Cooperative: Ejo Heza (means “bright tomorrow”) – women’s coffee; members KOPAKAMA cooperative. The Kopakama cooperative is independent and cooperatively owned. Founded in 1998.

Parent coop members: 1024

Women’s sub-group members: 400, established in 2011.

Location: Rutsiro district, western province. Beautiful views of Lake Kivu.

Certification: Fair Trade, Rainforest compliant

Coop Quality: Lean at Origin trained

Variety: Arabica

Grade: A1

Altitude: 5,200-6,500 ft/ 1,600-2,000m

Processing: Fully washed

Screen size: 15+

Arrival in the US (both coasts): November

Cup score: 86 Flavor notes: Complex. Sugar plum and pink lemonade fragrance, maple syrup, winey, plum aroma. After the break, flavor has wine and berry, vanilla.

Artisan Coffee Imports, LLC, 1550 Westfield, Ann Arbor, MI 48103

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Ejo Heza Story:

2020 marks the fifth year Artisan Coffee Imports has been importing and promoting the incredible Ejo Heza women and their coffee. Ruth Ann first arrived at Kopakama cooperative in May 2016 as a consultant giving trainings. (She was living in Rwanda at the time thanks to a Feed the Future USAID coffee research project.) Ejo Heza leaders were in the training and, during one of the breaks, guided Ruth Ann to visit their community coffee plot. There, Ruth Ann saw how they were doing controlled experiments! Half the plot was cultivated using traditional techniques, the other half is where the women were testing new weeding and mulching techniques that might save them labor (which = costs). Seeing this innovation was what “sold” Ruth Ann on trying the coffee. The incredible taste and 86+ score did the rest!

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