

98-105

NEED TO BUILD UP COFFEE PRODUCTION

Under the terms of the recently negotiated International Coffee Agreement, there is a real likelihood of quotas on exports of coffee to member importing countries being reintroduced during the life of the agreement.

There is a need for a national effort now to produce as much coffee as possible for export over the next two years, in order to increase Papua New Guinea's quota entitlement under the terms of the new agreement.

All smallholders should be aware of the necessity to maximize production from their

existing holdings. Officers of the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries are available to give advice and assistance whenever requested.

The smallholder will benefit in two ways by sustained effort now: firstly by obtaining a high price for his parchment coffee produced and sold during the next two seasons; secondly by maximizing production now Papua New Guinea will be able to sell a higher proportion of her crop overseas if and when quotas are reintroduced.