

Over the last couple of years Joe Reynolds and I have had the chance to get to know Byron Corrales. We are very excited to be able to host the following workshops together. Not only will we get a chance to meet and work with a few Nicaraguan coffee farmers, we will also learn about 2 important farming techniques.

For Spanish speakers ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bi3q05kiwIQ>

Learning about ... Bocashi and Chromatography

Please join us (Atlanta area farmers, along with a few teachers and students) at the Paideia School and Farm on Sunday, April 17th for two innovative workshops with Byron Corrales, a renowned and knowledgeable biodynamic coffee farmer from Nicaragua. Excellent coffee, grown by Byron, along with breakfast and lunch, will be provided.

WHERE: The Paideia School, 1509 South Ponce de Leon Ave, Atlanta

WHEN: 9 am- 1:00 pm, Sunday April 17th

Bocashi Composting

Gaining popularity in Central America, 'bocashi' is replenishing and maintaining soil fertility using a composting process that produces an amazing natural fertilizer. This surprisingly inexpensive (and 100% natural) fertilizer can be made from readily-available materials, including manure, bran, wood ash, yeast and molasses. The end result is a potent mixture that is applied to crops for improved plant health and yields.

Led by Nicaraguan coffee farmer and biodynamic agriculturist, Byron Corrales, this workshop will show us how to create bocashi using locally available ingredients.

Chromatography - A Soil Testing Technique

If bocashi helps us improve our soil, chromatography will help us better understand it. In biodynamics, this technique was originally named capillary

dynamolysis. It lets us create pictures of substances that can then be interpreted. Soil chromatography is actually a photographic process. Finely ground soil is absorbed by filter paper that has been prepared with silver nitrate. Thanks to 'capillary action', a picture of the soil appears. When done properly, it provides valuable insights about our soil's quality and vitality. Soil chromatography is a beautiful and useful technique that tests soil for humus, minerals, microbiology and more. Best of all, you can do this soil assessment effectively at home. Byron Corrales and his farmer networks use chromatography as an inexpensive, easy and effective way of assessing their soil's improvement over time, without costly laboratory soil tests.

Participants will bring samples of soils from their farm or garden, and will take home a completed chromatogram, a pictograph of what's happening in your soil.

Please RSVP to warmpoet2012@gmail.com
Or 404-275-9644 with questions