



## Think about Birds When You Enjoy a Cup of Joe

喝咖啡的時候，想想鳥吧！

Are you a coffee lover? People in Taiwan drink more than 2.85 billion cups of coffee every year, according to the statistics provided by the Ministry of Finance. Coffee lovers probably don't know that getting a cup of freshly brewed coffee at a convenience store or a coffee shop every day might have an impact on the populations and habitats of tropical birds.



Biologist Çağan Şekercioğlu and his team at the University of Utah conducted a long-term study spanning 12 years on tropical bird population trends at coffee plantations and forest areas in Costa Rica. They intended to investigate whether the expansion of coffee plantations would reduce tropical bird populations, an important indicator of biodiversity.

### Word Bank (字彙表)

1. brew (v.) 煮 (咖啡)
2. habitat (n.) 棲地
3. span (v.) 橫跨、持續
4. plantation (n.) 種植園
5. biodiversity (n.) 生物多樣性



你愛喝咖啡嗎？根據財政部的統計，台灣人每年喝掉 28.5 億杯的咖啡。愛咖啡人士可能不知道的是，每天從便利商店或咖啡店買一杯現煮咖啡，很可能會影響雨林鳥類的數量與棲地。

猶他大學的生物學家瑟肯喬古與團隊做了一項長達十二年的研究。他們在哥斯大黎加觀察咖啡種植園與森林區域的雨林鳥類數量，目的是想探究不斷擴增的咖啡種植園是否會減少雨林鳥類的數量。雨林鳥類的多寡是生物多樣性的一項重要指標。





The results were mixed. The researchers found that coffee farms with an average of 13% tree cover have more tropical bird populations than the farms with just 7% tree cover. This means that a small increase in tree cover can be conducive to birds. However, the researchers also found an overall trend of declining bird populations at

all study sites except for La Amistad International Park. Even with some amount of tree cover, coffee plantations farms can never replace big forests in the conservation of biodiversity. Besides, a lot of species lost in the coffee plantations farms are specialist species, ones that can only survive in specific habitats. This indicates that it is also important to look at the composition of the bird community at a site rather than just the number of species.

結果有好也有壞。研究人員發現，在平均林木覆蓋率達13%的咖啡種植園中，鳥類數量比覆蓋率只有7%的咖啡園還要多。這顯示增加咖啡園的林木覆蓋率對於鳥類生存是有利的。然而，他們也發現，除了拉阿米斯塔德國家公園之外，所有觀察地的鳥類數量都有下降的趨勢。即便是林木覆蓋率不低的咖啡種植園，在保育鳥類生物多樣性上也無法取代大型森林。此外，咖啡種植園中消失的許多鳥種，都是專性物種，也就是只能在特定棲息地生存的物種。這表示，不能只是單純看某一地區的鳥種數量，也必須觀察鳥類族群的組成。



## Word Bank (字彙表)

6. conducive (adj.) 有利的
7. decline (v.) 下降、減少
8. composition (n.) 組成
9. crop (n.) 作物
10. recommend (v.) 建議



Şekercioğlu said, “If you’re drinking coffee, that is a key crop that is planted in many of the world’s tropical biodiversity hotspots, and your choices in where you get your coffee can make a positive or negative influence.” Şekercioğlu recommended coffee lovers to purchase coffee from Ethiopia or Kenya, where it is often grown under 20-foot tall native trees. So next time when you buy a cup of coffee, think about your bird friends!



瑟肯喬古說：「在許多熱帶雨林的生物多樣性熱點，咖啡都是主要種植的作物。如果你喝咖啡，選擇喝哪個地區生產的咖啡，可能會對生物多樣性有正面或負面的影響。他建議咖啡愛好人士購買來自衣索比亞或肯亞的咖啡，因為這些地區的咖啡通常會種植在高達 6 公尺高的原生樹木下。下次你買咖啡的時候，記得替鳥朋友想一想！

◎文章來源

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◎應用外語系 丘羽先老師 編譯

