

Trees for the Future (TREES) has sent seeds to individual producers in Brazil in the past, but this year, our organization took steps to truly address environmental and social issues in Brazil. TREES's South America Program Coordinator Jeff Follett was added to our staff in January 2008 and has contacted individuals and organizations working in agroforestry and development in Brazil. In February 2008 he met with Fernanda Peixoto in Washington, DC. By June, Jeff traveled to Brazil to visit farmers organizations and others that Fernanda had organized in the previous months.

While in Brazil, he examined the environmental constraints that producers face in both São Paulo state and in northeastern Brazil. He saw the commitment that producers have to improving their agricultural systems through the addition of trees. In less than a year, we have reached hundreds of farmers and their families, conducted training workshops, distributed more than 70,000 seeds, and provided educational materials in Portuguese.

Table 1. 2008 project results

Project	Description	Results
Demonstration Plot	This area will be used to teach agroforestry techniques and will supply seeds for projects	Nursery established
Individual Producers	These producers will use seedlings for green fertilizer, food, and fuel wood.	3 nurseries established, 3 producers trained in nursery management, 2,000 seeds distributed
Moringa Afterschool	This project provides vitamin-rich leaves to improve household nutrition.	1 nursery established, 30 kids trained in nursery management, 1,000 seeds distributed
Oriente Bee Association	This association will reforest a stream bank with flowering species.	1 nursery established, 15 producers trained in nursery management, 2,500 seeds distributed
Oriente Forest Garden	People from communal housing will tend the area and benefit from its products.	1 nursery established, 15 producers trained in nursery management, 5,000 seeds distributed
Small Farmers' Association	Farmers will use seedlings to create live fences, to reduce erosion, and to provide animal fodder and timber	15 nurseries established, 30 producers trained in nursery management, 60,000 seeds distributed
Spring Reforestation	These seedlings will be used for live fencing around springs that need to be reforested with native species.	2 nurseries established, 15 people trained in nursery management, 5,000 seeds distributed

All of these projects were started in the dry season to increase the likelihood of seedling survival after they are transplanted to the field in the rainy season. The trees will be transplanted in January 2009.

Although Jeff visited communities in both the southern and northern regions of Brazil, due to organizational constraints and the timing of the rainy season, we have only developed projects in the south. All of our projects are currently located in Oriente, São Paulo state, which is about 400 km from the city of São Paulo.

We now have a national representative, Fernanda Peixoto, who provides day-to-day assistance to producers and we are developing a plan to reach nearly twice as many people in 2009. We have not been able to keep up with the demand for new projects. Early in 2009, we will visit producers in Paraná state and will further develop our relationship with organizations in the northeast.



Moringa Afterschool Project – Fernanda teaches the kids about nursery management



Two afterschool participants planting moringa seeds



Oriente Bee Association – 3 month old gliricidia



Oriente Bee Association – Preparing the nursery



Spring Reforestation Project – 6 week old seedlings in the nursery



Oriente Forest Garden – These seedlings will be used to establish a community garden in Oriente



Small Farmers' Association – Maria Aparecida shows off her new nursery



Small Farmers' Association – Renato's nursery, which has a fence for protection from his cows