

## Jairo Restrepo Biography

Jairo Restrepo is a passionate educator and activist in the field of sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty. He supports the return of the knowledge and autonomy to the farmer away from the power of agribusiness. He offers education, agronomy and consultancy around the world. His background is in Latin America and recently he has been touring in Europe and Australia. He is a consultant to the United Nations, Unesco and the International Labour Organisation (OIT).

The following is translated from his website:

<http://lamierdadevaca.com/web/jairo-restrepo/>

Born in Colombia and naturalized in Brazil. He studied Agricultural Engineering at the Federal University of Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil; and three postgraduate courses: Ecology and Natural Resources; Occupational Safety Engineering, Agriculture and Agroecology.

He has delivered 23 international courses on the subject of organic farming. He has published forty scientific papers and technical articles. In the past seven years he has released sixteen books on the subject of organic agriculture.

Internationally, he has given over 750 lectures on the subject of organic agriculture, environmental protection, chromatographic analysis of soils, recycling and sustainable rural development, including participation in over thirty-seven universities and research institutes in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Australia and Europe, where he also worked as a technical advisor to governments, ministries and parliaments.

He has a working and international experience of thirty years in organic farming and sustainable rural development.

In the past seventeen years Jairo has worked as founder, trainer and permanent advisor to several non-governmental organizations, foundations, international programs and partnerships and he has also given more than seven courses in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Cuba, Panama, Belize, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Uruguay, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Mozambique, Spain, Australia, Belgium, Italy and the Netherlands.

Jairo has worked as a consultant to the United Nations-ONU; worked with UNESCO, Panama; OIT (International Labour Organization) Costa Rica, Panama, Honduras, Guatemala and Cuba; FAO; Chile and Brazil; PNUD Panama and Brazil; OMS / OPS Brazil.

In 2015 Jairo opened 'Pachita' a study centre he has 'grown' at his home in Columbia. From here he offers courses on Regenerative Agriculture

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K-5rJdEpSgg>

Jairo is a consultant, educator and agronomist with a rebellious character and a passionate belief in people power, in local rural culture, food sovereignty and the desire to transmit the indigenous knowledge and experience gathered from over 20 years work across all continents.

Jairo's teaching style makes clear the how and why of regenerating biological fertility and mineral agricultural soils; and how this enables the viable production of healthy food that is affordable to consumers and profitable for farmers. His methods allow farmers to disengage from a dependence on external inputs.

Knowledge and the ability to share knowledge is simple and cheap. Appropriate solutions are replicable and encourage experimentation, improvements can be shared again.

Jairo's main premise: Return knowledge and autonomy of thought to the farmer, away from agribusiness.

*'Organic Agriculture is much more than just a revolution in agricultural production techniques, it is the foundation practice of a movement of spiritual alliance, a revolution to change the way humans live with Mother Earth' Jairo Restrepo*