



2003 Coca Cultivation Estimates for Colombia

Robert B. Charles, Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs

Statement Upon Hearing the Result of the Colombia Drug Estimate Numbers

Washington, DC

March 22, 2004

Thanks to President Uribe's superb leadership, substantially less coca is being grown in Colombia and real progress is being made against the scourge of cocaine. These [numbers](#) show the American taxpayers' investment is paying off. As a result, we have reached the tipping point in our efforts to not only deter the cultivation of coca in Colombia, but also to disrupt the work of the traffickers and the terrorists they feed. And what we do in Colombia has a positive impact on the rest of the region as well as in cocaine-plagued American cities such as Miami, Boston and Cleveland.

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 [BACK TO TOP](#)

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