

Frijol y Fútbol

In México, *fútbol* is a big deal. Everyone has a favorite team. Americas, Chivas, Rayados. In the *fútbol* stadiums, people regularly get into vicious fights at games, and riot police populate the stadiums to keep the peace.

In México, *frijol* is a big deal. Everyone has a favorite type. Black beans, refried beans, beans from a pot. In the markets, people regularly get into food fights over their favorite beans, and riot police are smart enough to stay away from the violence. Ok, I'm just making that up. Riot police actually take sides in the *frijol* fights.

But, can it only be a coincidence that the words *frijol* and *fútbol* both have six letters, start with "f", and end in "ol"? Or is it a subtle, divine message that the two are inextricably intertwined?

As luck would have it, the organizers of the World Cup had the nerve to schedule the México-vs.-France game during a recent Peace Corps México Biodiversity Forum. The forum was to be held in an isolated *hacienda* surrounded by an electric fence, to make sure that the Volunteers couldn't sneak off, and so easy access to bars and restaurants showing the game would be limited. This put Peace Corps staff on the hook for getting game coverage, otherwise even the electric fence wouldn't keep the Mexicans at the *hacienda* during game time.

Our trusty IT guy worked a miracle and created a solution. Behold, the joy of *fútbol* brought to you by the power of the *frijol*.



However, as you can see by the knife that someone so casually placed next to the antenna, people were ready to defend and protect the game coverage by whatever means necessary. Good thing México won 2-0.