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Several people gather around a miller in an open-air market. They have bought bag s of grass to be milled, either for the raw materials of straw hats or for feed for their livestock. Even though Ecuador is now exploiting is large oil reserves, the country remains an agricultural and pastoral nation. Cajabamba is a historically-important town near Riobamba that is centrally located in Ecuador between the plantations of the coast and the natural abundance of the rainforest. Therefore, market day in Cajabamba is an important day for the surrounding region.



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