

Defining Sustainability for California Almonds

Sustainability requires balancing the needs of people, profit and the planet—something farmers know is essential to the long-term viability of their operations. While there is no one-size-fits-all approach to sustainability, California Almond farmers are committed to using research to evolve their practices and continuously challenging themselves to do more.

In 2005, California Almond farmers and processors created and adopted a formal definition of sustainability specific to almonds based on the three pillars of sustainability.



SUSTAINABILITY (SƏ, STĀ-NƏ-'BI-LƏ-TĒ) *NOUN*

Sustainable almond farming utilizes production practices that are economically viable and based upon scientific research, common sense and a respect for the environment, neighbors and employees. The result is a plentiful, healthy and safe food product.

Meet the
Farmers

**OVER 90%
OF CALIFORNIA
ALMOND FARMS ARE
FAMILY FARMS**

Many are owned and operated by third- and fourth-generation farmers who live on the land and plan to pass it down to their children! Almond farmers recognize the need to carefully manage resources for current and future generations and offer continued work for their employees while protecting their families, neighbors, local communities and the environment.

Uniquely
California

**CALIFORNIA IS ONE OF THE
FEW PLACES
ON EARTH
WITH THE MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE NEEDED
TO GROW ALMONDS**

Ideal climate is a major reason the state produces more than 80%² of the world's almond supply. But California is unique in other ways too, including its rich soils, natural resources and infrastructure, and innovative research and technology. In addition to following federal regulations protecting workers, food safety and the environment, California farmers must also abide by stringent standards set by the state that further protect people and the planet.