

Our Heritage of Sustainability

1843

FIRST-KNOWN ALMOND ORCHARD planted in California



1950

FEDERAL MARKETING ORDER ESTABLISHED for almonds at the request of California Almond farmers, now known as Almond Board of California (ABC)

1973

ABC LAUNCHES RESEARCH FUNDING PROGRAMME focusing on orchard health, pests, and food quality and safety



1973

FIRST ANNUAL ALMOND CONFERENCE held in Sacramento, CA, to share research results with farmers and processors with a goal of improving production practices



1976

POLLINATION ADDED TO ABC RESEARCH PRIORITIES to better understand the important role honey bees play in growing almonds



1977

ABC BEGINS FUNDING RESEARCH TO EXPLORE HOW ALMOND COPRODUCTS (HULLS, SHELLS, WOODY MATERIAL) CAN BE PUT TO BENEFICIAL USES, like livestock feed and creating alternative energy through cogeneration



1982

ABC BEGINS INVESTIGATING IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENT and other water-related research

1995

ABC FORMS BEE TASK FORCE to increase research focus and collaboration related to honey bee health



1997, 2003, 2004, 2007

ABC WINS CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PESTICIDE REGULATION, U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AWARDS for developing and promoting best-in-class pest management practices

2007

CALIFORNIA ALMOND FARMERS AND PROCESSORS ADOPT STATE-OF-THE-ART FOOD SAFETY PROGRAMME to ensure a wholesome, safe product



2009

CALIFORNIA ALMOND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME LAUNCHED to support almond farmers with continuous improvement and adoption of sustainable practices practices



2014

OCTOBER ABC PUBLISHES HONEY BEE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES for California Almonds, a tool for all involved in almond pollination to protect honey bees

DECEMBER UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PUBLISHES ALMOND ECONOMIC STUDY quantifying the 104,000 jobs and \$11 billion almonds add to California's GDP¹

2015

FEBRUARY ABC UNVEILS NITROGEN CALCULATOR, which helps almond farmers feed their trees while reducing environmental impacts



APRIL ABC LAUNCHES EDUCATIONAL TOOLKITS, VIDEOS and more for all involved in almond harvest to reduce air quality impacts



JULY LIFECYCLE ASSESSMENT (LCA) of growing almonds shows that more than 50% of emissions are offset by current practices and the almond trees themselves²



SEPTEMBER ABC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND receive a USDA grant to explore how almond farmers can quantify greenhouse gas reductions to access California's cap-and-trade market

OCTOBER ABC FUNDS RESEARCH TO EXPLORE USING ALMOND ORCHARDS TO RECHARGE GROUNDWATER AQUIFERS with partners at University of California, Davis; Sustainable Conservation; Land IQ and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

DECEMBER ABC LAUNCHES ACCELERATED INNOVATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME to meet the future needs of the California Almond community with added benefits to our neighbours and the environment

2016

MAY IRRIGATION CALCULATOR RELEASED TO ALMOND FARMERS, providing real-time, tailored recommendations to use water more efficiently

SEPTEMBER ALMONDS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED AS "HEALTHY" BY FDA, acknowledging their predominantly "good" monounsaturated fats and 14% of the Daily Value for fibre³

NOVEMBER ABC'S BIOMASS TASK FORCE IS CREATED to guide research investment in novel, new uses of almond coproducts



DECEMBER SPATIAL ANALYSIS OF ALMOND PROCESSORS finds 50% are utilising solar energy at their facilities⁴



DECEMBER SYNTHESIZING DECADES OF IRRIGATION RESEARCH, THE ALMOND IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENT CONTINUUM is released as an educational resource for almond farmers

1. University of California Agricultural Issues Center. The Economic Impacts of the California Almond Industry. December 2014. 2. Alissa Kendall, et al. Lifecycle-based assessment of energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in almond production. Part 1: Analytical framework and baseline results. Journal of Industrial Ecology. 2015. 3. Good news about almonds and heart health. Scientific evidence suggests, but does not prove, that eating 1.5 ounces of most nuts, such as almonds, as part of a diet low in saturated fat and cholesterol may reduce the risk of heart disease. One serving on almonds (28 grams) has 13 grams of unsaturated fat and only 1 gram of saturated fat. 4. Land IQ. Almond Processor Solar Analysis. December 2016.