



Why California Almonds

A unique climate, consistent supply, and decades of research, innovation and responsible growing practices make California almonds the number one choice for quality, reliability and value.

California almonds are the No. 1 choice for quality thanks to a combination of the Central Valley's unique climate and soils, and 7,600 family farms rooted in science, growing expertise and food safety.

Food Safety

California almonds adhere to some of the strictest food safety checks in the world, including those in the EU, where they are **recognized under EU legislation for Pre-Export Check (PEC)**.

100% of almonds commercially grown in California are sweet almonds. Unlike bitter almonds, sweet varieties contain only trace amounts of amygdalin.



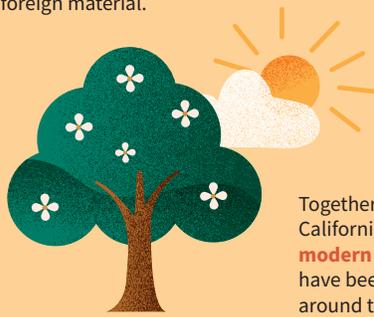
Consistent Quality

All California almonds must be processed via **approved and verified handlers who ensure consistency of grade and size** with low risk of foreign material.

Growing Expertise

Nearly 90% of California's 7,600 almond farms are family-run and nearly 70% of orchards are 100 acres or less¹. This multigenerational knowledge and respect for the land results in a product they are proud of.

Together with the world-leading University of California, Davis, the industry has pioneered **modern almond growing practices** that have been adopted by other growing regions around the world.



Climate and Soils

The Central Valley of California is the best, most efficient place in the world to grow almonds thanks to a combination of mild wet winters, 280+ days of sunshine each year, productive land use and high yields.

A strict regulatory environment, decades of experience with long-standing partnerships, reliable volume and supply, and a culture built on science, research and data: these are the ingredients that make California's almond industry a trusted partner for customers and consumers all over the world.

Strict Regulatory Environment

California's almond industry adheres to **multiple regulatory requirements at the local, state and federal level**, including those administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. These regulations span environmental, food and worker safety.



Reliable Supply

As planetary and dietary health needs require consumption of more plant-based foods, California's **stable almond supply means it can meet increased demand while decreasing impact from production.**

Customers can be reassured that their almonds will always come from a **single source of origin.**

The California almond industry provides monthly crop reports with accurate, **up-to-date information on supply and demand.**



Decades of Experience

California is the world's No. 1 producer of almonds, growing 80% of the world's supply².

The California almond industry has a history of long-standing partnerships with major buyers, importers, manufacturers and retailers all over the world—some going back **175 years!**



Built on Science

The Almond Board of California was set up in 1950 to support the industry and has been the driving force behind research and industry-wide best practices.

Every claim and every innovation is backed by data and rooted in science.



California is a hub for innovation and technology and is at the forefront of environmental stewardship. The state's farming industry is no different. **Almond farmers are continually investing in research**, as well as adopting climate-smart, regenerative practices and innovations, **to grow almonds in more responsible and sustainable ways.**

Leaders in Water Efficiency

California almond farmers have rapidly adopted the use of precision farming techniques. **In fact, 83% of California almond farms use microirrigation³.**

Farmers reduced the water needed to grow each almond by 33% between the 1990s and 2010s⁴.



Zero Waste

California almond farmers are leading the way with putting everything the orchard grows to good use, including **spearheading more innovative and sustainable uses for almond coproducts.**

Biodiversity

86% of all U.S. bee-friendly certified farms are almond farms, growing bee pastures and habitat to support pollinators⁷.

The Honey Bee Best Management Practices serve as a guide to all of agriculture for protecting pollinator health on farms.



Low Carbon Footprint

California almond orchards capture and store significant amounts of carbon.

Collectively, the state's almond trees store 30 million metric tons of carbon, equal to the emissions from 24 million cars annually⁵.

California almonds are transported by container ship, which has the lowest carbon emissions of common food transport methods⁶.



The value of California almonds extends beyond price. From proven health benefits and number of varieties grown, to industry resources and economic benefits, California almonds offer so much more.

Research and Insights

The Almond Board of California is a valued resource for almond research and information, covering everything from nutrition and health benefits to sustainable agricultural practices and food quality and safety.

The industry **continually invests in education and marketing, new research, consumer insights and technical resources** to help growers, manufacturers and Research & Development teams succeed.

The California almond industry has invested over \$30 million in nutrition research, resulting in more than **200 peer-reviewed publications**. This research has helped transform almonds into a **top food for health**, changing consumer perceptions and gaining recognition among the scientific community for the health benefits of almonds⁸.



Price and Variety

California almonds are consistently price-competitive while never compromising on taste, nutrition or quality.

More than 30 varieties of sweet almonds are grown in California, more than anywhere else in the world.



Economic Benefits

Almonds are California's leading agricultural export, supporting over 100,000 jobs at home and creating economic value in other parts of the world⁹.



¹U.S. Department of Agriculture. Census of Agriculture. 2022.

²Almond Board of California, Almond Board of Australia, AEOFRUSE, Portugal Nuts, Chilean Almond Board, Greek Nuts & Fruits Trade Association and other INC sources.

³Totals may not add precisely due to rounding.

⁴Growing Good Annual Report. Almond Board of California. 2022. https://www.almonds.com/sites/default/files/2023-04/Growing_Good_Sustainability_Update_2022.pdf

⁵University of California, 2010. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2012. Almond Board of California, 1990-94, 2000-14.

⁶U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. July 2023.

⁷Joseph Poore, et al. Reducing food's environmental impacts through producers and consumers. *Science*. June 2018.

⁸Pollinator Partnership. January 2023.

⁹Global Perceptions Report. Almond Board of California. 2024.

⁹University of California, Agricultural Issues Center. Contributions of the California Almond Industry to the California Economy. August 2020.



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