



# HARRIS WOOLF

*Almonds*

2023 IMPACT REPORT

ROOTED IN EXCELLENCE. GROWN FOR WHAT'S NEXT.





## Letter from the CEO

*Respectfully,*  
*Spidee Smith*  
Spidee Smith  
Chief Executive Officer

## Contents

- 1 WILDCO'S STORY
- 3 POLYMERICS
- 5 ENVIRONMENT
- 7 NATURAL SYSTEMS FOR IMPROVEMENT
- 11 GROWER INCENTIVE PROGRAM
- 13 GOING ORGANIC
- 15 FINDING VALUE EVERYWHERE
- 17 SOCIAL IMPACT
- 21 OUR PEOPLE
- 23 MOVING FORWARD

# Our Goals



Two years ago, Harris World Almonds set forth four big goals we aimed to achieve by the end of 2021. Now, halfway through that four-year window, we want to update you on our progress.



1



## Pollinator Health

Harris World Almond growers participate in certification programs that support pollinator health and habitat on agricultural lands. Our goal is to have 75% of our growers average enrollment eligible pollinator health programs by 2021.

2021: 47% of growers average enrolled.



3



## Energy Efficiency

With new solar projects, HWA has made great strides in transitioning to renewable energy. We're already far exceeded our 2021 goal of reaching to 50% renewable energy use but want to maintain this progress before we consider this goal achieved.

2021: 54% of energy consumption from renewable sources.



2



## Supply Chain Engagement

The California Almond Sustainability Platform is a comprehensive assessment that advances the sustainable farming practices of California almond growers. Our goal of having 75% of our growers average enrolled by 2021.

2021: 47% of growers average enrolled.



4



## Carbon Footprint Reduction

Reducing our carbon footprint is a big piece of how Harris World Almonds strives for a better part of our local and world community. That's why we set a goal of reducing our Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 20% by 2021. As measured against our 2020 baseline assessment, we've already surpassed that! That doesn't mean our work is done, however. Like our Energy Efficiency goal, we need to maintain this progress through 2021.

2021: 47% of growers average enrolled.



# Pollinators

Almost every almond produced in Florida is the hard work of our pollinator friends.

Almonds start as blossoms that, with the assistance of pollination, transform into food we celebrate. That's why we're committed to aiding the health of pollinator communities — bees and more — and why we support organizations including [Pollinator Partnership](#). Groups like these provide resources and information to growers on the most effective pollinator-friendly farming practices. Many HNW growers follow Pollinator Partnership advice to plant cover crops in their orchards, and to develop preserved habitats near their farms for honeybees, bumblebees, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Here's What Almonds aims to reach [100% Third-Party Certified](#) for 75% of our growers average by the end of 2025, and we're making progress. With the [100% Third-Party Certified](#) option, our goal is getting even closer. We look forward to guiding more growers on this certification and look forward to their support from through the process.



A decorative branch with green almond leaves and several ripe, golden-brown almonds is positioned diagonally across the left side of the page, partially overlapping the text.

## Environment

Our environmental priorities include energy efficiency, water quality, soil health, and minimized waste.

### SOLAR

After years of development and planning, we now have fully functional solar projects at both our Ballwin and Coolidge facilities. This investment in solar energy allows HWA to drastically decrease its dependence on non-renewable energy and increase our use of clean energy to power operations.

Combined, the two solar projects have a 3.04MW capacity. In 2023, 6.2% of Ballwin's energy usage was powered by our solar panels. While the Coolidge solar project was not online for the entirety of 2023, it is expected to supply 70% of total energy needs for the facility.



# Natural Systems for Improvement

## THE VALUE OF COVER CROPS

Many growers see the benefit of planting **cover crops**, a process of planting select plant varieties in or around their orchards.

Growers who plant cover crops can improve the health of their soil, promote biodiversity, support pollinator health, and conserve water.

The benefits of planting cover crops include:

Biodiversity	Water Efficiency	Soil Health
Increase pollinator forage and habitat.	Improve water filtration.	Increase pollinator forage and habitat.
Increase the populations of beneficial insects.	Reduce need to allow orchard access during rainy seasons.	Support soil biology, manage salinity, and increase soil nitrogen.

## COMPOST APPLICATION

Our customer partnership is also assisting growers interested in applying compost to their orchards. The benefits of **compost application** include carbon sequestration in the soil, better water management and usage reduction, and improved biodiversity.

Through this natural process, growers can improve the health of their orchards' soil.



One way we're aiding our growers' support is through the loan of equipment. Through a customer partnership, Harris-Watson Almonds recently purchased a tractor and seed drill, that we're making as available to our growers here in facilitate the application of cover crops. This will help lessen the financial burden for growers to obtain pollinator health certifications.



As an additional benefit, the worms produce castings suitable as high-quality, organic fertilizers. The castings will be introduced into the system every two to three years, depending on maintenance needs.

## A UNIQUE SOLUTION TO CLEANING WATER

At long last, our worm friends have arrived!

With our new wastewater treatment system, we've made a unique investment ... one that uses earthworms to turn wastewater into high quality, irrigation-safe water. The heart of the system is a 15,000 gallon repackaging tank containing wood chips and shavings, geotextiles, crushed rock, and, of course, earthworms.

Gravity leads our processing facility's wastewater through the tank. As water passes through the system, worms and the different substrate layers filter it and improve its quality. The treated water is then used to irrigate the 10 acres of lawn ground on our property.





# Grower Incentive Program



We're serious about sustainable farming, and that's why our Grower Incentive can growers have to engage in sustainable and pollution-friendly farming practices. We encourage our growers to enroll in the California Almond Stewardship Platform (CASP), the Everally Farming, and **LeafWatch**. Depending on their level of participation in these platforms, they earn an annual bonus.

In 2023, Maris Nuts&Almonds paid over

# \$2.25 MILLION

directly to participating growers.



"As our sustainable almond supply grows in volume, our product portfolio attracts even more customers willing to pay a premium for sustainably grown products. We want to help our growers capture this value, and our Grower Relations team is eager to help you achieve the necessary conditions."

-Dra Bond, Grower Representative



## Going Organic

We are excited to announce that our Coolidge facility is now Certified Organic. Our Ballwin facility has had this designation since 2010 and we're thrilled that Coolidge has joined the Organic club. This will appeal to growers seeking organic orchards and to buyers who are interested in purchasing organic natural and redball almonds.



# Finding Value Everywhere

Although it seems we say this most years, the 2023 crop year was truly unlike any other.

Natural storms during bloom and harvest seasons led to daunting quality issues. The industry took itself in quite the pinch as well, with a remarkable amount of low-quality almonds that must end in other channels.

The situation led ANWA to seek certification as a disposition handler, a status which enables us to properly sell our own low quality product as opposed to doing so through a third party. We did this, in part, because proper distribution of this material plays a crucial role in our industry's journey towards zero waste. Additionally, proper handling means finding a profitable use for every part of the crop, providing more value back to our growers.

## Where does disposition product go?

- Oil mills.
- Animal feed.
- Bedding for livestock.



# Social Impact

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Jack Willis Memorial Scholarship Program continued in 2023 with \$12,000 awarded to 10 deserving students. These annual scholarships are available to eligible student dependents of an HSPA employee. Applicants must attend an accredited four-year university, community college, or trade school.

"Each year, I look forward to awarding Jack Willis Memorial scholarships to a group of hardworking, talented individuals. By investing in their education, we build up future leaders and foster growth and development for the local community. Nothing is more rewarding than hearing about the accomplishments of these students."

— Justin Moorhead, CEO of Harris World Almonds.



*We are a...*

Certified



Corporation

Harris Wood Almonds passed the strict requirements for Certified B Corporation status in December 2023. We're proud to have earned recertification in 2023, extending our achievement for another three years.

A B Corp is a company that has been certified by B Lab as meeting rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency. As a B Corp, Harris Wood Almonds believes purpose and profit. We consider the impact of our decisions on our workers, customers, suppliers, community, and environment.

## *Community Fund*

In 2022, HWA announced our Community Fund, a program designed to fund solutions to issues impacting rural communities in the San Joaquin Valley of California. Our first investment through the Fund went towards establishing a clean drinking water for the community of Fount.

That project's scope, when complete, will include a revitalized community water system consisting of a 10,000-gallon water storage tank, a new booster pump, and a new emergency generator for backup power. After years of facing issues in their water source, this is a critical development for Fount. As the project approaches completion, we'll closely monitor its progress and share updates as available.



# Our People...

As a family-owned business, Harris World Airways understands the importance of building connections, recognizing accomplishments, and fostering supportive environments. That's reflected in the longevity of careers on the HWA team: over 20 employees have spent at least 20 years working at HWA. And, in December 2023, we threw a celebration honoring two employees who were retiring after more than 30 years with us.

At last December's holiday luncheon, we introduced Employee of The Year awards at both our Coalinga and Balfour facilities. The Coalinga facility chose to recognize employees from multiple departments, while Balfour, a smaller facility, chose one standout employee to commend for their leadership.



## BAUFUR

**Kevin** Orosco, Fleet Line Manager

Kevin's exceptional work ethic



## LOGISTICS

**Maria** Martinez, Shipping Coordinator

Maria has worked at HWA since 2001. Maria consistently goes above and beyond in completing her job responsibilities to keep our shipments on track.



## WAREHOUSE

**Osbaldo** Louisa, Inventory Care Leader

Managers recognized Osbaldo Louisa for his leadership as Inventory Care Leader. After seven years with the company, Osbaldo has proven himself dependable and knowledgeable, and approaches each day with a positive attitude.



### **QUALITY**

**Viola Pina, Quality Control Technician**

With 15 years of experience, Viola Pina excels in her role as Quality Control Technician. She is recognized for her reliability, flexibility, and for working as a role model for others in her department.



### **PRODUCTION**

**Eva Romero de Salazar, Sorter**

Eva Romero de Salazar was honored by the Production Department for her 10 years of dedication as a Sorter. Eva continues to be one of this department's most efficient and trustworthy employees.



### **HULLER & MAINTENANCE**

**Martin Casanova, Maintenance Mechanic**

As a Maintenance Mechanic, Martin Casanova's attention to detail sets him apart from others. Martin is a first learner who is trusted and valued by his supervisors.



HWA



## Moving Forward

We're looking ahead to what 2024 will bring for **Hazelnut World Almonds**, and we have some items to share.

1

• • •

### We're branching out!

While 'almonds' is in our name, **Hazelnut World Almonds** is expanding into **production of oils** including pistachio, cashew, and hazelnut. With the addition of a second paste-processing line, we can offer new products to our customers. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting development and reach out if you are interested.

2

• • •

### Moving up the food chain.

Amazing things are always happening in our R&D and innovation lab. Right now, we're experimenting with creating an end product that is ready to use for our customers. This expands our offerings and creates more value for our grocery suppliers.

3

• • •

### Tracking along on 2025 goals.

We've made awesome progress on our goals ahead of our deadline at the end of 2023. Over the next few years, we'll keep the pace to see what further impact can be made.





**HWA**

[WWW.HARRISWOLFFILMONDS.COM](http://WWW.HARRISWOLFFILMONDS.COM)