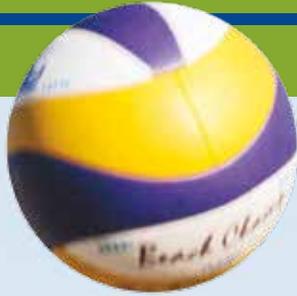




JULY | AUGUST 2016

almond **FACTS**

News, Views & Industry Insights



Team USA Sponsorship in Full Swing

**Costco Debuts
Co-op Branded
Almond Flour**

**Fresno Grower
Named One of
America's Best**

**Co-op
Election Season
Kicks Off**

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Features

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Blue Diamond's sponsorship of USA Swimming and USA Volleyball at the Rio Olympics is in full swing as advertising and promotions ramp up.

22 | Fresno Grower

Matthew Efird, a fifth-generation *Blue Diamond* almond grower from Fresno, was recently named one of America's best farmers and ranchers by DTN/The Progressive Farmer Magazine.

20 | Costco Debut

Select branches of Costco club stores now carry *Blue Diamond* branded almond flour, a unique venture for the cooperative's new line of ingredient products.

38 | Continuous Improvement

Blue Diamond's Turlock facility recently hosted a panel to highlight the implementation of continuous improvement technology that has helped the team track productivity and improve efficiency.

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Cover Photo:

Kerri Walsh-Jennings, *Almond Breeze* Brand Ambassador, trains for her fifth Olympic beach volleyball appearance.



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President's Corner

Mark Jansen
President and CEO



“People working together in a strong community with a shared goal and a common purpose can make the impossible possible.”

– Tom Vilsack, US Secretary of Agriculture

You may have noticed that not every *Blue Diamond* logo is the same. We use one for our retail products, featuring an orange ribbon that says “Almonds.” This one is the most recognizable to our consumers and our customers. As our team members (a preferred term for our *Blue Diamond* employees) know, we use the logo with the green ribbon that says “Growers” as the name of our company. But there’s a particular version of the “Growers” logo that we reserve for communicating with our grower-owners and that logo is what we call the “Power in Partnership” logo. You will find it here and on the cover of this magazine. This logo is the most important of the collection because it speaks to the nature of our cooperative – the symbiotic relationship between our grower-owners and team members that is required to grow, process and market the world’s best almonds and almond products.

Grower-owned cooperatives are unique in today’s world of start-ups and corporations. Some companies are family-owned, controlled by a tight inner circle of leaders, while others are publicly traded, opening their doors to the ups and downs of the market. Grower-owned cooperatives like *Blue Diamond Growers* offer the best of both worlds. We are not publicly traded and our owners are family farmers with an average farm size of 75 acres. The economics of our almond marketing and processing cooperative sustains the family farming lifestyle that is iconic in California agriculture. Our growers uniquely own the manufacturing, marketing and selling operations of the almonds they grow, in addition to making the on-farm business decisions necessary to produce their crop.

Our core values of Integrity, Partnership, Quality and Innovation are indicative of our farming heritage. Growers know they are not only given the best possible price for their almonds, but they are treated fairly by a co-op that reflects their values and stays true to its mission to maximize the returns of each grower who delivers their almonds to

Blue Diamond. These values are also demonstrated by *Blue Diamond* team members who report that *Blue Diamond* is a great place to work, in part because our almond growers entrust us with their livelihood – when we succeed, they succeed and vice versa. Our team members are proud of the role they play in keeping California’s family farming operations prosperous.

More and more, research tells us that consumers want to know where their food comes from. Well it’s no secret that the best almonds and almond products come from *Blue Diamond* and our almonds come directly from more than half of the almond growers in California. Growers and team members alike have made a commitment to achieve our cooperative’s vision – to deliver the benefits of almonds to the world. Through the awesome power in the partnership between these two pillars of our great organization, I know we will succeed.



New Almond Variety:

- Bennett-Hickman
US PP26,083 P3



Best Clonal Rootstocks For Your New Plantings

- Krymsk® 86* US PP16,272
- Brights Hybrid BH®5 (cv. Arthur V)
US PP18,782 P3

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Field Day will begin viewing the 6th leaf Bennett Almond in production at 901 Hall Rd, Hickman CA 95323. Afterwards meet at the Scheuber Ranch to see the 2nd leaf Bennett Almond variety block at 631 Service Rd, Modesto CA 95358. Lunch will be provided at the Scheuber Ranch. Growers & Processors welcome! | RSVP by August 5th, 2016 | Call 209-531-0351 or marketing@duartenursery.com

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(USPPP)

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FROST TOLERANT	✓		✓	
GRAFT COMPATIBLE	✓	✓	✓	✓
SALT TOLERANT	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓

Most current data



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Joaquin River, and North of Patterson
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County South of Tuolumne River, West of Hwy
99 and East of San Joaquin River; Merced
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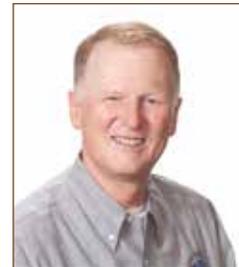
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– Matt LaGrande, Partner
M & R LaGrande



From grower to grocery, at Blue Diamond Growers we offer expert, trusted support to our members every step of the way. Just ask any of our growers how we’ve partnered with them to ensure their success in the marketplace. Our deep expertise in the nut market, and more broadly in the food industry, means that we can provide invaluable data to our growers – from clear, timely, information and analysis, to greater market trends, forecasts and industry updates.

We’re on the front lines in Sacramento with legislative representation and government affairs. We’re marketing experts, with professional expertise in advertising and promotions. And our trusted team of seasoned field supervisors work hand-in-hand with our members to share information, knowledge, and advice that’s critical to their ongoing profitability.

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- marketing and promotions**
- Legislative leadership**
- globally recognized brand**
- reliable market information**
- consistently high returns**

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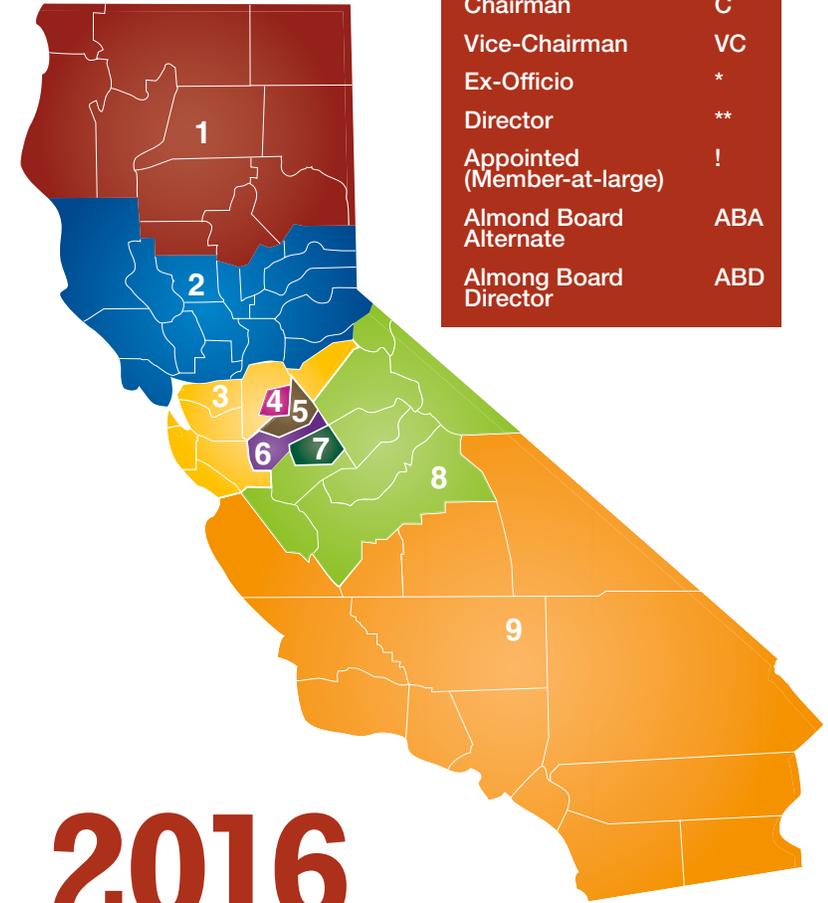
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- Jerad Heinrich **! C**
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- Lucas Van Duyn
- Hans Waner III
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2016

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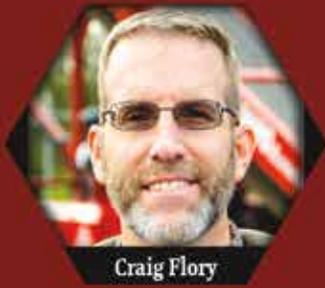
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- Richard Markarian **!**
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- Chris Vandborg **!**
- Clinton Shick ******

For Grower Liaison contact information, please contact your field supervisor.

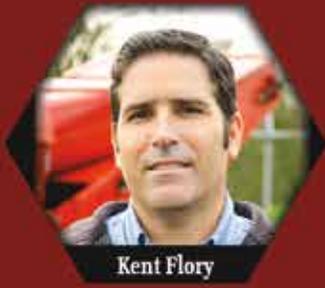
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Chinese Trade Mission Visits *Blue Diamond* Farm

An East China Trade Mission made its way to California and included a trip to *Blue Diamond Grower* and Board Director Elaine Rominger's farm in Arbutle. The group, sponsored by both the US Embassy in Beijing and the US Consulate in Shanghai, wanted a better understanding of *Blue Diamond* products, and the overall operations of the company from grower to final product. Participants were very excited to visit the orchards and see the on-farm operations first hand.



German Minister Learns about Bee Health

Blue Diamond Grower John Chandler hosted Bernhard Polten, head of the Animal Production Division of the German Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The purpose of the visit was for Mr. Polten to gain a better understanding of bees to assist German growers with their beehives. The two discussed the challenges for bees, the importance of farmer and beekeeper cooperatives, and the role of bees in almond production.



Young Leaders Visit Capitol Hill

Two Young Leader participants represented *Blue Diamond Growers* at the NCFC Washington D.C. conference. Claire Brumley (class of 2016) and Zachary Reinstein (class of 2015) joined *Blue Diamond's* Director of Corporate Communications Alicia Rockwell and President and CEO Mark Jansen to attend the conference and meet with congressional leaders and federal agencies.

“The candid interaction and free flow of information regarding the agricultural industry, varying regulations, water issues, trade agreements, and various other topics was quite fun,” said Young Leader Claire Brumely. “One of the most important roles we as leaders within the agricultural industry have is educating those who don’t have the same background and allowing them to see the important role agriculture plays in California, the U.S. and the world.”

During the four-day event, the group met with representatives including Congressman Doug LaMalfa, Congressman Ami Bera and Chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture Congressman Frank Lucas discussing almonds, agriculture and the issues facing both industries.

“Participation from our Young Leaders and growers on the federal and state level is vital to telling *Blue Diamond's* story to our lawmakers,” said Rockwell. “Our growers have a rich agricultural tradition that lawmakers really connect with.”



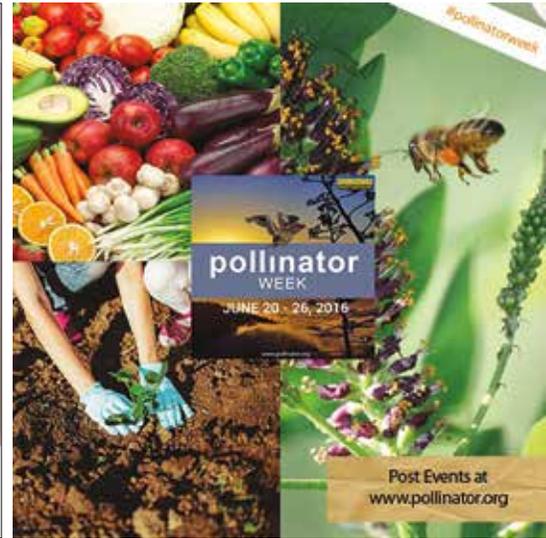
Cooperative representatives meet with California Congressman Doug LaMalfa (center).



Oklahoma Congressman Frank Lucas (center) spoke with the group about agricultural issues.



John Rice (center), a representative of the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, discussed the Market Access Program with the team.



Creating a Buzz about Pollinators

June 20 kicked off nationally recognized Pollinator Week in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators and address the issue of declining pollinator populations. This week celebrates the invaluable contributions bees, birds, butterflies, bats and beetles provide to our ecosystem. People worldwide celebrated the week by participating in events and posting on social media. Pollinator Partnership initiated and manages Pollinator Week. The organization was created to promote the health of pollinators through conservation, education and research. To learn more about Pollinator Partnership and Pollinator week, visit Pollinator.org.



Almonds: The #1 Snack Nut

A recent study conducted by the Sterling-Rice Group confirmed that almonds are the nut of choice for snacking and breakfast. The North American consumers surveyed perceived almonds to be nutritious, a source of energy and good for the heart. In fact, 77 percent rated almonds as the most healthful nut. And they are right, almonds are one of the most nutritional tree nuts. They contain 6 grams of protein, 4 grams of fiber and monounsaturated fats, and are a source of both Vitamin E and magnesium.





LEADING-EDGE OPERATIONS

Mean Higher Returns for Blue Diamond Growers

“Food safety is top-of-mind for growers today. From its state-of-the art processing plant in Turlock to its packing and shipping operations, Blue Diamond Almonds is proactive in protecting our product. That translates to increased profitability for the grower. Why would we trust anyone but the most stable, reliable name in the business?”

– Galen Miyamoto, Owner
Miyamoto Farms



At Blue Diamond Almonds, we’re recognized worldwide for our cutting-edge technology, our award-winning processing facilities, and our value-added approach, from research and development to finished product. What does that mean for you as a grower? A much broader global customer base, sustained performance in the marketplace, and higher price per pound ensure greater returns.

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**state-of-the-art
production operations**

highest health and safety options

**facilities with optimum
food and worker safety**

**above and beyond
the competition**

Now the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) is one more guideline we’re surpassing – leaving the competition far behind. There’s simply no other almond processor that compares to Blue Diamond’s gold standard – just ask our growers. Join us and find out how we can help you better succeed in the almond marketplace.

Give us a call. We’d love to talk to you about how we can grow your business, too. Call our Salida office directly at 209.545.6225

Recipe of the Month

BLUEBERRY LEMON MUFFINS

PREP TIME: 15 MINUTES • COOK TIME: 18-20 MINUTES

MAKES 10 MUFFINS

- ½ CUP SUGAR
- ¼ CUP BLUE DIAMOND VANILLA ALMOND BREEZE
- ¼ CUP CANOLA OIL
- 1 TEASPOON VANILLA EXTRACT
- 1 TEASPOON LEMON EXTRACT
- 1 TEASPOON FINELY GRATED LEMON ZEST
- 1 EGG + 2 EGG WHITES

- 2 CUPS BLUE DIAMOND EXTRA FINE BLANCHED ALMOND FLOUR
- 2 TABLESPOONS ALL-PURPOSE GLUTEN-FREE BAKING MIX
- 2 TEASPOONS BAKING POWDER
- ¼ TEASPOON SALT
- ¾ CUP FRESH OR ½ CUP FROZEN, THAWED BLUEBERRIES*

- ¼ CUP SLICED ALMONDS (OPTIONAL)

1. Preheat oven to 400°F and line 10 muffin cups with paper liners or lightly butter.
2. Whisk together sugar, Almond Breeze, oil, vanilla and lemon extracts, lemon zest and eggs in a large bowl.
3. Add flour, baking mix, baking powder and salt then lightly fold in blueberries. Spoon into prepared cups and sprinkle with almonds.
4. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center comes out clean.

Store in a container with a loose fitting lid.

*If using frozen blueberries, make sure to thaw and drain well to remove all excess moisture.





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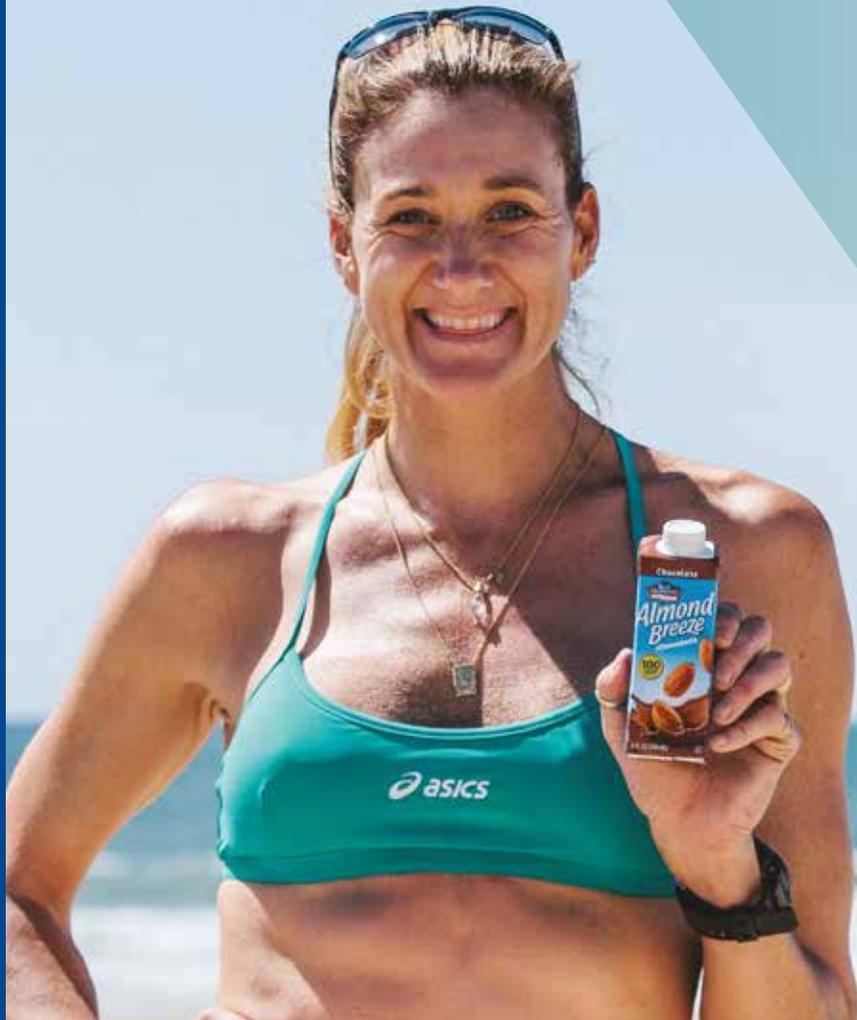


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Fueling Your Inner Athlete with *Blue Diamond*

The Olympics remains a television phenomenon as the longest continuous coverage of any major televised event, second only to the Super Bowl in total viewers, spanning 17 days of non-stop media coverage and garnering the public's attention in the United States and around the world. With all eyes on Rio de Janeiro to cheer on the world's elite athletes as they compete for the gold, *Blue Diamond* is positioned to align itself as the official snack nut of USA Swimming and the official almondmilk of USA Volleyball. The 2016 Games marks the sixth time that the cooperative has aligned itself with the Olympics and the strategy has proved a winning one for *Blue Diamond*.

“The Olympics and the athletes from Team USA evoke the personality and character outlook that consumers associate with our brand motto – Get Your Good Going,” said John O’Shaughnessy, *Blue Diamond’s* Senior Vice President of North American Consumer Retail. “Our almond products are wholesome and help elevate your quality of life. We want consumers to turn to *Blue Diamond* to fuel their inner athlete as they watch Team USA compete.”

O’Shaughnessy cited research into the average American television viewership during the Olympics as valuable insight into the cooperative’s marketing strategy. “Average television viewership jumps from 90 minutes a night to more than three and a half hours per night during the duration of the Olympics. It is the highest rated program

every time it airs and draws the most balanced viewership among any major televised event,” he explained. “Viewers engage with the Olympics in a way that they just don’t for other television programming and that means endless opportunities for *Blue Diamond*.”

The cooperative has been ramping up its marketing activities in the lead up to the Olympic Opening Ceremonies on August 5 in Rio de Janeiro. Get Your Good Going television advertising with USA Swimming and USA Volleyball sponsorship tags at the end began airing toward the end of June and print ads and coupons that reference the sponsorships will help drive consumers into stores. Public relations activities during the Olympic Trials for both USA Swimming and USA Volleyball highlighted the cooperative’s involvement with the teams and included signage both during competition and in press conferences, putting a spotlight on the *Blue Diamond* brand. Even products themselves will mention the sponsorship, with special stickers on the lids of six-ounce cans of Snack Almonds bearing the USA Swimming logo.

As the Games get underway, the digital arm of the campaign will go into full swing with the launch of a microsite, LaneToGreatness.com, the heart of the USA Swimming sponsorship campaign. There will also be commercials highlighting the sponsorships playing before online videos and fans of the cooperative on social media should expect to learn more about the athletes, their training regimens and how they incorporate *Blue Diamond* products into their nutrition

plan. Specifically, fans will learn more about swimmer Matt Grevers and volleyball player Kerri Walsh-Jennings as the two are brand ambassadors for *Blue Diamond*. Grevers is a six-time Olympic medalist from Illinois. Walsh-Jennings, from California, is the winner of three Olympic gold medals and will be competing in her fifth Olympic Games this summer.

“Matt Grevers and Kerri Walsh-Jennings are the best brand ambassadors we could have hoped for to bring our Get Your Good Going message to the American people,” said Al Greenlee, Director of Marketing for North American Consumer Retail. “They have a passion for their sport that is contagious. They believe in our products and we believe in them and will be cheering for them and the rest of Team USA on their quest for greatness!”

To learn more about *Blue Diamond*’s sponsorship of USA Swimming and USA Volleyball, or to view the cooperative’s latest commercials that tie-in with these sponsorships, be sure to “like” *Blue Diamond Almonds* and *Almond Breeze* on Facebook.



Almond Flour a Hit at Costco

Blue Diamond's almond flour has struck a chord with those eager for a gluten-free flour that will add a nutritional component and pleasing flavor profile that other gluten-free flours lack. Whether it's for home baking or incorporation as an ingredient for a food company's product, almond flour helps the cooperative capitalize on the growth trend for healthy ingredients. With this exciting new product comes exciting new channels for trade, particularly within the bakery category and in club stores.

Building on the excitement over almond flour by home cooks and food scientists alike, Costco recently launched

Blue Diamond Almond Flour in a three-pound bag for its members. The packaging, which features an "easy-touch freshness seal," proudly portrays the *Blue Diamond Almonds* logo front and center, building on the brand equity established by the cooperative's consumer products and ingredients businesses.



"Consumers really connect with the *Blue Diamond* brand and quality. We are happy to bring our first commercially available ingredient product, almond flour, to Costco to continue differentiating ourselves from the other handlers in the industry," said Bill Morecraft, *Blue Diamond's* Senior Vice President for Global Ingredients. "As the food industry's first choice for almond ingredients, our almond flour is the best of the best, and we take tremendous pride in our products."

As the team continues to look for ways to connect ingredient items with the attributes that consumers are looking for, they are exploring expanded opportunities for other value-added manufacturing products.

"Consumers are looking for natural and convenient snacks that fit a healthy lifestyle.," Morecraft said. "At *Blue Diamond*, we work closely with our manufacturing customers to develop product solutions that meet consumers' needs."



Greek Yogurt and Almonds are a Winning Combination

The yogurt aisle may not be the first place a person would think to look for almonds, but thanks to a burgeoning trend for Greek yogurt with almonds as a mix-in ingredient, several new Fage Greek yogurt items now contain flavored slices of *Blue Diamond* almonds. The new line, called Fage Crossovers, brings "chef-level" snacking to consumers everywhere with seven intriguing flavor combinations that are as distinct as they are delicious. The three flavor combinations that contain almonds are:



"Caramel with Almonds," offering a caramel blended low-fat Greek yogurt topped with *Blue Diamond* honey-roasted almond slices.

Cooperative Scores INC Innovation Award for *Sriracha* Snack Almonds



***Sriracha*-flavored snack almonds, the latest addition to *Blue Diamond*'s BOLD almond line, are on fire and that's not just a reference to their flavor profile! The cooperative brought home the Innovation Award for *Sriracha* almonds at the annual International Dried Fruit and Nut Council Congress, held this year in San Diego in June. The award recognizes new ideas and innovative approaches within the dried fruit and tree nut industries.**

First launched in July 2015, *Sriracha* almonds have quickly become a consumer favorite. As one of the first major food brands to introduce a *Sriracha* flavored almond to market, *Blue Diamond* tapped further into the burgeoning spicy food trend.

"Consumers can't get enough of *sriracha*'s complex profile so naturally, we wanted to bring that pop of flavor to almonds," said Al Greenlee, Director of Marketing for *Blue Diamond*'s consumer products. He cited research published by market researcher Mintel Innovation, which found that 54 percent of consumers prefer hot or spicy sauces, dips and condiments over their tamer counterparts.



Blue Diamond President and CEO Mark Jansen was on hand to accept the award on behalf of the entire cooperative, but especially the talented individuals who executed the vision for this BOLD flavored almond so perfectly.

"*Sriracha* flavored almonds are the most successful flavor of BOLD almonds that we have launched since our very iconic *Wasabi & Soy* flavored almonds and this award is a testament to the excellent innovation, marketing and commercialization teams at *Blue Diamond* who brought this product to life," Jansen said. "We are very honored to receive the Innovation Award and look forward to continuing to introduce innovative new almond products to market."

Blue Diamond Sriracha snack almonds are made by combining high quality California-grown almonds and the bold taste of *sriracha*- a hot bite of peppers, vinegar, garlic, sugar and salt. *Sriracha* snack almonds are available in six-ounce cans and 1.5-ounce tube packages in retailers throughout the country. The product is part of the BOLD almond line, which includes other exciting flavors such as *Wasabi & Soy*, *Habañero BBQ* and *Salt & Vinegar*.



"Tomato Basil with Almonds," bringing the classic Italian flavors to blended low-fat Greek Yogurt topped with salt and pepper flavor roasted almond slices.



"Olive Thyme with Almonds," inviting consumers to explore their savory side with olive thyme blended low-fat Greek yogurt topped with roasted natural almond slices.



Look for these and the other four exciting flavor combinations in the yogurt aisle of your local grocery store.



Hank, Efird's German shepherd, is a vital member of Double E Farms.

Fresno Grower Named One of America's Best Young Farmers

***Blue Diamond* grower Matt Efird grew up in Fresno knowing he would return to the family farm after he finished his education. He earned a degree in fruit science and agriculture business from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and took his hard-earned knowledge back home to become the fifth generation of the Efird family to tend to the same land that his great grandfather first settled on to open a general store, farm and raise cattle.**

“Being the fifth generation of my family to farm on this land has given me a unique perspective. I definitely feel like I am a steward of this land,” Efird explained. “This land is not mine. It is the next generation’s if they so choose to come back to it. I’m going to be as efficient as I can and as productive as I can, but at the same time, I’m preserving this land for future generations.”

DTN/The Progressive Farmer magazine first learned about Efird’s farming operation when they reached out to him for a story on how California growers are faring in the fifth year of the drought. After the publication learned the myriad irrigation technologies and strategies Efird has implemented to manage the drought in his operation, where he grows 1,500 acres of almonds, walnuts, raisins and wine grapes, the writer called him back and informed Efird that he had been nominated for the organization’s America’s Best Young Farmers and Ranchers Program for 2016. The program recognizes leaders in production and management innovation, but also highlights the honoree’s involvement in their home communities. Efird earned the honor along with four other agriculturalists from across the country.

“It was great to go back to Chicago to accept the award at their annual meeting and meet the other recipients,” he said. “It was interesting to look at each of our operations and how different they all are and how different California agriculture is from the way that the rest of the nation farms. It was a really neat experience.”

Investing in Irrigation

DTN/The Progressive Farmer magazine was impressed with how Efird was prepared for the water challenges the drought presented. He explained to them that they had been proactively investing in irrigation technology on their land. Ten years ago they installed micro-sprinklers on all 1,500 acres so that irrigation water is applied directly to the roots where it can be most effectively used. The micro-sprinklers have helped to cut his water use by 30 to 50 percent!

Other technologies he employs include soil moisture probes and weekly third-party measurements of moisture in the root zone, giving him data to calculate the soil’s water-holding capacity, to monitor plant water uptake and to fine-tune

irrigation scheduling. To compensate for increased pumping costs, Efird has installed three solar electrical generation facilities. These help to offset a third of the operation’s annual power usage due to pumping in a dry year and more than half of the energy use in a year with average surface water availability.

The micro-sprinkler irrigation system also allows for the capability to fertilize his permanent crops at the end of an irrigation cycle, perfecting the timing to reduce the leaching of nutrients applied to the root system. He has been able to reduce his herbicide costs by half by only targeting the watered areas for weeds.

Smart investment has allowed his orchards and vines to remain productive and healthy, adjectives that not all California growers can use to describe their crops after five long years with limited water availability.

Continued on page 24.



Matt and his wife Kelsey recently welcomed the sixth generation to the family — their one-year old son Jameson.

Three generations of the Efird family enjoy an al fresco dinner their Fresno property. Russel (far left) and Kathy (far right) were the fourth generation of the family to farm the land.



Bringing Agricultural Issues to Light

Efird has embraced the opportunity to be an advocate for agriculture in various community forums, both in Fresno and in the greater agricultural community in California. Some of the issues that he's passionate about include changes to the nitrogen management plan for irrigated land; the development of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act; the minimum wage increase; and the 40-hour work week for agriculture.

"I'm actively involved in conversations around these topics through my involvement in various agricultural organizations, both local and statewide so that hopefully I can be part of the solution," he said. "If more agriculturalists took an active role and met with their legislators or regulators and took the time to educate them on what we do, and how we do it, then there would be a very different opinion of growers and the importance of the ag economy to the state of California."

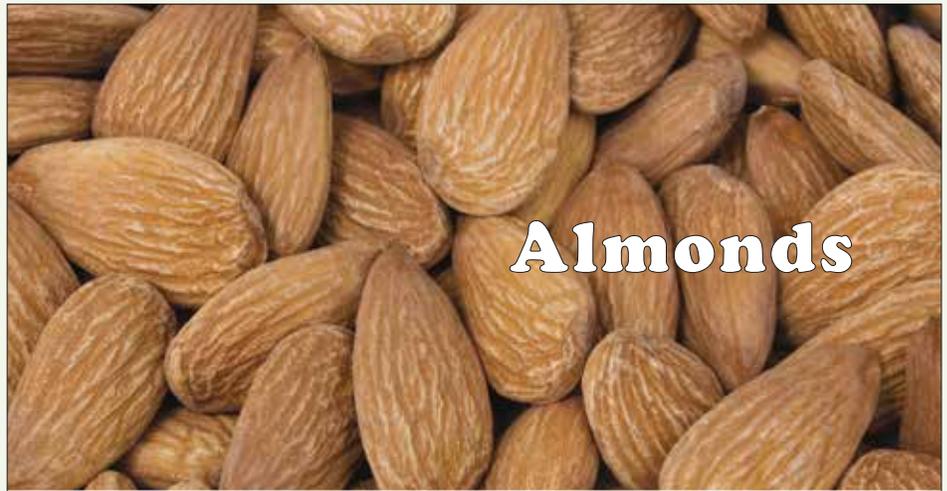
He's an active member of the Fresno County Farm Bureau and serves on the executive board as treasurer. He is a delegate and the specialty crops director for Fresno County Farm Bureau on the California State Farm Bureau Federation Advisory Council and House of Delegates. He also represents the energy interests of small to medium size agricultural operations at the California Public Utilities Commission where he is an executive board member of Agricultural Energy Consumers Association. Furthermore, he supports the local fair, 4-H and FFA chapters in Fresno. Efird is currently a member of the California Agricultural Leadership Program, yet another opportunity to tell his story and promote the good that agriculturalists bring to the world.

He serves as vice president of the family farming operation, Double E Farms, which he runs with his father Russel, and is president of Efird Ag Enterprises, Inc., a commercial harvesting operation with 2,500 acres under contract, a 15,000-ton-per-year produce transport business, and a business dedicated to shredding orchard prunings. These businesses serve growers from Modesto to Bakersfield.



The Power of Cooperation

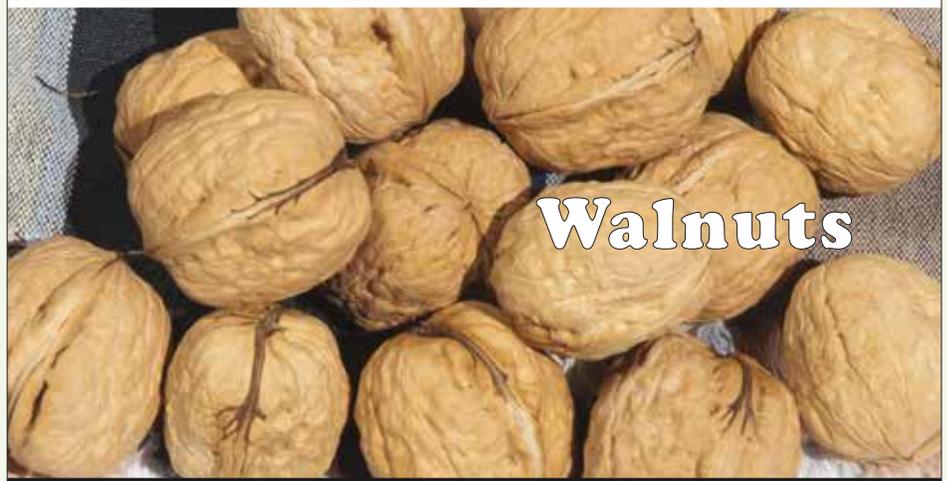
The Efird family have always placed a great value in cooperatives and the benefits that grower-ownership brings to their operations. “We’ve always been huge fans of cooperatives,” he said. “What I like best about being part of a cooperative is that it allows you to be a grower-owner. You control your fate through being part of a membership that spreads fixed costs and maximizes returns to the grower. The cooperative works for us and that objective is solely there to provide a strong and stable price to us as growers and the ability to have a say in the direction of our cooperative. Strength in numbers is key.”



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Young Leaders Become Almond Insiders at Summer Session



John O'Shaughnessy, Senior Vice President of Consumer Retail, explains the details of the cooperative's upcoming campaign designed to correspond with the Rio Summer Olympics. Bill Morecraft, Senior Vice President of Global Ingredients, also discussed marketing plans for new ingredient products.



Participants tour the cooperative's Salida facility, following the same route that the product takes when it is delivered by the grower.



Young Leaders peek inside Warehouse 7, the newest bulk storage warehouse in the cooperative's collection, observing the unique sloped-floor design.



Young Leader Jerry Rai of Selma takes a closer look at one of the newly grafted rows at Dave Wilson Nursery.



Dennis Tarry, president and CEO of Dave Wilson Nursery, showcases the graft of a young almond tree in one of the nursery's plots of land.



Inside the Turlock facility, the class saw first-hand why the plant was named "Plant of the Year" by Food Engineering magazine in 2014, a testament to the high-level of food safety implemented by team members.



The Class of 2016 observed the various greenhouses where Duarte Nursery keeps its young trees. The nursery is known for its Clean Plant system, where the plants are grown in containers, never touching open soil until reaching a grower's property.



Class of 2016 participants celebrated a successful summer session with lunch at Dave Wilson Nursery.

Duarte Nursery representatives explained how the company propagates its rootstocks through cuttings, which are then grown indoors until they are big enough to transfer into a humidity-controlled greenhouse environment.





Advocacy Report
JULIAN HERON

Trans-Pacific Partnership Presents Unique Trade Opportunity for Co-op

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a hot and current topic in DC right now. The TPP is a trade negotiation with 11 other countries in the Pacific Rim, including: Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. If Congress were to approve this agreement, it would provide numerous trade advantages for *Blue Diamond*, including tariff eliminations for almonds, increased revenue and job creation.

TPP, which is strongly supported by *Blue Diamond Growers*, is one example of the cooperative's leadership in international affairs. *Blue Diamond* has a long history of venturing into unexplored international markets and gaining access for California almonds across the globe.

In the 1960s *Blue Diamond* opened the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) market to California almonds. Because the USSR was a difficult country to trade with, it was often overlooked. However, *Blue*

Diamond perceived advantages and potential in the untapped market. The hard work put in to open that market to California almonds provided other countries and industries new trade opportunities with the USSR. Because of bold and innovative thought processes regarding trade, there were years when the USSR was the largest export market for *Blue Diamond*.

Always looking forward, *Blue Diamond* began to make efforts to open the Indian market to California almonds in the 1970s. At that time, India's tariff on almonds was an ad valorem equivalent of 180 percent. *Blue Diamond* sought a duty reduction, met with the Indian Prime Minister, and eventually considered a trade case against India. As a result, India began to reduce the duty on almonds. On three different occasions, it was necessary for the President of the United States to personally speak with the Indian Prime Minister to resolve problems regarding the export of almonds to India. Our trade relationship with India continues to grow. Now, thanks to hard work and good communication, the California almond industry exports over \$400 million dollars' worth of almonds to India. Like the USSR, this is a market that *Blue Diamond Growers* singlehandedly opened to provide a new source of revenue for our Members.

Blue Diamond sees the TPP as yet another way to expand the international market for California almonds. The current TPP negotiations, which have now been

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completed, resulted in either immediate duty reduction for almonds or in a few cases, a phased out elimination of the duty over the period of several years. These duty reductions and eliminations result directly from *Blue Diamond's* work during the negotiations.

The work on TPP is not complete. *Blue Diamond Growers* is working hard to persuade Congress to approve the negotiations. But Congress needs to hear more voices in favor of TPP. You can help by taking some time this summer to write or call your Congressional Representatives

and Senators asking them to support approval of the agreement. It is your future that we are working to expand. TPP will help make your membership with *Blue Diamond Growers* even more profitable.

Julian Heron is a partner at the Washington D.C.-based lobby firm Tuttle Taylor & Heron. He has represented Blue Diamond Growers and California almonds in the nation's capital for more than four decades.



The Bee Box

CHRISTI HEINTZ
& TARA McCALL

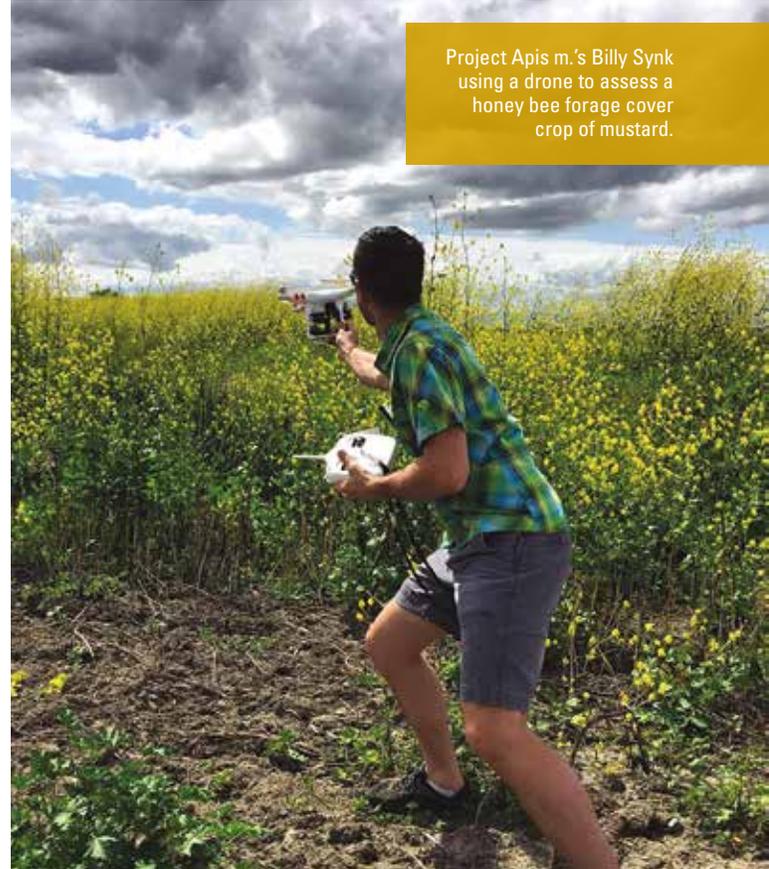
The last few issues of The Bee Box have discussed various aspects of the Varroa mite and their relationship to honey bee health, including mite migration and control methods, the Varroa/virus complex and breeding better bees to resist mites. The recent release of the annual nationwide survey, published by the Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) in collaboration with the Apiary Inspectors of America and the USDA, reinforced the challenges beekeepers have, including managing their mites. For 2015—2016, the survey indicates an annual loss rate of 44 percent, with both summer and winter honey bee losses increasing from the previous year.

“The high rate of loss over the entire year means that beekeepers are working overtime to constantly replace their losses,” said Dr. Jeffery Pettis, a senior entomologist at the USDA and a co-coordinator of the survey.

“These losses cost the beekeeper time and money. More importantly, the industry needs these bees to meet the growing demand for pollination services. We urgently need solutions to slow the rate of both winter and summer colony losses.”

Malnutrition in Bees?

The survey cites several reasons for honey bee declines, including Varroa, but also malnutrition. Malnutrition in bees? Yes! Bees have fewer natural forage resources today because of changes in land use patterns. Where we once had large tracts of sweet clovers and alfalfa in the honey producing region of the Upper Midwest, summer home to about 40 percent of colonies pollinating almonds, we now have soybeans and corn that provide little or no nutrition to honey bees. Widespread use of herbicides to control flowering weeds, RoundUp Ready crops and encroaching civilization further limit nectar and pollen sources for bees.



Project Apis m.'s Billy Synk using a drone to assess a honey bee forage cover crop of mustard.

Almond Growers can Help Prevent Malnutrition

While mite control and many other honey bee challenges are the responsibility of the beekeeper, helping to prevent malnutrition is definitely something where you, the almond grower, can help. Pick up the phone and call Billy Synk at (614) 330-6932 or email him at billy@projectapis.org and ask him about Project Apis m.'s (PAm) Seeds for Bees program. He can ship honey-bee friendly seed to you at no cost to you. For several years, PAm has been working with almond growers to plant forage as additional nutrition sources for honey bees concentrating on pre- and post- almond bloom, times when there is typically a dearth of flowering plants for bees. Last year, during fall 2015, 150 almond growers planted 3,000 acres (over 7.5 billion seeds) for honey bees in the Seeds for Bees program.

Planting Seeds for Bees

When is the best time to plant honey bee forage? In the fall, prior to the onset of fall rains. Depending on your needs, you might be interested in an early-blooming mustard mix that includes canola and daikon radish, or a later-blooming clover mix that fixes soil nitrogen. Either mix will serve as a cover crop with many benefits to you, the grower (see side bar).

Where can you plant honey bee forage? Bee-nutritious cover crops can be planted along access roads, waterways, orchard borders, on fallow or unused land, in between rows of young, non-bearing trees or even as a cover crop between tree rows.

Is there Bloom Competition when Other Flowers are Present?

One of the more frequent grower concerns is the possibility that almond flowers will not be visited if the cover crop blooms during the almond bloom as a result of planting time or precipitation variability. However, bee forage cover crops will not decrease almond yield. Recent work by Dr. Neil Williams, UC Davis, shows almond flowers are preferentially visited by honey bees in the presence of other blooming flowers. Bees will fly to the most nutritious food source available at the least energy cost to them. Almond pollen is highly nutritious pollen and is positioned openly and easily accessible on the anthers of almond flowers. Further, most of the day's pollen has been stripped by honey bees by mid-afternoon. If at that time there are other pollen sources available, bees will work these additional pollen sources. The increased pollen coming to the hive stimulates the queen to lay more eggs and the colony builds a greater working pollination force to pollinate your crop.

Consider Planting a Honey Bee Forage Crop

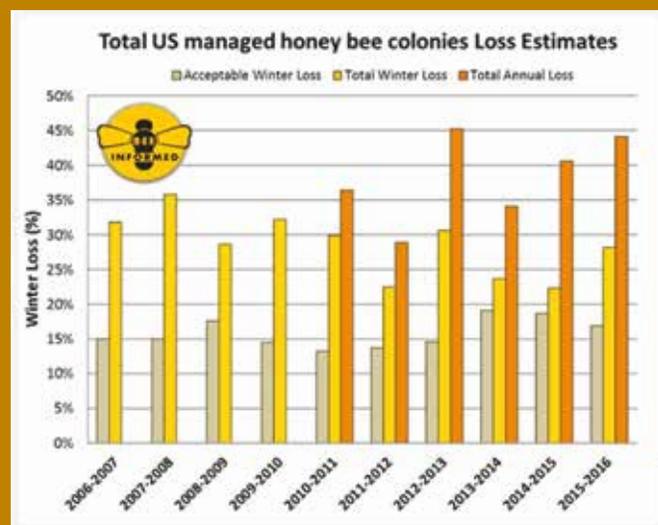
Sowing Seeds for Bees is a win-win for bees and for almond growers. Contact Billy Synk (billy@projectapism.org), visit the Forage tab at www.projectapism.org, and click on the forage videos on that website to learn more. Again, PAm will provide the seed. Beekeepers work all year long to find food for their bees, rarely owning the land where their bees graze. The generosity of landowners, ranchers, farmers and orchardists like yourselves will help improve those honey bee loss statistics. Improved honey bee health translates to a greater supply of bees and decreased hive rental costs to the grower.



A Bee Forage Cover Crop Will:

- Improve soil fertility
- Increase organic material
- Fix nitrogen
- Improve water infiltration
- Suppress noxious weeds
- Conserve soil moisture,
- Increase pollination diversity by attracting native pollinators
- Reduce soil erosion
- Anchor your rented bees while enticing more bees into your orchard

Bee Informed Partnership's Annual Bee Loss Survey Results.





Time To Consider

DAVID DOLL, UCCE Nut Crop Pomology Farm Advisor, Merced County

Harvest has arrived earlier than “normal” this year, albeit not as early as expected. This shortened season is due to the early bloom, warmer than normal temperatures following bloom, and, in some cases, reduced water applications.

Irrigation Management

With the exception of drying down the orchard for harvest practices, irrigation during the period of hull-split to harvest should be as close to full evapotranspiration (ET) as possible. Kernel weight is still accumulating and continues until the abscission layer between the peduncle and hull forms. Adequate (but not excessive) moisture must be available through hull-split, as hulls must be turgid to properly split. Water stress can change the onset of hull-split and ripening, cause stick-tights, reduce kernel weights, and cause shriveling or “texturing.” Excessive moisture, however, can delay harvest and increase the incidence of hull rot.

Harvest Timing

Timing of harvest is always tricky. Growers must balance between harvesting early and having a longer dry time on the ground, or harvesting later and having a greater chance of navel orangeworm infestation (NOW). Growers wanting to produce inshell Nonpareil must allow the crop to dry longer in the tree in order to produce the greatest proportion of inshell product. However, in years in which NOW pressure is greater than normal- such as this year - an earlier timed harvest should be considered. Trees should be shaken as soon as a few test trees shake clean. Be careful on shaking too green, as longer shaking time per tree can damage tree trunks. This “barking” of trees often creates wounds that are susceptible to fungal wood pathogens such as *Ceratocystis*. Once the nuts are on the ground, windrowing and pickup should occur in a timely process to reduce ant damage.



Severe water stress between hull-split and harvest can cause a reduction in kernel weights and “textured” almonds.

Harvest Sample

Taking a harvest sample is simple, but time consuming. Nevertheless, it should be considered because the amount of insect damage can be masked by the handling that occurs during sweeping, pickup, and processing. Our trial data has found that as much as 4 percent more damage can be found in harvest samples than what was indicated in the processor report. In other words, when we found an estimated 5 percent damage/reject level in the harvest sample, the processor indicated a 1 percent rejection level. The 4 percent discrepancy is most likely due to damaged nuts lost during the harvesting process (i.e. sweeping, pickup, and removed during hulling and/or shelling). This is still lost crop even though it isn’t detected.

Another reason for performing a harvest sample is to identify the type of damage that does occur in the field. For example, ant damage often does not show up in the final grade because the chewed kernels are often blown out the back of the pick-up machine and are not present in the delivery sample taken at the receiving station. Gummy nuts due to nutrient deficiencies, feeding damage, or other conditions are also lumped together as rejects on grower statements. Growers should consider requesting a breakdown of the causes of the reject damage in their deliveries by contacting their huller/sheller or *Blue Diamond* Field Supervisor. That information will then be printed

on the statement growers receive along with their Delivery Advance Payment.

Collecting a harvest sample is easy. In each block of concern, collect 500 nuts from the ground after shaking and place them in a paper bag. Two samples of 250, or 4 samples of 125 nuts from differing areas of the block can also be collected, but try to keep the total number of nuts per block at 500. Store the bags in a freezer until they can be cracked out. This may be several weeks after harvest. Check for signs of pests and disease once crackout is possible. Compare damaged nuts to pictures found at the UC IPM website: <http://www.ucipm.ucdavis.edu>. A hand sheller can be helpful in processing many samples. It can take 60 to 90 minutes for each sample depending on size. Five hundred nuts split into four 125 nut samples should suffice for a 40-acre block.

Understanding the types and intensity of damage to harvested nuts allows the development of the most cost-effective methods to manage orchard pests. If orchard practices are changed for a season, a harvest sample can provide information on whether the changed practices affect marketable yields.

Dust Management

A major concern when harvesting is dust stirred up by harvesting equipment. To reduce dust, consider oiling or wetting roads, maintaining clean orchard floors, using correct settings on the sweeper head, reducing blower passes, and reducing harvester speed to allow more time for gravity separation. Also, when working near the edges of fields, it is important to blow inward so canopies can naturally filter the dust. These practices are important in all operations, but are of greater concern when near roads, schools, homes, or other residential areas.

Continued on page 36

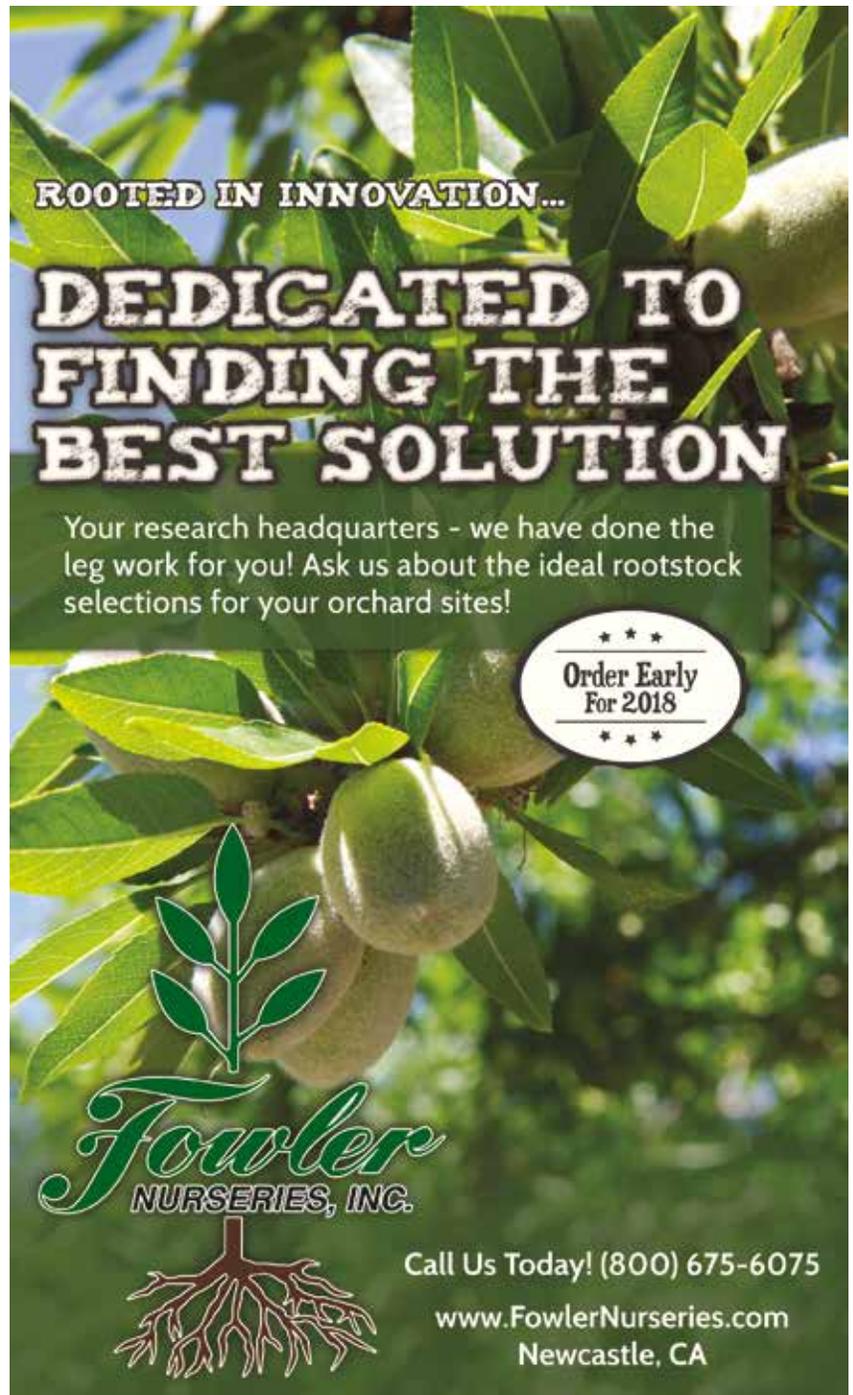


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A small navel orangeworm (NOW) larvae crawling on the surface of a nut. NOW will feed on the nut, decreasing crop yield and quality while increasing the risk of aflatoxin.

Stockpile Management

While waiting to be processed, almonds can be stockpiled. Stockpiling has a number of advantages, including getting the almonds out of the orchard sooner, the ability to perform post-harvest practices, reduce in-field ant infestations, and allowing greater flexibility in scheduling transport to the processor.

When stockpiling, make sure that the moisture content of hulls and kernels is less than 12 percent and 6 percent, respectively, and choose a location which is suitable for drainage in rainy weather and that is not near equipment or fuel storage. Stockpiles should be oriented in a north-south direction to aid in drying and covered with white-on-black tarps. Monitor humidity and open the tarp when appropriate to reduce condensation and mold formation. Also monitor and treat for insect, bird, and rodent pests. If rain threatens, ensure piles are covered. Finally, be aware that stockpiles are a potential fire hazard.

Stockpiles should be fumigated to reduce insect infestation. NOW is an excellent storage pest and can survive in stockpile conditions. Furthermore, this pest can continue to feed and reproduce within stockpiles, increasing damage as well as aflatoxin risk. Although time consuming, fumigation is critical in killing larvae and eggs, reducing damage.

Be wary of too much moisture in stockpiles. Studies have shown that hull moisture above 14 percent and a holding temperature greater than 120 degrees Fahrenheit will increase the risk for concealed damage and mold. If needed, delay harvest until nuts can dry. If already in stockpiles, remove tarps during the day to dry and cover at night. If harvesting in rainy conditions, keep the nuts in the tree if possible to aid in drying. If already on the ground, try to encourage drying by removing leaves, twigs, and other material. This may take several passes with the pick-up machine or conditioner.

Hull Analysis for Boron

Boron is an important micronutrient for almonds. Boron is critical for flower fertilization, as it is involved in directing the germinating pollen tube. Deficiencies lead to reduced nut set, and in severe cases, an appearance of a “nonproductive symptom.” Within the tree, boron deficiency can lead to a dieback of small twigs and a “weeping branch” look. Boron is also toxic at high concentrations. Boron toxicity is often being observed in areas with high soil boron or in blocks irrigated with water containing boron. Boron toxicity symptoms appear as gummy nuts that may form “stick tights,” as well as gum exuding from pruning wounds, bud and leaf scars, and spurs.

Critical threshold levels for boron hull values are as follows:

	Hull Boron Level (PPM)
Deficiency	<80 PPM
Sufficient	100 - 160 PPM
Toxicity	>300 PPM

To determine if an orchard is deficient in or showing toxicity from boron, hull samples must be collected. Since the hulls serve as the primary boron sink, they tend to accumulate the nutrient, and provide a consistent reading. Leaf values are not effective in determining adequate boron levels. Leaf tissues cannot reliably detect toxicities and are inconsistent at the lower end of the sufficiency levels.

Boron deficiency can be alleviated through applications of boron to the soil. Caution should be used when determining the rate of material applied, as high rates of application may cause toxicity. There have been some reports that boron applied in the summer may lead to stick-tights at harvest, suggesting that it may be better to apply boron after harvest. A foliar spray of boron should always be considered between postharvest and pinkbud.

Postharvest Irrigation and Nutrition

The initiation of fruit bud formation occurs for most almond varieties in mid- to late August. Severe stress imposed during this period can reduce floral bud count and fertility in the following years. Trees should be irrigated as soon as possible after harvest to reduce stress. During this period, the tree is also building nitrogen stores for the following year. Approximately 20 percent of the nitrogen budget should be applied in the post-harvest period. The rate may be reduced if mid-July leaf samples were above 2.5 percent. No more than 50 pounds of nitrogen should be applied, however, as research has shown that the shorter days and lower ETc demands limits the amount of nitrogen uptake to about this much. Rates for later harvesting varieties should be less.



Ant damage to an almond kernel. Ants often consume the meat of the kernel, leaving only the pellicle. Often times, the pellicle is light enough to be blown out through harvesting and the full extent of ant damage often goes undetected.

The Final Thought

Over the past few years there has been an increase of almond thefts. These include from stockpile yards and missing truckloads. Although it is a busy time, be mindful of the activity and stick to the protocol of verifying drivers and receiving signed pickup sheets. With that in mind, consider assigning only the most trustworthy employees to handling trucking and delivery information.

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Continually Improving: *A Blue Diamond Mantra*



Continuous improvement has always been a priority of *Blue Diamond Growers* and has contributed to the cooperative's longstanding success. Understanding when and how best to improve is critical to minimize production costs while maintaining quality and increasing productivity, ultimately driving the company's ability to provide the best products to its consumers and maximize the return to each *Blue Diamond* grower.

In the cooperative's commitment to continuous improvement, it is constantly seeking new ways in which it can enhance performance, be it in the ability to produce customers' exact product specifications, slice, dice and sliver almonds faster with better quality or providing employees with the necessary tools in order to

maintain an effective and engaged workforce.

After launching the newest *Blue Diamond* facility in Turlock, the team decided to enhance its production line, specifically reporting and tracking productivity. What was needed was real-time visibility and accurate data collection to better analyze and report what occurs on the plant floor. Additionally, the team wanted the implemented technology to engage employees working the lines, encouraging teamwork and transparency.

"We wanted to ensure we had a bottom up approach and that our team members were engaged in our continuous improvement journey," said Juanita Nungaray, Continuous Improvement Manager. "We wanted the idea of empowerment. That's what we are promoting here at Turlock."

With this in mind, *Blue Diamond* implemented Redzone at the Turlock facility. Redzone is a mobile-social technology specifically focused on continuous improvement and maximizing overall equipment effectiveness and plant profitability. It offers a user-friendly interface, allowing team members to post messages and feedback on the application. If the line goes down, the employees are able explain what is happening and why.

In May, *Blue Diamond* partnered with RedZone to host a continuous improvement event. *Blue Diamond's* Turlock facility saw approximately 35 food industry members all at various stages of continuous improvement. The event included an overview of the technology, a plant tour to show the technology in real-time and a discussion panel.

The plant tour provided those attending an opportunity to discuss with *Blue Diamond* employees their hands-on experience working with the technology. The purpose of the panel was to give the audience the opportunity to ask questions and for panel members to discuss their continuous improvement efforts and their experience with Redzone. In addition to *Blue Diamond* Turlock Site Director Joe Mendoza, panel members included representatives from Traditional Medicinals, Super Store Industries, Alvarado St. Bakery, Straus Family Creamery, Apio and Califia Farms.



Blue Diamond sees continuous improvement as a crucial component of its global operations. Hosting events such as this allows the cooperative and industry members to share best practices and effective tools and technology.

“*Blue Diamond* is a co-op and everything we do is to deliver almonds to the world and give the growers the best return on their investment,” said Joe Mendoza, Site Manager of Turlock. “Continuous improvement helps us achieve this.”



Election 2016

Co-op Election Season Kicks Off

***Blue Diamond* members are encouraged to exercise one of their rights and responsibilities as owners of the cooperative: electing members of the Board of Directors and Grower Liaison Committees. The annual election is an opportunity for members to help shape policy through the ballot box or run for a seat of their own. Member involvement is crucial to the success of any cooperative and is even more so to *Blue Diamond* as it competes in a fast-changing, highly competitive industry.**

***Blue Diamond* Offers Members a Number of Ways to be Involved and Affect Policy:**

- Participation in district and annual meetings
- Discussions with district directors and field supervisors
- Voting in elections
- Service on a Liaison Committee, the Advisory Committee or Board of Directors

You will have an opportunity to participate in several of those activities between now and the end of the year. While the summer round of district meetings is held in July, you will have an opportunity to attend *Blue Diamond's* 106th Annual Member Meeting in Modesto, Wednesday, November 16, 2016. Put the date on your calendar and plan to attend.

Board of Directors

Being a director on the board of *Blue Diamond Growers* provides a unique opportunity for a grower-owner to be a major contributor to the ongoing success of the leading grower-owned cooperative and marketer of almond products. The cooperative's business continues to grow and prosper due to product innovation, new international markets, cutting-edge technology and a powerful brand that

is unmatched in the industry. There has never been a more interesting time to consider running for a seat on the Board of Directors.

As representatives of the cooperative's grower members, the Board monitors the performance of the Chief Executive Officer and collaborates with the CEO and *Blue Diamond's* Leadership Team on strategic direction with the mission of maximizing the return for each grower that entrusts their almonds to *Blue Diamond*. Serving as a Director is a significant responsibility, requiring the time and commitment to carry-out the powers and duties of the Board of Directors as defined in the corporation bylaws and to prepare for, attend, and actively participate in scheduled *Blue Diamond* meetings and events.

Annually, three board seats are subject to an election either to re-elect the incumbent or choose a new director. Each seat represents a specific district. The director position from Districts 2, 8 and 9 are those that will stand for election during the 2016 cycle.

Those considering running for a director position should understand there is a significant time commitment for the three-year position. All day board meetings occur typically five times each year. Directors also participate on various committees of the Board which typically occur the day before a board meeting. Attendance at Grower Liaison Committee (twice a year) and Advisory Committee (once a year) meetings is also common practice. Additionally, the board and management have an annual three-day strategic planning session. Invitations to represent *Blue Diamond* at political fundraisers and other events/meetings also commonly occur. Preparation time for board and committee meetings and the travel time to meetings and events needs to be considered.

Directors Should:

- Act in a manner consistent with their fiduciary duties of loyalty and care.
- Demonstrate integrity and independent judgment, including the ability to understand and exercise sound judgment on issues related to the corporation's goals.
- Have business or professional skills and experience that will contribute to the effectiveness of the Board and its committees.
- Intend to foster long-term value for the corporation's members.

- Act in the interests of all members rather than any particular member constituency, while understanding and balancing the concerns of other stakeholders, including employees, customers, and communities.
- Be willing to challenge management constructively about corporate strategy, the adequacy of internal resources, the soundness of controls and integrity in business conduct.
- Be able to work as part of a team in an environment of trust.
- In light of their other commitments, be willing and able to devote the time and effort necessary to serve as an effective director, including preparation for Board and committee meetings.

Requirements for Nomination:

- A petition signed by 15 members from the district in which the potential nominee wishes to run, filed by **September 1**.
- An optional statement of candidacy (written statement of not more than 500 words stating the candidate's qualifications and interest in being a director) filed by **September 10**.

Grower Liaison Committee

Blue Diamond's Grower Liaison Committee (GLC) comprises nine growers elected by the membership in their respective districts for three-year terms, plus three members appointed by the committee. Three GLC positions in each district are up for election each year.

These committees serve as a communication link between members and the board and management of *Blue Diamond*. They meet two times each year with their district director and management to discuss issues of concern and crop status, but may request additional meetings. To become a candidate, file a petition signed by five *Blue Diamond* members in your district by September 1. Incumbent members from each committee are responsible for ensuring that there is at least one candidate for each vacancy on the committee.

Advisory Committee

The advisory committee provides even closer communication between the Board, the GLCs and the membership. It is made up of two members appointed from and by each of the nine GLCs. Advisory committee members meet periodically with management and members of the board of directors for in-depth discussions on issues that affect the membership.

A Commitment to Communication

This matrix for gathering and disseminating information establishes open, two-way communication among the membership, Board of Directors and management. If you have attended a *Blue Diamond* district or annual meeting in recent years, you will have seen the process at work. The meetings include not only reports to the members on the status of the business and industry trends, but also question and answer periods in which members can bring up any issue of concern related to the co-op's business. Management and directors often arrive early and stay after the meetings conclude to discuss topics with members one-on-one to ensure that all questions are addressed.

Being a co-op member involves an ownership responsibility that includes being well informed and involved in the off-farm half of your business. It's your co-op. Take part in its activities. Help keep it successful and growing!

2016 Election Deadlines and Procedures

- 9/1 Deadline for filing petitions
- 9/10 Deadline for filing a statement of not more than 500 words
- 9/16 Ballots mailed for primary election of directors
- 9/28 Postmark deadline for primary election
- 10/6 Election Committee meets to canvass ballots in primary election of directors.
- 10/12 Results of the primary election are mailed to members in districts having primary elections.
- 10/21 A copy of primary election results of directors is mailed to each member in all districts. Notice of annual meeting and first proxy mailed to members. Ballots mailed for statewide election.
- 11/4 Deadline for postmark of ballots in statewide election of directors and Grower Liaison Committee members.
- 11/10 Election Committee meets to canvass ballots.
- 11/16 106th Annual Member Meeting. General election results announced.

WANTED:

Gasoline Memorabilia: Old Gas Pumps, Gas Signs, Oil Signs and Car Signs Call 559-485-9496

FOR SALE

Peerless drying wagon , in good condition. \$2,500.

All in good condition:

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rotary mower 7' \$1,200

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Gearmore 6' rototiller, like new \$4,500

Rainbird sprinklers, some new, \$3.00 ea;

Toro low impact sprinklers \$1.00 ea.

Call Tom (559)268-3087

FOR SALE

(1) 1983 Dandl 14' Flail Mower, recently replaced all drum and roller bearings \$1400.00.

(1) 10" Box Scraper w/gauge wheels and new hyd. hoses \$750.00.

(1) 9' Domeries three point Vineyard Disc w/disc cleaners \$950.00.

(1) 120 gallon ground Spray Rig w/new Hy-pro Pump and nozzles \$600.00.

Call 661-304-2369.

FOR SALE

Flory 30 series Orchard Sweeper (head only) Model 7630 serial #4182; Like new, very good condition \$7500. Call Grant (559) 897-5495

FOR SALE

Flory Almond pickup machine 210, Ingels Sweeper, almond and peach trailers, almond roller, brush Fork, Lift for Bins, antique International truck and Case Tractor, camper shell long Bed, and hose pull with sled. Call Ann (209) 632-4346

FOR SALE

Tree Stakes for Almonds- 1000s of used steel stakes to keep your almond trees growing straight

3' @ 75 cents each

4' @ \$1.00 each

5' @ \$1.25 each

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FOR SALE:

Irrigation system- 1. New 4 stage bowl assembly for 8" pipe with 140' of oil tube shaft, 2. 90 hp gear head, new bearings, 6:5 ratio, 3. Rebuilt Ford 300 cu in.

Industrial propane engine, mounted on frame with clutch assembly and drive line, Total price \$8900. Will sell all or part. Call: (209) 358-2244 best time 12:00-12:30

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(2) Johnson's pickup machines, \$5,500 each Call 559-485-9496

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Almond elevator - \$5000 or make offer

Almond Trailers bottom dump with augers- \$2000 a piece

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FOR SALE

2001 Satake Scan Master II 410 DE 4 Channel Meat Machine fully inspected and repaired by Satake

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FOR SALE:

Jackrabbit 20-20 Elevator with diesel engine - \$17,500

Weiss McNair JD 40 Sweeper, 2002 model, 7.5 tine bar head - \$20,000

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All equipment in excellent condition. Phone (530) 795-4858, (530) 681-3501

SAVE THE DATE!



106th Blue Diamond Growers'

Annual Member Meeting

Wednesday • November 16, 2016

Modesto Centre Plaza, 10th & K Streets

(ADJACENT TO THE MODESTO DOUBLETREE HOTEL)

Come enjoy cultural seminars, lively exhibits, a membership luncheon and business meeting, celebrating the continued success of *Blue Diamond* and its members.

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12” cups. In pieces. FREE!

Jessee 500 Air leg 32” belt,
no motor FREE!

11ft. Orchard float w/ Hydraulic wheels
CALL for pictures and pricing.

4 Stage sizer, good condition \$4000

60 H.P. Sturdavent Shell Fan with motor.
Complete. \$1500

Contact Ron Piazza at 209-678-0788

FOR SALE

9’ Virismo Mower (offset). Fair condition.
\$2,500 or BO.

Contact Bob (209)838-3115

FOR SALE:

(2) 1998 OMC Monoboom shakers with
sweepers- one with 5,000 hours, one with
6,000 hours- \$35,000 each

(1) Ramacher 9500 almond pickup
machine \$15,000

Call 559-779-4888 or 559-485-9496
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FOR SALE - Best offer, all or individually.

Electric motor with 1100 gpm centrifugal
water pump, 5” suction and discharge.
US Motors, 30 Hp, 220/480 V, inverter
suitable (solar). \$1750. Used 3 seasons.

Replaced when expanded drip system.

Motor control Panel, Square D, 100 Hp,
480 V, \$1500.

De’Ran right angle gear head. 100 Hp at
1760 rpm, \$2000.

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FOR SALE

1987 LMC Model 64 Gravity Separator
6,000 lb. per hour capacity- \$5,000

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\$1,500

1-16” Midstate type field conveyor with
Koehler V-twin motor. Works well \$5,000
11 ft. straight blade orchard roller with 18”
roller and Hydraulic Wheels -
Call for price

3 pt. nut crowder with Hydraulic
gate \$3,500

Misc. small conveyor and bucket elevators -
Make an offer

1987 4 stage almond sizer.
Runs good. \$3,500

Approximately 2000’ of 1/2” vinyl
irrigation pull hose - FREE

Contact Ron Piazza 209-678-0788

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for the exclusive use of
Blue Diamond members.**

Classified ads for personal use — not as an
additional means of advertising commercial
ventures members may own. Ads are limited to
a maximum of 10 lines and may be submitted to
Blue Diamond field supervisors or the editor at:

**Editor: Blue Diamond Growers
P.O. Box 1768, Sacramento, CA 95812**

Or contact Cassandra Montgomery at:

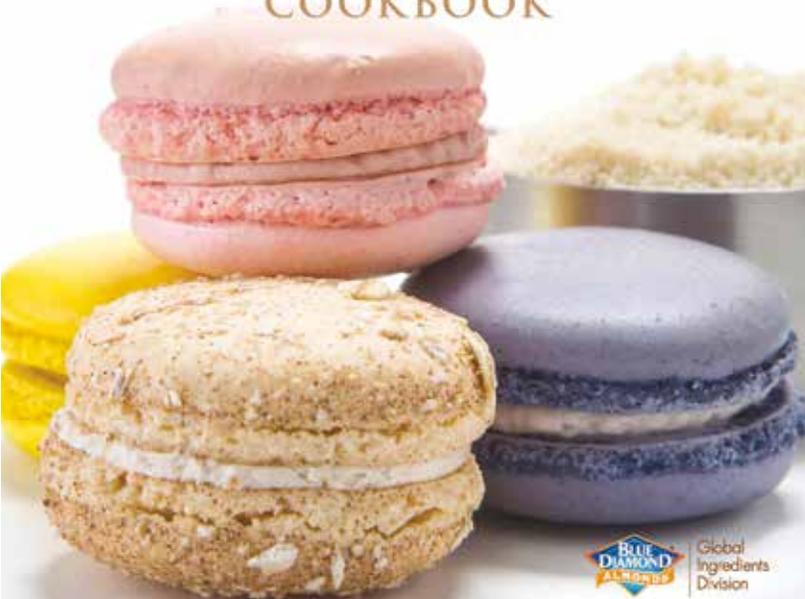
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Unless advised otherwise, ads will run two
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& November.

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