

THE NUTCAST

Valley Harvest
Nut Co., Inc.



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NATIONAL ALMOND DAY

Almond Alliance wrote a nice press release for today, February 16.

National Almond Day.

Here are some facts listed:

- * 7,600 CA almond farmers
- * More than 90% are family farms; many are third & fourth farming generations
- * Almond industry employs 110,000+ people
- * Almonds contribute approximately \$9.2 billion to California's economy
- * California produces 80% of the worldwide market of almonds
- * Almond farmers are protectors of our land and environment
- * Almonds are heart-healthy food
- * Almond farmers are the heart of our communities

Click for the full [PRESS RELEASE](#)



Market Report

January was a strong month for shipping across the water. Overseas buyers came to life, relished in the low prices and appreciated a better exchange rate. The result? They bought more almonds this January than any other January; statistics show that almost 30% more almonds shipped. They bought, so California shipped. That makes the total industry shipping numbers ahead of last year by 2.6%!!! Simply an incredible miracle.

....Now the rest of the story!

Valley Harvest has always prided ourselves in that we aren't an export company and we choose to sell domestically. We keep your almonds on this side of the water. That has always proved to be the best tactic for our business and has given our growers better returns than most handlers. However, this month, while the export market went bonkers, the domestic market in January went haywire. The grocery store high prices, interest rates increasing in hopes to stop inflation, residue from the Covid lockdown, overall

inflation in most financial areas caused domestic shipments to lag behind last month and, therefore, the industry is behind last year by 7% for domestic shipments. Valley Harvest is equal to the industry. However, between February 1st and 15th, we shipped 85% of the entire January activity. Also, on the upside, prices are leaning towards an increase rather than decrease. Overall, pricing decreased \$0.26 per sold pound since September. We are definitely ready for the upside. It may take a month to see that, but we trust the increase will keep coming.

On the farming side, we have been blessed with abundant rain, a fantastic snowpack, and I just heard that farmers will receive an average abundant year of irrigation water. The bloom is opening up quickly, spray rigs are gearing up, and the bees are working. Let's pray the predicted rain next week doesn't play havoc with the blossoms! We need the rain but we also need the blossoms!

The joys and struggles of farming continue....

AND MORE INFORMATION FOR OUR GROWERS!

State of California announces Stanislaus County as a primary natural disaster area due to excessively high temperatures that occurred from September 1, 2022 through September 9, 2022. Contact the FSA office for more information.

The official notice is attached.

CDFA has a grant program available to growers seeking to implement on-farm projects that save water and reduce greenhouse gas emission. The opportunity is called the [State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program](#) **Free SWEEP webinar next week, 2/23.**

Click for [Webinar Registration Link](#)