

# CALIFORNIA ALMOND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

## ASSESSING PRACTICES + MEASURING PROGRESS

A sustainability program tailor-made for California almond farmers and processors, the California Almond Sustainability Program (CASP) was established in 2009 to educate participants about responsible practices and obtain information about the farming practices they use, thereby facilitating continuous improvement.

Now celebrating its 10-year anniversary, CASP's scope has expanded, playing an important role in measuring progress toward the Almond Orchard 2025 Goals.

CASP functions through self-assessments in which participants answer questions about their practices across the spectrum of almond farming topics, being reminded of best practices in the process. This information helps tell the story of how California almonds are grown, providing key metrics about the adoption of best practices and highlighting opportunities for improvement.

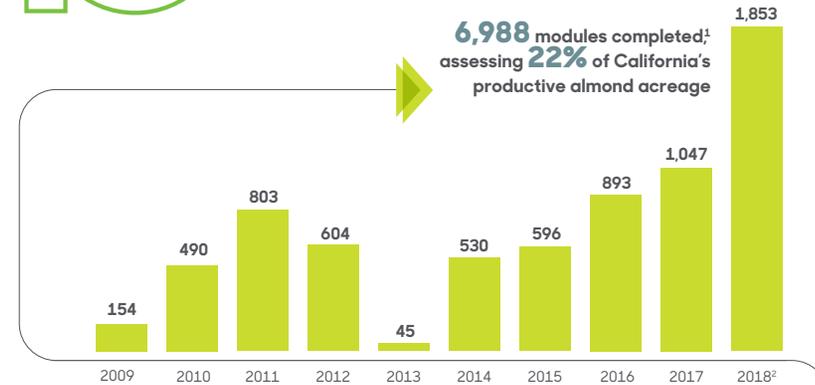


**GLOBALLY  
RECOGNIZED**

Recently benchmarked gold-level equivalent against the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Platform's Farm Sustainability Assessment, CASP's self-assessments provide a tool to translate the practices relevant to growing almonds in California to general sustainable farming practices. Putting almond practices into this larger framework is key to answering sustainability questions from major users of almonds, including ingredient buyers and retailers.



## A Decade of Progress



### 9 SELF-ASSESSMENT MODULES



- Irrigation management
- Nutrient and soil management
- Pest management
- Air quality
- Energy efficiency
- Bee health and pollination
- Financial management
- Ecosystem management
- Workplace and communities

### 2 ONLINE CALCULATORS

**1,051** schedules and budgets created, supporting on-farm decision making

- Irrigation scheduling
- Nitrogen budgeting



### WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS

**40** events offered in 2019, reaching **1,600** attendees

- Orchard workshops
- Expert lectures
- Lunch + learns
- Individualized on-farm visits



### Meet Mel Machado

MEMBER RELATIONS DIRECTOR,  
BLUE DIAMOND GROWERS

"Our customers and consumers are seeking greater transparency about how almonds are grown. CASP gives us the opportunity to tell that story in a statistically significant way while also providing insights to us about what in-orchard practices and technologies our farmers want to learn more about."

1. Each assessment year begins November 1 for the year listed and ends October 31 of the following year, matching the annual almond crop cycle.  
2. Data represents completed assessments through July 31.