

# Culture of Continuous Improvement

California's almond farmers are committed to responsible stewardship of the land for the benefit of their families, communities and everyone who loves to eat almonds. Supporting that commitment is more than 40 years of investment in research to improve and evolve farming practices while minimizing environmental impacts.

By partnering with the likes of University of California, USDA's Agricultural Research Service, Environmental Defense Fund and others, the California Almond industry is exploring new technologies and out-of-the-box solutions to address needs today and build the almond farm of the future.

## Research Direction

New this year, the Strategic Ag Innovation Committee is charged with setting the strategic direction for research while new working groups support the committee, specializing in distinct areas of almond farming and processing. Working groups solicit and evaluate research projects to address specific needs!

Together, the research they manage aligns with four strategic focus areas designed to meet the needs of the California Almond industry while benefitting local communities and the environment.



### **Water Management and Efficiency:**

Accelerating adoption of irrigation practices and technology that maximize crop per drop



### **Sustainable Water Resources:**

Exploring on-farm groundwater recharge and diversifying California's water supply



### **Air Quality:**

Understanding farming-related air quality impacts and how to decrease emissions



### **22nd Century Agronomics:**

Focusing on new technologies and out-of-the-box solutions to create the almond farm of the future



## IN THE ORCHARD

Scientific improvements funded by the Almond Board's research program make their way onto the farm through many channels but one of the most important is the California Almond Sustainability Program.

# 9

**Educational Self-Assessment Modules**

# 2

**Research-Based Calculators**

- Irrigation Scheduling
- Nitrogen Budgeting

# 1

**Program Devoted to Continuous Improvement**



1. To best meet the needs of the California Almond industry, some committees were restructured in 2017. What were formerly known as the Production Research and Environmental committees have now merged into the Strategic Ag Innovation Committee and supporting workgroups. Questions about this or other committee changes? Contact staff@almondboard.com.