

2016 Conscientious Company Report



We grow organic produce
for *people's well-being.*

*Pioneers in Fair Trade Certified produce, Wholesum Harvest
is proud to be the first Fair Trade certified farm in the US.*

Vitalis Born, Wholesum Raised.



Organic agriculture starts with the seed. Vitalis Organic Seeds shares our commitment to organic integrity. This partnership ensures the tomato seeds we use were selected and produced under the highest organic quality standard — and then grown under the highest organic quality standard at our farms.





Certified Organic

ORGANICALLY GROWN, GUARANTEED

Sure, produce can be organic without certification, but Wholesum Harvest goes the extra mile to ensure you're getting exactly what you expect.

We are proudly certified organic by Quality Assurance International (QAI), a leading USDA-accredited organic product certifying agency.

Wholesum sees our certified organic label a promise to our customers that our produce is always non-GMO and free of synthetic pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers.



Family Owned & Operated

THREE GENERATIONS OF WHOLESUM FAMILY VALUES

The family pioneer, Miguel Crisantes Gatzionis, migrated from Greece to Mexico in the 1920s. In 1930, he started farming in Sinaloa, where his son, Theoary Crisantes, would later become an organic farming trailblazer. After transitioning the family's farms to only organics and sustainable practices, Theoary passed down the fields to his three sons — Theoary, Jr., Ricardo, Adrian (1976–2014) — and son-in-law, Jonathan Alarcon.

Today, management is shared between Ricardo and Theoary, Jr. with Theoary, Sr. on hand to lend his more than 60 years of experience in growing organic vegetables. Our Fair Trade farms are located in both the US and Mexico where we grow the finest organic tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, bell peppers and eggplant for families everywhere.



RESTORING OUR LAND

As organic farmers, we recognize the importance of restoring the ecosystem around our farms to improve nutrient cycling, promote pollinator health, control erosion, keep out weeds, and suppress pest pressure. That's why in 2016 we began planting blooming buffers along our fields and replanting native grasses on erosion-prone soil. We also worked with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to develop a comprehensive conservation plan for our farm in Amado, becoming the first organic producer in Arizona to do so.

COMMITTED TO PROGRESS

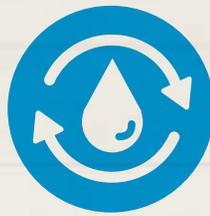
Wholesum Harvest has been a member of the Sustainable Food Trade Association since 2009 and our sustainability manager has served on its Board of Directors since 2015. As a member, we are committed to sharing best practices in sustainability and to continually improving in our efforts as a socially and environmentally conscientious company.



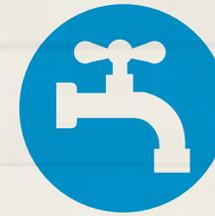


2016 Conscientious Company Report

Water



35%
of greenhouse
water is
recirculated.



22 GAL
less water used per
1 lb of tomatoes vs.
conventional growing.

Energy

21%

of the energy used at
our warehouse and
distribution center is
generated **from solar**.



12%

energy savings expected
annually from installation
of automatic dock doors
in 2016.



61,000

kWh saved annually from
LED lighting retrofits —
enough energy to power
seven homes for a year.



25,000

tons of organic produce
sold in 2016, **lowering
environmental impact**
vs. conventional.



Packaging

80%

post-consumer waste
cardboard sourced for
our packaging.



100%

of our pallets are
reuseable CHEP, keeping
20,000 lbs of waste **out
of landfills**.



Ecosystem



Supported

ecosystem services by installing
bat houses at the farms.



Restored

pollinator habitat and native
species in non-cultivated areas.

Social



\$375,000

in **Fair Trade premiums** generated in
2016, empowering our workers to build
their communities.

Net Zero

carbon emissions from all
pallet activity as **first Certified
CarbonNeutral®** pallet program.



Sustainably Grown

Wholesum Harvest believes the healthiest, most flavorful produce is also grown responsibly. That's why we meet present needs without compromising future generations' abilities to meet theirs.

INNOVATION IN LOGISTICS

In Spring 2016 we began an innovative partnership with CHEP to ship 100% of our product on reusable pallets, keeping more than 22,000 lbs of waste out of landfills every year. Our pallet program is also the first Certified CarbonNeutral® pallet program in North America, with carbon offsets coming from a project that helps provide 30,000 families in rural Mexico with clean burning cook-stoves.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT LIGHTING

In 2016 we changed 353 compact fluorescent and incandescent bulbs to LEDS for an energy savings of more than 61,000 kWh per year at our three farms and warehouse. We also installed motion sensors in places like bathrooms and storage areas that are not continuously occupied.

CLOSING THE DOOR ON ENERGY LOSS

In October 2016 we installed the first sensor-activated automatic dock door system in southern Arizona. The doors shut automatically when a truck pulls away which will help us keep more cold air inside our warehouse, reducing energy use by up to 12%.

BAT ADVOCATES... OR BAT-VOCATES!

Bats are the most underrated part of the ecosystem! They are voracious eaters of many agricultural pests, providing about \$3 billion a year worth of pest control to US agriculture alone. They are also the exclusive pollinators of many desert plants, including the agave and the saguaro. This year for Earth Day we installed bat houses on all three of our farms to promote natural pest control and support habitat for these valuable animals.



Fair Trade Certified

OUR COMMITMENT TO OUR WORKERS

It's not enough to say, "We care for our employees." Social responsibility requires action, and Wholesum Harvest has a long tradition of empowering our communities.

Wholesum is committed to fair sourcing, and to be Fair Trade certified means we guarantee our workers:

- Child care, medical care and pharmacy at no cost
- Safety, equity and fairness in the workplace
- Clear wage reporting and pay days
- Fair Trade certified housing

Visit fairtradeusa.org to find out more.

EMPOWERING OUR WORKFORCE

There are a lot of questions and confusion about Fair Trade practices: what that means, how the premiums are used and if they really help the workers. We've witnessed firsthand the communities our workers have created for themselves; with just five years of Fair Trade premiums, they have:

- Built a family park
- Bought school buses
- Built a nonprofit grocery store
- Built a tortilla factory
- Built laundry facilities
- Built a soccer field that is used daily
- Created 13 non-farm jobs
- Created specialty health care and orthodontic vouchers
- Given out zero-interest home loans and zero-interest land loans
- Made sure elementary school kids have breakfast and lunch
- Donated to the Red Cross to help hurricane victims



100% of Fair Trade premiums benefit our farm workers.



We pay the fees, provide staff to support the Fair Trade program and help the committee however we can. That is our responsibility in the fair sourcing food chain. The Fair Trade premium is how we ask that you also source fairly.

Where we grow.

★ Amado, Arizona
★ Imuris, Mexico

★ Culiacán, Mexico

Produce grown with three generations of family know-how, a love for organics, and a dedication to sustainable farming just tastes better—and better for the family and friends you serve them to.



Wholesum Harvest | PO Box 7348, Nogales AZ 85628
Phone: 520.281.9233 | Fax: 520.281.4366 | wh.farm | contact@wh.farm



Certified organic by QAI, San Diego, CA