

2022
CONSCIENTIOUS
COMPANY REPORT

Wholesum[™]





WE ARE **WHOLESUM**

A leading grower and shipper of 100% organic, Fair Trade Certified fresh produce. Our third-generation family farming operation is based in Amado, Arizona with family farms in the US and Mexico. With over 90 years of farming experience, we are dedicated to creating a more noble food production system that nourishes people and the planet through responsible growing, thirty plus years of organic production, equitable labor practices and environmental protection. Through deep industry knowledge and innovation, we bring to market healthy, flavorful, and high-quality fresh produce year-round.



THE WHOLESUM WAY

Our Purpose: Nourish a healthy world.

Our Mission: Beat conventional through responsible practices for the wellbeing of our community.

Our Vision: Lead production of responsibly grown organic food that shows value to all.

Our Values: Integrity, Responsible Growing, People on the Move and Problem Solvers.



A WORD FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

2022 was an invigorating year marking milestone moments that inspired us to reflect on our journey of responsible growing. We constantly found ourselves reminded of how much we have evolved as a company. At the core of this growth is our purpose, to nourish a healthy world.

To start, 2022 was our 30th anniversary of organic farming! Leading up to the early 90s, our father, Theojary Sr., dedicated years exploring new technologies, seeking the best environments and trialing methods of growing food naturally, devoid of synthetic pesticides, chemicals and herbicides. In 1992, we established our first organic farm. Since then, we have not looked back, each year improving our knowledge and capabilities as well as our infrastructure to grow fresh, healthy 100% organic produce.

20 years later, on November 10, 2012, the stunning mountains of Amado, AZ became the backdrop to our newest production site; a 12-acre state of the art tomato greenhouse. In its 10 year anniversary, the farm stands at 24 acres, with energy efficient technology and water recirculation capabilities that allow us to grow more while being mindful and efficient with our resources.

2012 was also the year we formalized our commitment to social and environmental responsibility by obtaining Fair Trade Certification through Fair Trade USA. In its 10 years, over \$9 million have gone back to our farmworkers as Community Development Funds, showing us what collective, long-term impact can look like; the construction of an entire community, families achieving homeownership, children achieving a higher education, and overall, contributing to a better quality of life for our workforce. This year, we celebrated the results of the decision we made 10 years ago at our very first Impact Festival.

We are proud of how far we have come and the meaningful work that we do to nourish a healthy world. To keep record, every year, we report the results of our sustainability efforts, holding ourselves accountable on our goals and identifying areas of opportunities for improvement. We do this through the lens of our values; Integrity, Responsible Growing, People on the Move and Problem Solving.

We also continue to work towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the areas of human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption, being a part of a global movement towards a more sustainable future.

ORGANIC INTEGRITY

Our produce is 100% USDA certified organic, meaning that we devote our best resources to purely organic production. We use the best practices to deliver products as nature intended - keeping synthetic inputs out from seed to harvest, while nurturing people and the planet. Growing organically means healthy products for our consumers, safe working environments for workers, and less impact on the land.

Thank you all who have been a part of this journey!

*Ricardo and Theojary Crisantes,
Owners, brothers, CCO & COO*



BY THE NUMBERS:

100%
organic
production

2

new partner
growers
contributing **263**
acres of organic
production

31,600

tons of organic
produce taken
to market



labor hours
spent on
manual
pest
control

64,709

6

acres

of high-tech energy
efficient, organic
greenhouses built in
Sonora, MX

125 lb

of organic seeds
produced in-house in
new organic seed farm



960,000

lady bugs produced
in-house for biological
pest management



SEEDS FOR THE ORGANIC MOVEMENT

As organic growers, we envision a future where organic seeds and the resources to produce them are more widely available. After all, organic production begins at the seed! It is a fundamental part of the integrity of organics and the organic supply chain; from the grower to the retailer, to the consumer. But when compared to vast availability of non-organically produced seeds, both choices and quality of organic seeds are limited. To move the needle forward and help organic production thrive, we support investments in organic plant breeding and seed research.

In 2022, we took it a step further by building in-house capabilities to produce organic seeds. Seed production is a highly meticulous task requiring specialized labor to complete a full seed production cycle; from sowing the initial “parent” seeds to the extraction of the new seed. All is done under highly controlled conditions to deliver a seed specifically bred and better adapted to organic production systems, leading to a better organic product.

While currently at a small scale, devoting time, knowledge, resources and infrastructure to this task is one way that we contribute to a better future for organic farmers, the development of our workforce, and at a larger scale, to the organic movement.



RESPONSIBLE AGRICULTURE

Responsible agriculture is about stewarding our resources in a mindful manner so our communities can flourish. It is reliant on bringing value and efficiency into production by growing more with less. Through responsible agriculture, we address modern day challenges like natural resource scarcity and waste while achieving our purpose to nourish a healthy world.

ENERGY

58.2%

renewable energy

41.8%

non-renewable energy

100%

renewable energy at Wholesum Farms Sonora



WASTE

71

tons of carton recycled

35 tons of steel diverted from landfills

214

tons of steel recycled or repurposed from old greenhouse structures



COMMUNITY

1,661,251

pounds of produce donated to community organizations

\$5,325

in monetary donations to community non-profits

62% of produce sold under Fair Trade terms

3 partner farms obtained Fair Trade Certification

WATER

Total gallons used:

57,784,688

Gallons recirculated:

17,430,843

30.2%

of irrigation water recirculated in 2022



HARNESSING THE POWER OF SOLAR ENERGY

For us, it is important to dedicate resources to finding more sustainable ways to run our operations, not only at the production sites, but in all our facilities. In 2021, we finalized a 10,000 square foot addition to our Distribution Center in Nogales, AZ, a necessary expansion with the year-over-year increasing demand of organic produce.

The expansion was an opportunity to bring new enhancements and efficiencies to the facility, doing our part to promote alternative energy use and reduce our environmental impact. Aside from upgrades in storage and cooling, this new area would be equipped with energy efficient LED lighting and an extended solar panel system to displace non-renewable energy use with solar energy.

The new panels were put to use starting March, 2022. Throughout the year, we displaced 36% of energy used at the facility with solar power. Harnessing solar energy is one way we can be more sustainable in our operations. We also look forward to further grow our use of alternative energy sources across our farms.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE:

The core of our business is our people. Our responsibility is to provide safe working conditions, fair wages and operate in an ethical and equitable manner. The fair trade framework aligns with these responsibilities and allows us to demonstrate it to our customers and consumers through Fair Trade Certification. Through our commitment to fair trade, we catalyze community development, worker empowerment, and contribute to a better future for our farmworkers and their families.



Community Development Funds
2022
\$1.5 Million

2013 – 2022
\$9.1 Million





A SNAPSHOT OF IMPACT

Every year, farmworkers choose where to invest the funds from the purchases of Wholesum Fair Trade Certified products. One way we measure impact is by looking at how these funds were used throughout the year on various projects that help address community needs such as access to health services or education. Below is a snapshot of how some of these funds were spent across the family farms.

6,252

Vouchers were distributed for specialized care, medicine or food.



6,194

Visits to the Fair Trade tortilla factory.

336

Employees benefited from transportation to and from work.

65

Students benefitted from extracurricular courses.

165

Community members benefited from the Fair Trade soccer field.



67

Employees benefited from partially subsidized medical insurance in the US.

65,205

Visits to the Mini Market for lower cost goods.

128

Employees received a personal item such as jackets or lunchboxes.

64



Employees benefited from a home improvement in the form of construction materials or an appliance.

3,629

Meals were served to children in preschool, daycare and elementary school.





A CELEBRATION OF 10 YEARS OF IMPACT



It is said that to plant a seed is to believe in tomorrow. In 2012, we planted the seeds of impact by building a fair trade program that supports workers, communities and the environment.

In 2022, we commemorated our 10 years of certification with a company-wide festival highlighting the themes of community, art and impact at our farm in Sonora, MX. This was a celebration of the positive changes the Fair Trade program has catalyzed in our community. The event titled, "Semillitas," which means "Little Seeds" in Spanish captured the spirit of how the investments we make today, pay dividends in the following generations.

The event brought together Wholesum employees, family, industry partners, and community members. It opened with a ribbon cutting at the farm's latest Fair Trade project, a public kiosk in the community plaza followed by the unveiling of a new mural commissioned by Wholesum. Local restaurants, nonprofits, and small business owners were invited to participate in a vendor bazar where they could sell and showcase their crafts or products.

Special guest Paul Rice, founder and CEO of Fair Trade USA addressed those in attendance with a motivational speech and presented recognition to Wholesum's current and past committee members. Many farmworkers also took to the stage to share testimonials of the program's impact on their personal lives; one speaker proudly shared how the program helped her daughter achieve a master's degree in criminology. Dance and music performances made for great entertainment throughout the evening and a perfect closing to a celebration of the people behind the produce.

If this is what we can achieve in 10 years, we look forward to what the next 10 years will bring!



PROBLEM SOLVERS

Our commitment to the UN SDG's is how we can contribute to solutions to global problems. The UNSDG's are a set of 17 goals put forth by the United Nations' Global Compact as a universal call to action that aims to target the world's largest challenges such as poverty, hunger and inequality. In 2018 we aligned ourselves to two goals which could make an impact in our operations, Gender Equality and Responsible Consumption and Production.

SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY

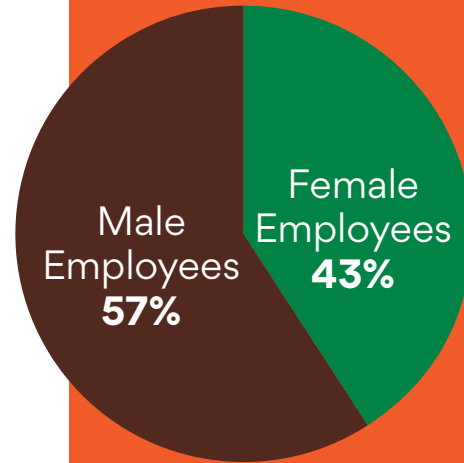


Gender equality is a basic human right. Promoting gender equality can lead to an overall healthier society, economic prosperity, promote health and education as well as better community development. However, women have historically faced greater barriers than men when seeking opportunities. By committing to this goal, we are actively working to understand and improve representation and resources for women to succeed in our workplace.

Positions	Female	Male
Executive/Senior Level Officials & Managers	36%	64%
First/Mid-Level Officials & Managers	31%	69%
Professionals	38%	62%
Administrative Support Workers	55%	45%
Technicians	7%	93%
Laborers and Helpers	46%	54%
Service Worker	82%	18%

**Based on GRI-405-1 disclosure*

Our organization is built on a culture of dignity, respect and fairness. That is not to say that there aren't areas of opportunity for improvement. We identify gaps in representation of women as "technicians" and over-representation in the "service worker" field. We also find opportunities to move women into higher roles within the company as executive/senior level officials or first/mid-level officials. Offering the resources and setting leadership targets is part of the strategy for us to achieve improved female representation within our workforce.



“PREVENTING IS BETTER THAN TREATING” SUPPORT FOR WOMEN’S HEALTH

In 2022, Wholesum and the Fair Trade Committee partnered to execute an onsite women’s health clinic at Wholesum Farms Sonora. From employee surveys it was determined that most women at the farm were not completing annual health exams for a variety of reasons. Several claimed that they preferred not to take time off work to see a doctor and many noted that they would only opt to see a doctor if they felt sick and needed a treatment or diagnosis.

“Knowing the importance of these annual screenings for prevention and/or early detection of diseases such as cancer, we wanted to make it accessible and convenient for women in the company to get their checkups done with a trusted physician on site and begin developing this important health habit,” states Anayeli Cazares, social responsibility coordinator at Wholesum Farms Sonora. “Our goal is to bring this program back every year, expand the number and types of services provided, provide information on health-promoting and preventative health habits, and build awareness campaigns to encourage more women (and other groups) each year to participate,” she adds.

In 2022, the committee and Wholesum’s Human Resources team sought support from the Mexican Institute of Social Security to set up the onsite clinic. Together, they built a robust communications campaign to encourage women in the company to participate. A total of 84 women opted to take advantage of the free onsite checkups. The team’s goal is to increase the number of women who participate every year and help them feel supported while encouraging a meaningful, balanced and healthy life.



SDG 12: RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



In a sustainable supply chain, there is an inextricable relationship between production and consumption. As producers we rely on a wide variety of inputs to grow, market and distribute organic produce to our customers. Our responsibility is to understand our consumption and demonstrate responsibility in our sourcing to the end of a lifecycle of an input. To tackle this goal, we have developed a process to identify, classify and quantify all of our inputs across our operations. For the last three years, we have formalized this process and are beginning to find patterns in our consumption. Awareness of these patterns helps us build a roadmap for improvement, starting with replacing non-renewable inputs with renewable inputs where possible.



	All Inputs		
	2022	2021	2020
Renewable	50%	53%	66%
Non-renewable	50%	47%	34%
Total	100%	100%	100%

	All Inputs		Distribution within each category	
			Renewable	Non-Renewable
Semi-manufactured goods	23%	→	0.28%	99.72%
Raw materials	16%	→	98.67%	1.33%
Associated process materials	15%	→	8.15%	91.85%
Packaging materials	46%	→	72.13%	27.87%
Total	100%			

**Based on GRI-301-1 disclosure*

Our largest input for 2022 was packaging material including pallets, cartons, labels and all other items associated with the packing of our produce. 72% of these items are renewable. Among the remaining 28%, we have employed closed loop systems such as RPCs and CHEP pallets to maximize the life cycle of those inputs. Next steps are to quantify the impact of these programs. Our largest sources of nonrenewables are associated process materials and semi-manufactured goods, bringing us an opportunity to seek sustainable alternatives and ensure that these items are used and/or discarded properly.

Thank you for sourcing responsibly.



Wholesum[®]
Grown for Good[™]

Contact

Joanna Jaramillo
Marketing Manager

email joannaj@wh.farm
mobile (520) 455-7589

2977 W. Frontage Road
Amado, AZ 85645
wh.farm

