



# Exportadora Subsole S.A.

Chile

Food Waste Inventory – June 2019 to May 2020



# About Subsole

**We are a Chilean company focused on producing and exporting high quality fruit with sustainable practices. Our business focuses on the whole production supply chain looking out for farms, workers, and the environment.**

**EXPORTADORA SUBSOLE S.A.** was founded in 1991, with the purpose of exporting table grapes. Today, it is Chile's largest table grape exporter.

In 1992 Subsole started exporting kiwifruit; in 1995, clementines, navel oranges and avocados; and in 2007 cherries were included as part of the product portfolio.

We are located in the six growing regions of table grapes, kiwis, citrus, cherries and avocados, so we are capable of shipping our fruit from the very earliest to the very latest of each growing period, allowing our receivers to offer our products throughout the entire Chilean season.

We are constantly on the lookout for more efficient and sustainable ways of working across all steps of production, packaging, and transportation. This is not only good for the environment, but also allows us to reduce costs and deliver better value to our end consumers and growers.

In order to reduce food waste, our technical team has worked to incorporate new varieties, best practices and novel technologies to obtain high levels of quality, safety, and improvements in fruit condition.

**In 2019 we made a commitment to reduce food waste in our own operations by 50% by 2030.**



# What we are doing to tackle food waste

For this reporting period we only focused on grapes because it is our crop that we produce in the largest volume. We are trying to reduce waste both at packhouse and on-farm level; however, this year we have only reported at packhouse level.

As part of our innovation process and in the search to deliver a better product to our consumers, Subsole has pioneered the early addition of new varieties of table grapes. These varieties have a high percentage of quality fruit, which reduces the disposal of berries with defects and shatter that would usually be unsuitable for the export market.

The incorporation of new production technologies, such as the use of plastic covers, has also helped to reduce fruit losses caused by problems associated with damage from rain or other weather events.

By constantly monitoring the development of the fruit, we ensure we have an appropriate number of bunches and berries per hectare, as well as more accurate harvest indexes. These measures improve yields, by reducing shelling (when berries detach from the bunch) and the presence of weak fruit in the field.

In addition to our efforts in the field, we have worked on improvements in the packing process, so we minimize the loss of fruit caused by handling. Moreover, by using specialized fixed-weight lines, we can make better use of the fruit and increase production.

Finally, constant training of our workers and collaborative work amongst the teams, also prevent fruit losses throughout the packing process.



New varieties in the field



Plastic covers in Agr. Maitenco- San Vicente, Chile



Table Grape Packhouse, San Vicente, Chile

Total grapes handled

7,084  
tonnes

Waste as a % of grapes handled

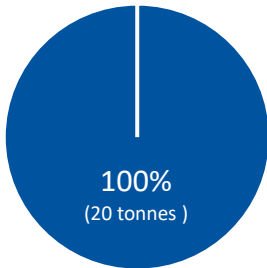
0.3%



Overall food waste

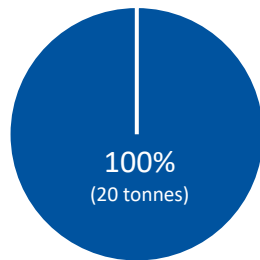
20 tonnes

Waste by category



■ Berries

Waste by destination



■ Landfill

## Food waste data commentary

- This assessment was carried out in our biggest table grape packinghouse, located in San Vicente de Tagua Tagua (region of O'Higgins), from June 2019 until May 2020. This facility packs 20% of our production.
- The total volume of grapes handled was 7,084 tonnes, and the total waste was 20 tonnes (0.3% of total grapes handled). Waste consists of berry shatter or damaged berries that have fallen to the floor and are unable to be directed to processing markets such as juicing or raisins.
- Our waste is collected by a waste removal company. At the moment this product is taken to landfill because it is a relatively small volume, but we will explore the possibility of sending this waste to destinations that are further up the hierarchy in future.
- This season was our first year of evaluation. It was a good exercise to help us to understand our packing efficiency and the importance of achieving the highest quality grapes at field level. Our aim is to extend this project to our other fruits and packing houses in future.
- Next year, we have committed to extend the scope of our food waste reporting to include our on-farm operations, as this year was not inclusive of waste that was created at that stage.