

5 Ps VERIFIED CASE STUDY SUMMARY: D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California: Recycling



SureHarvest utilizes its 5Ps of Sustainability™, a continuous improvement business management methodology, to craft case studies that evaluate the alignment and execution of a company's sustainability efforts that contribute to financial profitability, environmental stewardship and social progress. Each case study goes through a verification step to confirm that the reported information is accurate, thorough and authentic.

Principles

The core values that define the business strategy

Processes

The sets of managed activities that create internal and external value

Practices

The methods used to accomplish the desired operational results

Performance Metrics

The metrics and measurements used to evaluate practice and process results

Progress

The approach used to document, communicate and drive continuous improvement over time

Meet D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California:

Family owned and operated since 1920, D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California strives to be the best grower, shipper and seller of high-quality fruits and vegetables. Signature products packed under the *Andy Boy* label include Artichokes, Broccoli, Broccoli Rabe, Butter Lettuce, Cactus Pears, Cauliflower, Fennel, Green Leaf, Iceberg Lettuce, Iced Broccoli Rabe, Iceless Broccoli Rabe, Nopalitos, Organic Romaine Hearts, Organic Broccoli Rabe, Organic Fennel, Red Leaf, Romaine, Romaine Hearts, and Shrink Wrap Broccoli. Their dedicated family of almost 2000 employees are engaged in making the recycling program a success.

5 Ps Verified Case Study: Recycling

Committed to efficient use of resources, D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California and their employees enthusiastically support and participate in comprehensive recycling. A pilot program began in 2011 at their ranches and shipping/cooling facility. It proved to be so successful in reducing the amount of waste, it was expanded throughout the company in 2012. SureHarvest documented and verified the Recycling program using the 5Ps of Sustainability™.

Sustainability Highlights

D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California's recognition of the importance of continual improvement in all aspects of food production led to the formation of the recycling program and its management team. A team member is located at the headquarters, shipping/cooling facility and at each of the company ranches to ensure complete implementation. The team director carries out weekly inspections of the recycling stations at each facility to maintain quality control and program performance.

A total of 480 tons of cardboard and plastic were recycled over a 12 month period starting in April 2014. This resulted in a 75% reduction in waste management costs through fewer trips to the land fill.

**480
TONS**
of cardboard
and plastic
recycled in 2015.

Equivalent to taking 4,284 cars off the road each year.



The recycling contractor provides data on the annual tonnage of recycled materials and the results are compared from one year to the next.



Sustainability Principles

D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California is committed to being responsible stewards by:

- Making efficient use of resources
- Sustaining the economic viability of farmland
- Enhancing the quality of the environment and quality of life

The company is devoted to enhancing the environment and quality of life of its members through its sustainability efforts.

Sustainability Processes

Comprehensive recycling of resources used in the growing, packing and shipping of high quality produce is a core value of D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California and supports its guiding principles. It demonstrates corporate responsibility to reduce waste and reuse resources while lowering the expense and energy expended by hauling waste to a landfill. Their dedication and commitment to recycling provides a positive example to others in the industry. The recycling program was

designed and implemented throughout the company with the goal of getting as close as possible to recycling 100% of recyclable materials used in their growing, packing and shipping operations.

Sustainability Practices

Implementation of the recycling program at D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California begins with senior management engaging employees at all levels to participate in the recycling efforts. Personnel at the shipping/cooling facility and ranches are trained to recognize recyclables and to place them in the proper containers which are conveniently located and labeled at each site. When recycling containers are full a recycling company is contracted to transport them to their facility where materials are sorted, bundled and palletized. Some recyclables, such as irrigation drip tape, is refurbished and reused.

Recycling is a daily activity for employees located at the headquarters. They are encouraged to use coffee cups and bring lunches in reusable containers. As a pilot project, per-





◀ Bundles of some of the more than 190 tons of cardboard recycled each year.

sonalized coffee cups were purchased for the ranch shop areas to reduce the use of paper cups. Employees are also encouraged to continue the recycle trend at home.

Sustainability Performance Metrics

The recycling program management team at D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California summarizes the annual expenditures for hauling waste to the landfill and tracks the monetary savings due to the reduced amount of waste. The recycling contractor provides data on the annual tonnage of recycled materials and the results are compared from one year to the next. The results of inspections of the recycling stations at each company site for adherence to recycling protocols are reported to the management team.

Sustainability Progress

Each week, the Recycling Program Director inspects the recycling stations at all ranches, the shipping/cooling yard and headquarters to ensure that recycling protocols are being followed. Any observed problems and actions are rectified by immediately communicating to the recycling station manager via telephone.

Subsequent inspections verify problems have been addressed, recorded and filed in a timely manner for future reference. Any contamination of recycling bins by non-recyclable materials is reported to the Program Director by the recycling contractor so that quality control can be improved.

Success of the program is gauged by the level of quality control of recycled materials as well as by tracking the amount of materials recycled and the reduction in cost of sending non-recycled waste to the landfill.

Employee enthusiasm for the recycling program is maintained through periodic memoranda, signage, announcements at meetings, and properly labeled and conveniently located recycling receptacles.

The recycling program was designed and implemented throughout the company with the goal of getting as close as possible to recycling

100%
of recyclable materials.



D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California: Recycling



D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California was founded by Stefano and Andrea D'Arrigo, two teenage immigrants from Messina, Sicily and has been family owned and operated since 1920. D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California strives to be the best grower, shipper, and seller of high-quality fruits and vegetables.

D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California headquartered in Salinas, is in its third generation of family management. In 2006 the company opened its state of the art shipping/cooling facility in Salinas and in 2008 the company administrative headquarters opened alongside. Operating from February into December, the Salinas cooler loads between 200 and 250 trucks of fresh produce per day.

D'Arrigo Bros. Co., of California has published three case studies featuring other aspects of their sustainability efforts. One focused on energy and climate at the Salinas shipping/cooling facility, one on farm water conservation and protection, and another on the company's consistent support of philanthropic organizations.

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SureHarvest is an agri-food sustainability solutions company delivering practical strategies, proven technologies, and exceptional services to accelerate financial profitability, environmental stewardship and social progress.

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