Taste the Sunshine: Bringing the Benefits of California Almonds to Chinese Consumers



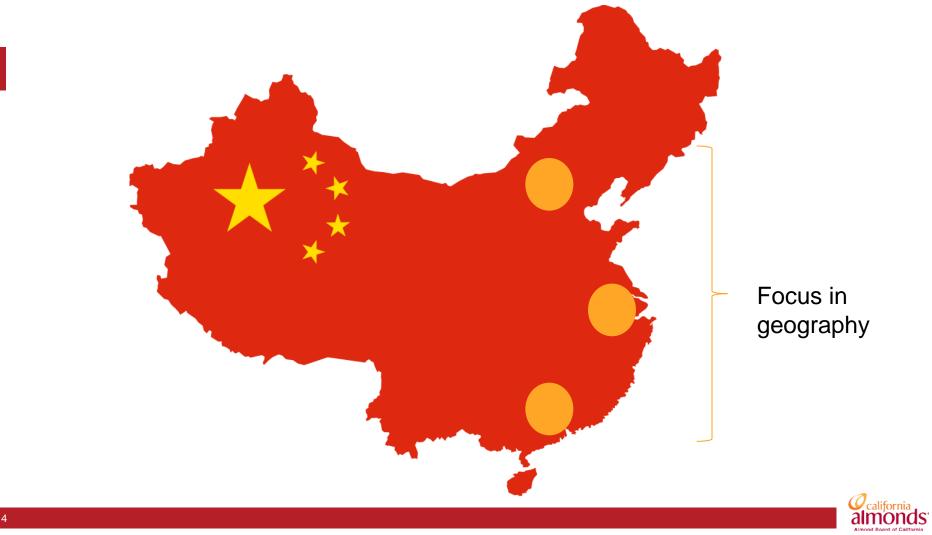
December 10, 2015



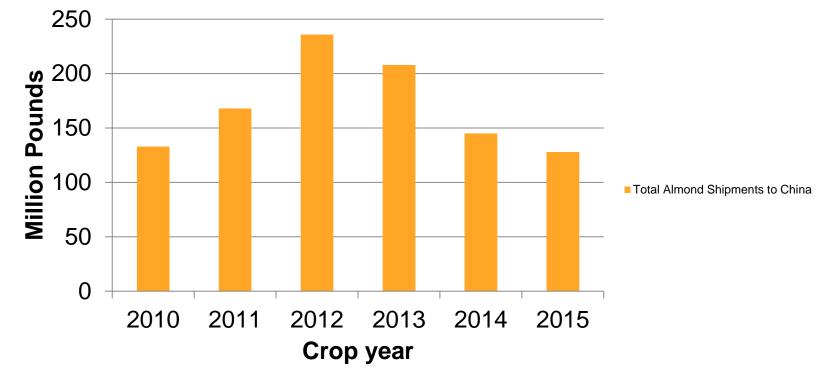
Stacey Humble, Almond Board

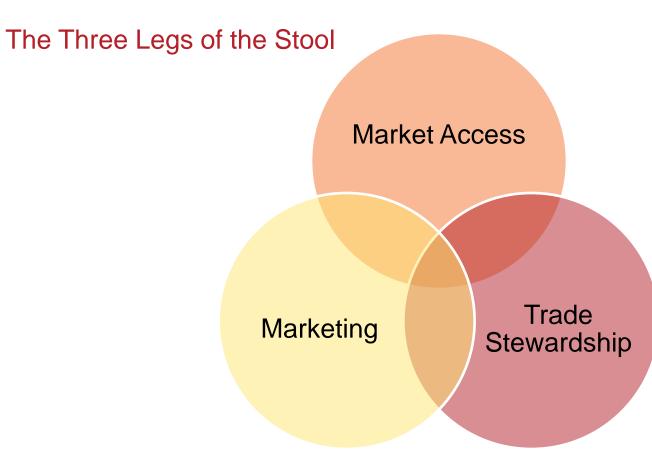


How do we eat an elephant?



Total Almond Shipments to China







Today

1) China's Economic Reemergence:

Dr. Christopher Bielecki, China Desk Officer, Foreign Agricultural Service

2) China's Appetite for E-Commerce & California Products:

Margaret Wong, President, California Center

3) Building Consumer Awareness for California Almonds:

Becky Sereno, Manager China Program, Almond Board





China's Economic Reemergence: The Rule of Law in China, and it's Effects on U.S. Agricultural Trade

Christopher Bielecki, Ph.D. China Desk Officer, USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Office of Country and Regional Affairs December 10, 2015 Almond Board Conference, Sacramento, CA





The opinions expressed in this presentation are the author's own and do not reflect the views of the Foreign Agricultural Service, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the U.S. Government.

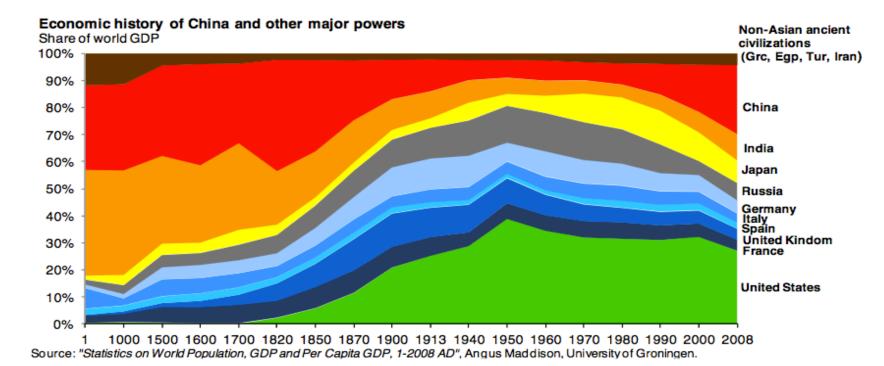
Outline

- China's (Re)emergence
- The Rule of Law in China
- U.S. Agricultural Trade in China, USDA's Strategy and Resources





China's (Re)emergence





China's (Re)emergence

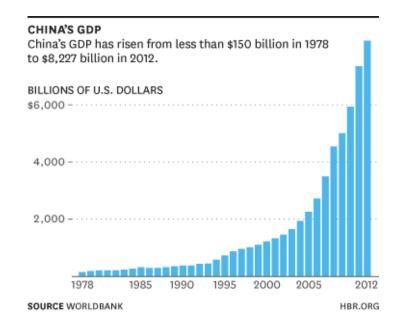
- Population = 1.35 Billion
 - 45,000 babies born each day!
 - 16 million/year





China's (Re)emergence

- Average GDP growth since 1978: 10+%
- Urban rejuvenation
- Mega-projects and infrastructure investments
- Accumulation of foreign exchange reserves





China's (re)emergence: Enter Xi Jinping

- In pursuit of a new "Great Power Relationship" with the U.S.
- Corruption crackdown: "Hunting tigers and swatting flies"
 - Consolidate power
 - Preserve the legitimacy of CCP and state officials





The Rule of Law in China

• For the UN, the Secretary-General defines the rule of law as "a principle of governance in which all persons, institutions and entities, public and private, including the State itself, are accountable to laws that are publicly promulgated, equally enforced and independently adjudicated, and which are consistent with international human rights norms and standards. (http://www.unrol.org/article.aspx?article_id=3)



China's "Foreign NGO Management Law"

- Overly broad language would place Cooperators and other NGOs under jurisdiction of the public security bureau, restrict staff numbers, only allow one physical office, and allow for the arrest of staff for "harming national interests."
- China published the 2nd draft in 2015 and allowed comments from the international community.
 - USG submitted comments on June 4, 2015.
 - Points reiterated at the recent Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT).
 - The two side <u>were not able</u> to reach a consensus on an outcome at the JCCT.



China's Food Safety Law (FSL)

- On October 1, 2015 the FSL officially went into effect.
 - What is it?
 - Expected to serve as the basic legal framework for food safety supervision and management.
 - Why did China pass this law?
 - Domestic scandals and fear of falling behind foreign institutions.
 - Which ministries will implement it?
 - Several, including the China Food and Drug Administration (CFDA) and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection, and Quarantine (AQSIQ)
 - What does it cover?
 - Many things...Virtually all U.S. food exports



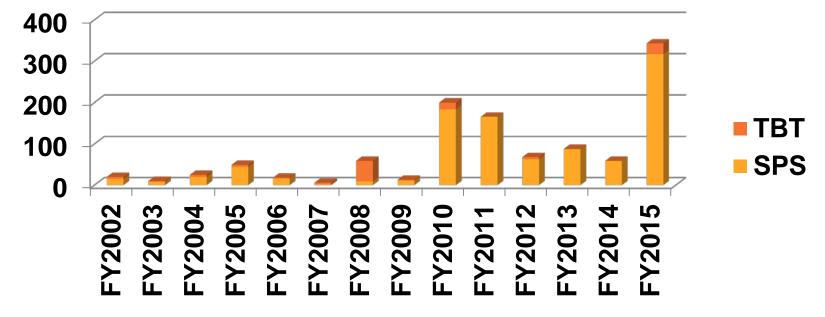
China's Food Safety Law (FSL)

- Several components of the FSL under consideration:
 - "Measures for the Administration of Food Recalls"
 - (CFDA vs AQSIQ)
 - "Administrative Measures for the Supervision of Imported Food Inspection at Port"
 - (administers temporary bans)
 - "Measures for the Administration of Formulated Foods for Special Medical Purposes"
 - Could almonds possibly be considered a food for medicinal purposes?
 - "Measures for the Administration of Supervision of Foods Operation via Internet"
 - E-Commerce crackdown?



China Seeks to Achieve in a Decade What the United States Accomplished in a Century

Number of New Agricultural Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures Disseminated by China



- USDA/FAS used to identify, translate, and assess 20 measures on average each year.
 - 17 SPS measures in FY05 -> 166 SPS measures in FY10 -> 317 SPS measures in FY15
- In FY16 and FY17 FAS will need to:
 - Identify and assess 400 measures per year
 - Finalize 200 USG comments per year with USTR, USDA, EPA, and FDA (this is equal to the work USDA/FAS does for rest of the world)



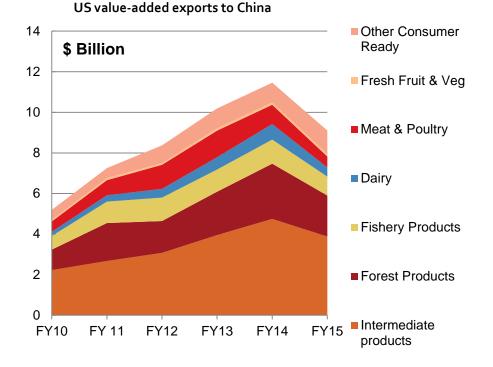
China's Selective Interpretations of International Law

- U.S. Poultry: Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) Continued ban of U.S. poultry (last HPAI detection on June 17, 2015).
- U.S. Biotech: Protein feeding trials in the safety approval of U.S. biotechnology events.
- U.S. Beef: Country-wide ban due to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE), even though the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) recognizes the U.S. as having a negligible risk.



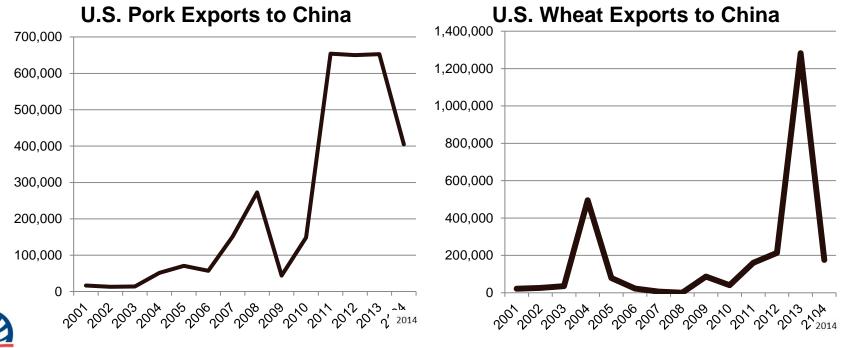
U.S. Agricultural Trade in China

- Expectations vs. Reality
- Is China is closing the door to U.S. agricultural exports?



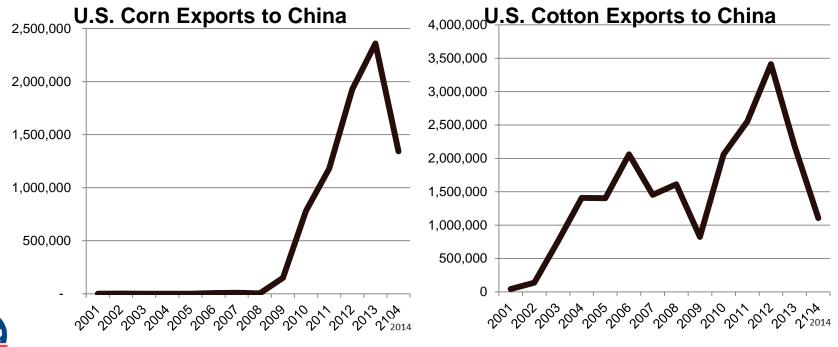


The Closing Door...





It Continues...





Despite some bad news, the reality is:

- China = A growing population and middle class
- U.S. agricultural products are still regarded as the gold standard
 - As a specialty crop = Almonds should remain in high demand.
- The Chinese government is, generally, acting in good faith and playing catch-up (no goldilocks scenario)



USDA/FAS Strategy in China

- 1. Break down trade barriers
- 2. Promote U.S. agricultural products
- 3. Build capacity





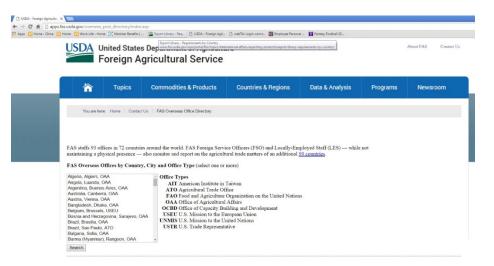
Conclusions

- Tough road lies ahead.
- Don't walk down the road alone.
- You may meet interesting people along the way.
- The destination will be worth it.



FAS Contact Information

- For general/policy questions:
 - ChinaDesk@fas.usda.gov
- To contact FAS staff in China directly, use the search tool at fas.usda.gov
 →





Margaret Wong, California Center



Maximizing Opportunities for Almonds in China





Margaret Wong

President Golden California Inc. McWong International, Inc.



Contents

- China Almond Market
- China E-commerce
- China Cross-border E-commerce
- 🥖 California Mall
- California Center
- Opportinities



China cultivation still small but increases fast with government incentives

Most almond products in China are processed and packaged in China

Most almond imports are in raw bulk form

Affluent and young consumers are more discerning on the buying choices

Growing trend on imported retail products

Growing trend on online shopping



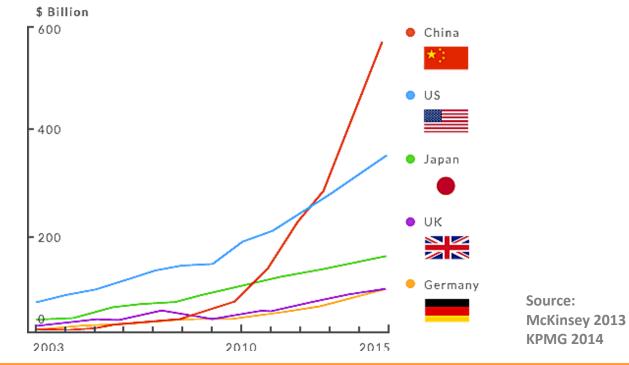
China Almond Market Trends

Desire for value-added products (convenience, flavor, nutrition)

- Almond milk, exotic and unique flavors, almond butter, almond oil, almond-based nutrition bar, modern and convenient packaging, etc.
- Desire for California-processed and branded retail products (food safety, lifestyle)
 - California is well regarded for high quality and diversity
 - USA processed and packaged (genuine and safe)
 - Authentic flavoring
 - Sold in California and component of healthy and vivid lifestyle



China E-commerce



Annual Online Retail Revenue

33



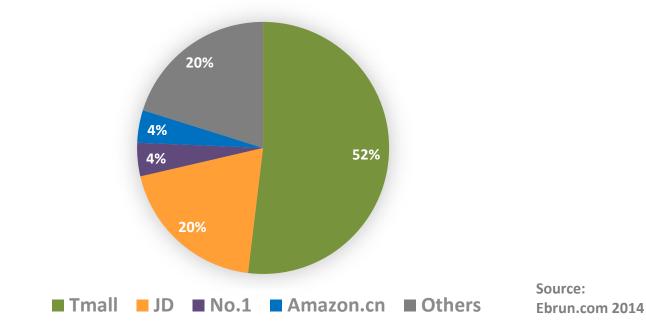
China E-commerce

- World's biggest national e-commerce market
- Chinese shoppers spent US\$450 billion online in 2014, a 50% increase from 2013 (KPMG 2014)
- Rising middle-class: ~360 millions in 2016
- Internet, mobile devices, high supermarket costs, crowded stores, traffic, weather, etc.
- Fast growing nationwide logistics providers
- Leading online-retail sites: Tmall (Alibaba), JD (NASDAQ), No.1 Store (Walmart), Amazon (China)



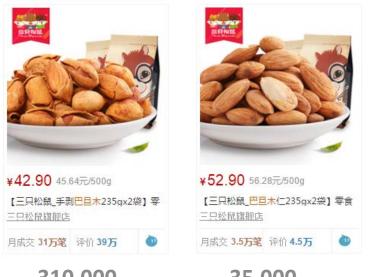
China E-commerce

China's ~200 Million Active Online Shoppers





Tmall Top Almond Sellers (2015.11)



November # of orders: November Revenue: Unit Price: 310,000 USD 2M USD 6.47/lb

35,000 USD 289K USD 7.98/lb



China Cross-border E-commerce





Must be foreign sellers and imported retail products Some of current US stores on China cross-border online portals:



12/10/2015



China Cross-border E-commerce Taxes

- Parcel Tax China Customs
- Applies to mail or carry a parcel of goods into China
- Also applies to goods delivered from China Free Trade Zones
- Only for personal use at reasonable quantity
- No Value-Added Tax (VAT) (conventional import at 17%)
- No duty if package value < \$80</p>
- If package value >\$80, need to pat duty at the following rates:
 - 10%: publications, jewelry, food, and non-alcoholic beverages
 - 20%: textile, electronics, bicycles, watches, and clocks
 - 30%: golf equipment, high-end watches (\$1,600 or above)
 - 50%: cigarettes, alcoholic beverages, cosmetics.



China Cross-border E-commerce Logistics

- California suppliers set up or join a store on approved cross-border online retail portals
- Once orders are placed, there are three ways to fulfill:
 - Option 1: California suppliers ocean freight large quantity of products to store's bonded warehouses in China Free Zones (many choices across China), store's logistic team/partner will pick-n-pack, clear customs, and deliver order.
 - Option 2: store forward orders to California suppliers, suppliers ship orders to a logistic service provider (one in LA), the service provider will air mail to China shoppers and clear customs.
 - Option 3: store forward orders to California suppliers, suppliers air mail orders to China shoppers and clear customs.



China Cross-border E-commerce Logistics





California Mall



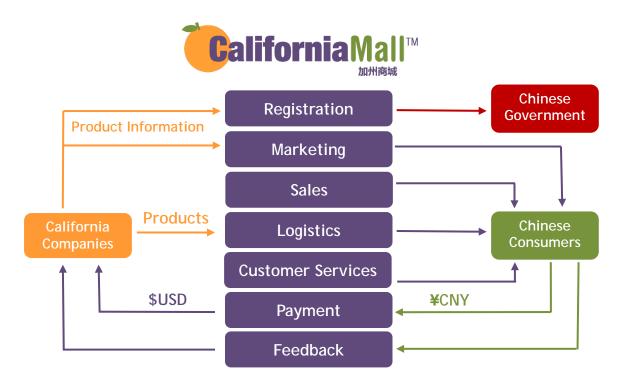
California Mall is a cross-border e-commerce platform of California Center that helps California companies sell directly to Chinese consumers via leading online retail portals in China, such as Tmall Global and JD Worldwide.



- Helps California companies benefit from China's growing e-commerce.
- Helps California companies enjoy China's growing demand for imported products and reduced taxes.
- Understand California producers and products to help position, brand, market, sell, and protect them in China.
- Marketing power to attract shoppers under the brand name "California".
- Supported by governments and industries in US and China.
- One-stop services to help companies sell directly to China consumers.



California Mall Process





California Mall Process



California Center 加州中心



California Center

- California Center is a business platform operated by Golden California Inc.
- A Sacramento company, branches in Shanghai and Chongqing, China.
- California Center is a "Storefront" and "Headquarter" in China for California companies and organizations.





California Center Services

- Showcase information, products, and services in our physical centers and on our website and social media in China.
- Direct sell California products on our e-commerce store, CaliforniaMall, to Chinese online shoppers.
- Offline promotional events and activities in China.
- Facilitate wholesale exports to China.
- Chinese California Club membership and subscription.
- Accelerate specific China strategies with customized services on both government and business relationship, partnership, investment, legal, office and HR administration, and others.



Inception

California Center was originally named during a Signing Ceremony in China by Governor Jerry Brown with Party Secretary Luo Zhijun of Jiangsu Province.



April 14th, 2013, Margaret Wong (second to the left) witnessed the MOU signing in Nanjing, China to support opening California Center in Jiangsu Province.

12/10/2015



Government Support

Since its inception, a large bi-partisan list of public officials from the federal, state, and local level have expressed support for California Center.





Recent Agreement

California Center was also recently named in state supported MOU between Governor Brown and Party Secretary Wang Donming of Sichuan Province (October 2015) to establish our center in Chengdu next year.





Governmental Activities

Margaret Wong presents to Jiangsu Delegation visiting California between Governor Brown and Party Secretary Luo Zhijun and business roundtable discussions. (Stanford Mansion in California – October, 2015)

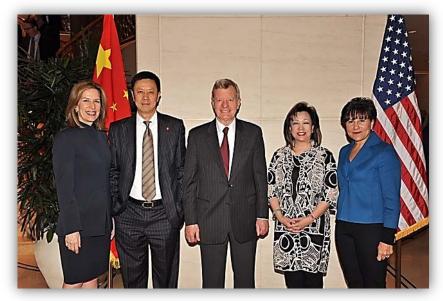






Governmental Activities

April 2015, Margaret Wong (R2) joins Commerce Secretary Pritzker (R1), Ambassador Baucus (C), Deputy Energy Secretary Sherwood-Randall (L1) and other officials on 24-American company delegation to China.





Grand Opening



Grand opening of California Center's Shanghai facility was held on May 30th, 2014, joined by California Go-Biz office, State Legislature, Cal Asian Chamber of Commerce, LA County Economic Development Corp, UC Davis, Yuba City, and other public and industry leaders from California.



China Showrooms

Our physical centers in China showcase information, products, and services, host visitors, and hold events that allow customers and interested parties in China to see, touch, taste, and experience what California offers.





Opportunities in China – Offline Promotion

Promotion and sales sites, such as metro station pop-up storefronts and mobile booths

- Events, trade shows and trade missions
- California wine and food promotion
- Local business partners promotion
- Sports, fitness, health, wellness promotion



Opportunities in China – Online E-commerce

- Online stores direct sales to shoppers
- California Club membership subscription, presale
- Mobile app marketing and sales
 - WeChat China's mostly used social media, 500M active users.
- Online and app push sales
- Food traceability
- Direct sale/presale farm to consumer



Opportunities in China – Innovative Strategies

- Value-added products
- Flavored specialty almonds
- Convenient/innovative packaging
- Almond milk/drinks
- California branding
- Push sales directly to consumers
- High-tech marketing and sales



Connecting California and China!

www.californiacenter.us

Cash that and the

Contact: Gordon Hinkle Email: ghinkle@californiacenter.us Phone: 916-765-6122

1921 Arena Boulevard Sacramento, CA 95834 Main: 916-371-6886

Becky Sereno, Almond Board



Building Consumer Awareness for California Almonds



Strong growth in campaign awareness reaches **Our China Journey** ٠ height of 44% Shipments begin to decline due to: tightening anti-٠ corruption laws, price increases, remaining confusion on name usage and standards enforcement Launched Young at Heart Campaign and first advertising in the market Reputation crisis in media starts due to use of same name as Chinese apricot kernels "xing ren" . 2012 2014 2013 2015 Updates on advertising law are Recover from negative media coverage and focus imminent. ٠ on new name "badanmu" Trade still lukewarm about almonds First ad effectiveness study shows positive results due to legal scrutiny, implications of ٠ name change and pricing in liking and awareness Industry standard with new names for almonds Hired Edelman as PR agency ٠ ٠ took effect; confusion with phasing in packaging Ad effectiveness points to wear-out with different names ensues and brand owners and retailers targeted by professional complaintants

A Great Year for Insights and Learning

2014 AAU

2014 Global Perceptions

Consumer Qualitative for Additional

2015

Insights

2015 Ad Campaign Effectiveness

Ocaliforni

Our Target Consumer

- Behaviors, almond benefits, and usage are all consistent across quantitative surveys and the consumer focus groups
- The target is defined as:
 - Female, 25-45 years old
 - Agree to one of the following statements:
 - I am eating more healthy food than I have in the past
 - I pay attention to the nutritional content of food
 - In order to be beautiful, having a healthy body is really important
 - CNRS measures as: 22 million Chinese consumers





What's in a name?

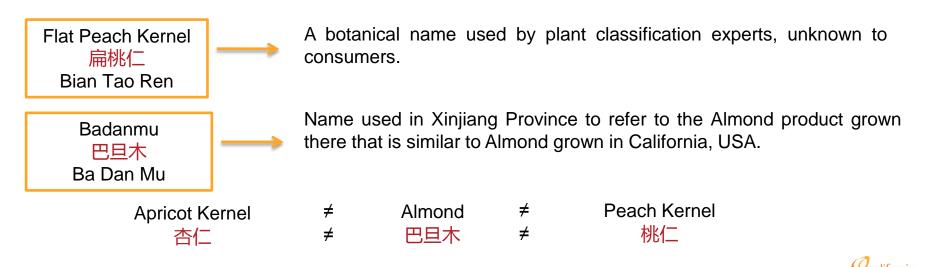


The Chinese Name for Almond



First name given to Almond when it originally came to China from the USA. Later distinguished for consumer and trade understanding as "Big American" or "Big".

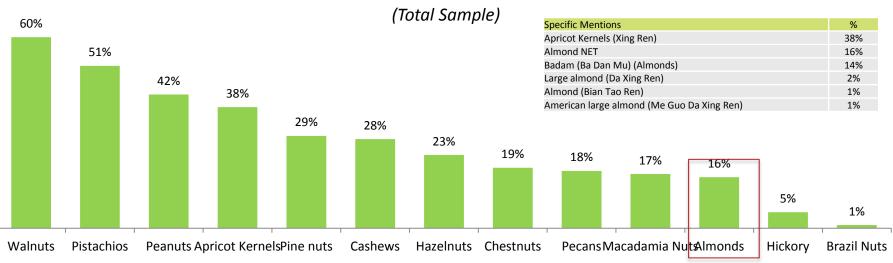
Since 2013, two names have entered commercial channels after the clarification that Almond is a different product from Apricot Kernel.



64

Awareness: Unaided (Total Mentions)

Almonds were only mentioned by 16% of Chinese consumers on an unaided basis, while apricot kernels were the fourth most mentioned nut at 38%



Unaided Awareness: Total Mentions

65 Q1. When you think of nuts, which nuts come to mind?

Size is the main differentiator when referring to Almonds or Apricot Kernels

- When showing both products together, size is the main difference perceived when they try to distinguish them. They are referred as "big almond" or "small almond"
 - However, this does not necessarily certify the origin of the nut, e.g. American almond



- Xing Ren/ 杏仁
- Da Xing Ren/ 大杏仁
- American Xing Ren/ 美国大杏仁
- Sweet Xing Ren/ 甜杏仁
- Badam/ Ba Dan Mu/ 巴旦木 (skew to a few)
- Bian Tao Ren/ 扁桃仁



- Xing Ren/ 杏仁
- Badam/ Ba Dan Mu/ 巴旦 木 (some have the perception that Ba Dan Mu is in-shell)



- Small Xing Ren Xiao Xing Ren/ 小杏仁
- Local Xing Ren/ 国产杏仁



• Xing Ren/ 杏仁



(sk

Name used

Consumers

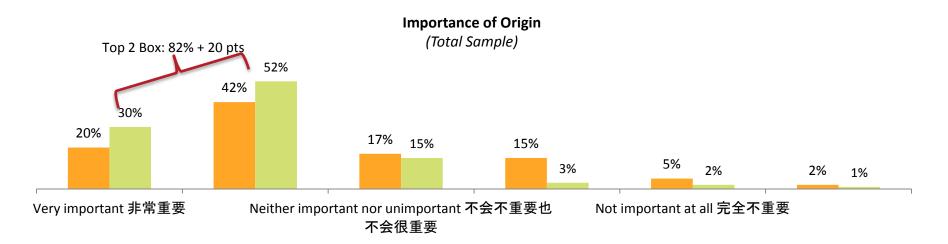
by

Importance of Origin



Almond Origin: Importance of Origin

 Respondents placed a lot more importance on the origin of their almonds than two years ago. Over 80% stated that the origin of almonds is somewhat or very important to their purchase decision, up from 62% in 2012.





California has incredible equities as a brand

 Overwhelmingly "Hollywood" style associations emanate from California

California has a great image of being sunny and no pollution. Therefore you are attracted to it.??

Trend Setters

6 If it is from California it is imported and premium.**99**

Trend Setters

California has the sun shining on it all year long. Badam will bring you health. It is rich in sunshine.

Health Seekers





Unique Position for Almonds



How are almonds different versus all nuts?

- Clean doesn't leave residue or oil on your hands
- **Portable** Easy to take with you and without mess (shelled)
- Less oily in comparison to other nuts
- Less fattening perceived as dryer than other nuts and therefore less fattening
- **Don't worry** that they will lose control and eat too many in comparison to chips or peanuts
- Linked to chocolate
- But, not currently linked to a health benefit outside of those attributed to all nuts



Both "Skin & Beauty" and "Heart Health" make almonds stand out in the nut category. The "Skin & Beauty" message has the highest relevance

	Skin and Beauty	Heart Health	Weight Management	Energy and Vitality
Overall appeal	٢	©	۲	
Relevance	٢	۲	٢	
Uniqueness of Almond	٢	٢	8	8
Driving Consumption	٢	\odot		8



Skin and Beauty message caught consumers' attention

The approach of Skin and Beauty <u>resonates well</u> with consumer's goals and ambitions and drives engagement

- Across age groups, good skin is always what consumers aspire to have
- The statement of <u>combating harmful stress and pollution</u> is highly relevant with consumers' concern from air pollution, which is a major issue that Chinese consumers deal with

The concept brings <u>new knowledge to consumers about almonds</u>

- The almonds' benefits, "combating pollution" and "antioxidants" are very new to all consumers and sound very appealing
- Although there is some awareness of Almond's skin-related benefit, e.g. whitening, good for skin overall, this statement gives consumers further understanding or the reasons why vitamin E, micronutrients, antioxidants

It is considered a natural way to achieve good skin, which makes it possible to drive almond consumption frequency

- The statement gives consumers a specific reason to consume almonds consciously, e.g. while they might keep the similar amount of nuts category overall, there is more intension to consume almonds
- The antioxidant vitamin E contained in Almonds, gives those who are currently taking vitamin E supplements a more natural replacement for these supplements. Supplements are viewed as chemicals, while and almond is a natural version of a supplement



China Program Communication Needs



touch points

Focus afternoon (3 pm) snacking occasion with almond benefit on skin and beauty

How do we do it?





Research in Action China Program Crop Year 14-15



New Campaign: Taste The Sunshine





Media platforms





Chinese Media Harvest Visit 2015



Special thanks to Jim Jasper and the whole Stewart & Jasper Team!



Media Results: Spanning Social and Print OF GALIEOR ●●●●○ Lycamobile 3G 上午1:14 ●●●● Lycamobile 3G 下午10:44 O 66% * 0 41% O 19% ••••• Lycamobile E 下午4:43 ••••• Lycamobile 3G 下午6:47 く返回 微博正文 く发现 ... **く**发现 朋友圈 ^O 朋友圈 ○ く发现 朋友圈 0 健康与营养 杜润鸿 餉芳 +关注 顶着烈日收果子啦。这下知道最爱 19-07 15:13 来自 iPho...6 Plus 今天参观加州莫德斯托市的巴旦木 的巴旦木长什么模样了 🗳 农场主表 #加州巴旦木之旅#Day 1:下飞机第一时 种植园,了解了巴旦木从田间到餐 示中国人是好朋友,因为中国人都 潜配 有学问 桌的全部过程。这是一家拥有70年 间来到Napa Valley喝酒,遇到5分动 36分钟前 爱吃巴旦木啊 👸 目前中国是加州巴 1 计水样的食物 饮品相配在-历史三,代从事巴旦木事业的家族 节。很喜欢这里的食品店和小酒店。阳 は、而今天 我们来到了美国亨 旦木第二大进口国, 仅次于西班牙 企业,图三中左二是种植园的第二 停止立于1946年。可以说是全 ,为什么?因为西班牙是欧洲的加 光太好,明早去🏃 。(顺便扫盲——巴 网络白银石金银石金属石金银石 lets新城记施伯男~Bonus 代庄主, 左四是少庄主。当看到堆 工中转国😪 -杯咖啡亦成一杯茶 摄影加州 旦木就是原来熟知的美国大杏仁 130 积如山的巴达木时真的是有些震撼 收果子啦 almond,为了与中国杏仁区别,美国人 。种植园之大也令人惊叹,驾车从 特地把这个中文译名改为巴旦木) 一头到另一头还要十几分钟。 收起 39分钟前 ♥ 洋泡泡coco O 48分钟前 优家画报张慧 分享了一个链接 INSURANTING AVAILABLE AVAILABLE 🗢 RR 😹 🌲 🎵 💡 我也想跟着小牙仙戴牙箍了, 变成 「小转发 n'S 时尚健康美容王彦兮: 给我拉一箱回 2分钟前 张美美 PROVIDENT PROPERTY AND A 途虽然短暂 但是却让 直至完全干燥,接下来专业的吹扫机会将撤落在 食的零食首选。巴日木的外 集中运往工厂。此时的工厂 来源于我们做天接触的诸多常见物质,如香烟烟 能轻易吸附调味。可以创造于 来的是全身心的快乐, 无论你身 停歇, 脱去"外衣"的巴旦木在流 雾、空气污染以及阳光中的紫外线等。 人意想不到的味道。简单常见 在何处 取一粒加州巴旦木 蘇 言选拔,去除杂质和异物、检测病 可以给巴旦木平添风味。每天 《农业与食物化学杂志》中一份报告显示。 筋一咬 香浓加州风情会即刻墓 日本,有势弱持有害的压力和 8大小和额值进行分组、接受抽样检测, 23颗(约为一小把)巴日木中菌酮类物质的含量 延在暴齿间, 你获得健康之余、肌肤还能非 来的高额值和高品质洗手才能漂洋过 相当于半杯两竿花汁成一杯爆茶,这东分说明巴 加州市及大和产物的质量分析标准, 都市的在以高地建筑和 自己在中心 医皮开着果实没有生 成从树上成下来的成熟加州巴亚土地实际集起来。 亲明艳动人。▶ 海,走上你的餐桌。 旦木中含有丰富的生物活性抗氧化剂成分。

New Outreach with Industry

- 1. Repeated requests from Chinese stakeholders to use Almond Board logo over the years
- 2. Potential disconnect with broad based communications about California and no labeling or distinction of California on pack
- 3. Leverage existing retail technology in the market





Online Content Page





美国杏仁被称为 加州巴旦木 的原因

加州巴旦木

加州巴旦木生长在美国加州中部山谷,一个极为良好的农业种植区, 夏季炎热乾旱,冬季凉爽多雨。适宜的气候再加上种植者们的热情, 为巴旦木创造了理想的生长环境,并生产出世界上最好的巴旦木。

中国于上世纪70年代开始从美国进口Almond,当时中 文里没有Almond 一词的恰当解释,鉴于Almond与中国 杏仁外形相似而被称作"杏仁"、或"大杏仁"。为避免误 寻,并为消费者提供更多信息,多年前,中国行业开始 吏用"加州巴旦木",用以与中国杏仁的区别。



尝味阳光







- Almond Board has learned a lot more about our Chinese consumer and is focused appropriately in the market. We'll continue gathering annual consumer insights as the market and consumers change so quickly.
- Our new campaign messaging is poised to bring greater clarity to consumers about almonds' identity, including origin and distinguishing benefit of Vitamin E.
- China is a large market, but it is less daunting with targeted strategy and efforts.
- Chinese consumers have a large appetite to consume and especially California products.
- China can be a complicated market and definitely takes vigilance, but business can be done and success can be achieved.



Thank You! Xie Xie!



