

## Soil Analysis and Fertilization Program

In order to achieve sustainable hazelnut production farmers are responsible to follow the good agricultural, social and environmental activities during all of the production steps such as pruning, fertilization, agricultural pesticide application, pest/disease management, grass removal, harvest, storage etc. Within our agricultural program, we encourage farmers to implement agricultural practices in a scientific manner and after data analysis so that input cost could be reduced while yield and quality of the product are increased.

Soil analysis are performed free of charge by Balsu, our agricultural engineers provide practical trainings to farmers on the importance of soil analysis and how the soil samples should be taken. The analysis of soil samples is carried out by an organization authorized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and special fertilizer application program is prepared for the hazelnut farmer



### **We Are the Climate, We Will Change!**

We have attended Climate Diplomacy Week 2020 webinar held within the scope of "19-21 November Climate Diplomacy Week". Current data demonstrates that the annual rainfall in almost all regions in Turkey has decreased by 300 mm in compared to the previous year and long-term averages and the need for irrigation has doubled.

Hazelnuts are strongly affected by the climate change. A decrease in productivity, change in harvest time, increasing population in pests and diseases could be observed and linked to the climate data such as rainfall, temperature, humidity etc.

Although the carbon footprint of hazelnut is at low levels for reasons such as low levels of mechanization, labor-intensive production methods and being a perennial plant, hazelnuts can still become a part of environmental problems with the main risks involved in agricultural pesticides and improper fertilization activities that are not managed scientifically. As Balsu, we support environmental practices while providing training to the farmers within our environmental protection program, which constitutes a significant part of our sustainable agricultural activities.



The application method after the determination of the correct fertilizer also constitutes an important part of our practical training. For this reason, after the fertilizer application programs are transferred to the farmers via SMS / WhatsApp, our engineers continue to communicate for application details.

## Support Children's Education!



We believe safe spaces are very strong tool to take the children off the field therefore to break the chain eventually. Our aim is to reach as many as children possible at the end of each harvesting year. In order to increase the number of children, this year we have run in the 42nd Istanbul Marathon! We collaborate with the Young Lives Foundation to take the children from fields to schools and support children in harvest areas by distributing food, clothing, personal care kits and stationery materials. We also provide school grant for a year through our partnership. With the more support you provide, the more children will be reached!

<https://fonzip.com/genchayatvakfi/kampanya/adimlarimiz-cocuklar-icin->

## Turkish Ministry and the ILO Partnership Against the Child Labour

The Project “Elimination of Child Labour in Seasonal Agriculture” to be implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO) Office for Turkey in cooperation with the General Directorate of Labour of the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Services (MoFLSS),

Representing Turkey’s largest ever initiative in addressing combating child labour, the 40-month project of 29.7m€ budget aims to field a series of actions to the benefit of many children who migrate with their families in seasonal agriculture including hazelnut harvest and are already working or under the risk of working in agriculture.

Work will be undertaken to reach out working children, families, employers, school administrators, teachers, mukhtars (village/neighbour masters) and agricultural intermediaries to withdraw children from labour and redirect them to schooling, as well as strengthen the capacities of national and local institutions.

For the project overview:

[https://www.ilo.org/ankara/projects/WCMS\\_761281/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/ankara/projects/WCMS_761281/lang--en/index.htm)