



New Circular Aimed at Enhancing the Welfare of Seasonal Migrant Agricultural Workers

A new circular was published in the [Official Newspaper](#) to reduce the difficulties experienced by seasonal agricultural workers. This circular sets out the working methods of institutions and organizations to meet the needs of workers and their families.

Under the circular, workers will be provided with temporary accommodation and access to basic services will be facilitated. In addition, support for occupational safety will be increased and controls will be tightened to protect workers' rights. Farmers will also be encouraged to ensure fair working conditions.

The key areas targeted for improvement with this circular are as follows: living conditions, healthcare services, education, transportation and security, employment and social security, social services, seasonal agricultural workers action plan, provincial/district seasonal agricultural workers monitoring boards, monitoring and evaluation boards, support and supervision of projects, E-METIP system.





Balsu & Fair Labor Association (FLA) and Young Lives Foundation (YLF) were in Provinces of Migration within the scope of the Focused Assessment

Within the scope of In a Nutshell Project, [monitoring-follow-up-intervention process and case management activities](#) continue to ensure the school attendance of children identified during the 2023 harvest season residing in Diyarbakır, Şırnak and Şanlıurfa during the winter period. Within the scope of the activities that will continue until the end of May, 1258 children and 535 families have been reached so far. In this context, 602 food kits were delivered to the families.

Balsu conducted public, household, and school visits in the "origin" provinces experiencing migration as part of the FLA focus assessment study, in collaboration with the Young Lives Foundation and independent auditors. Participation in on-site inspections was ensured with households undergoing monitoring during the winter period.





Balsu Focuses on Sustainable Agriculture: Internal Audit Processes and Simulation Activities

According to corporate social responsibility standards, Balsu has initiated internal audit processes to assess the compliance of agricultural practices used by farmers. These audits aim to reduce the environmental impact of agricultural activities and fulfil social responsibilities. Additionally, internal audits and simulation activities also take into account the living and working conditions of seasonal migrant agricultural workers.

Through training sessions conducted at least twice before and after harvest, changing conditions in the field are identified. Collaboration is established with village leaders, farmers, and local authorities in both Western and Eastern Black Sea regions. During this process, areas where social activities will intensify during hazelnut harvest season are identified.





Balsu Continues Pest and Disease Monitoring in Hazelnuts

In April, we conducted pest and disease monitoring in the orchards of 25 farmers across four provinces in both Eastern and Western Black Sea regions.

According to our observations:

In both Eastern and Western Black Sea regions, there has been a significant increase in the presence of cone mites in the orchards, with ash disease being particularly prevalent in the Eastern Black Sea region. Due to the cool and rainy weather conditions in the Black Sea region, pests continue to stay in hibernation and nearby areas. As weather conditions progress and temperatures rise due to climate change, it is expected that pests will migrate from hibernation sites to orchards. As part of our efforts to combat the brown marmorated stink bug, we are conducting on-site observations and smart traps, especially in significant hazelnut production areas such as Çamaş and Fatsa, in both Eastern and Western Black Sea regions. In this context, we offer the following recommendations to farmers:

- Mechanical control should be implemented in areas where pests lay eggs and adults are present during the hibernation period.
- Farmers should facilitate and promote mechanical control by using simple light traps and other alternative methods.
- Pests should be promptly eradicated upon detection, with chemical intervention considered as a last resort.

