



2025 Harvest Season Migrant Agricultural Worker Trainings Continue

As Balsu, we continue our efforts for seasonal agricultural workers within our supply chain. During the 2025 harvest, frost damage, drought, and the brown marmorated stink bug have caused crop losses, creating challenges around labor availability and costs. This year, alternative harvesting methods such as net harvesting are frequently observed in the field.

Throughout August, we reached migrant agricultural worker groups in the Western and Eastern Black Sea regions, delivering trainings on occupational health and safety and good social practices in collaboration with public institutions. Through these trainings, we have provided personal protective equipment support to nearly one thousand workers so far. The trainings were further enriched through our collaborations with universities, as student groups from the University Student Communities Cooperation and Support Program (ÜNİDES) contributed with sessions on health, hygiene, and psychology.

With the support of our seasonal social workers, our trainings continue uninterrupted, ensuring the safety and well-being of workers in the field.





Harvest Period Activities within the B.E.S.T Program in Collaboration with Young Lives Foundation



Implemented in collaboration between Balsu and the Young Lives Foundation, the B.E.S.T Program continued to reach seasonal agricultural worker families and children in Sakarya, Düzce, and Samsun during the 2025 harvest season. Within this scope, approximately 1,000 children participated in summer school and on-site education activities organized in safe spaces and schools. The programs, designed according to different age groups, aimed to boost school motivation, support social-emotional development, and introduce children to 21st-century skills. The trainings covered topics such as emotional expression, peer relationships, self-care, sports, creative arts, as well as innovative areas like artificial intelligence and digital production. As part of the University Student Communities Cooperation and Support Program (ÜNİDES), 80 children took part in the “Conscious Families, Educated Children” activities, which supported their social and cultural development and offered both fun and educational experiences through traditional games. The B.E.S.T Program also included activities targeting families and farmers. Disaster preparedness and first aid trainings, as well as clothing, stationery, and hygiene kit support, alongside farmer meetings, were among the program’s key components. Through the B.E.S.T Program, strong steps continue to be taken toward preventing child labor and supporting decent living conditions, within the framework of a holistic model.





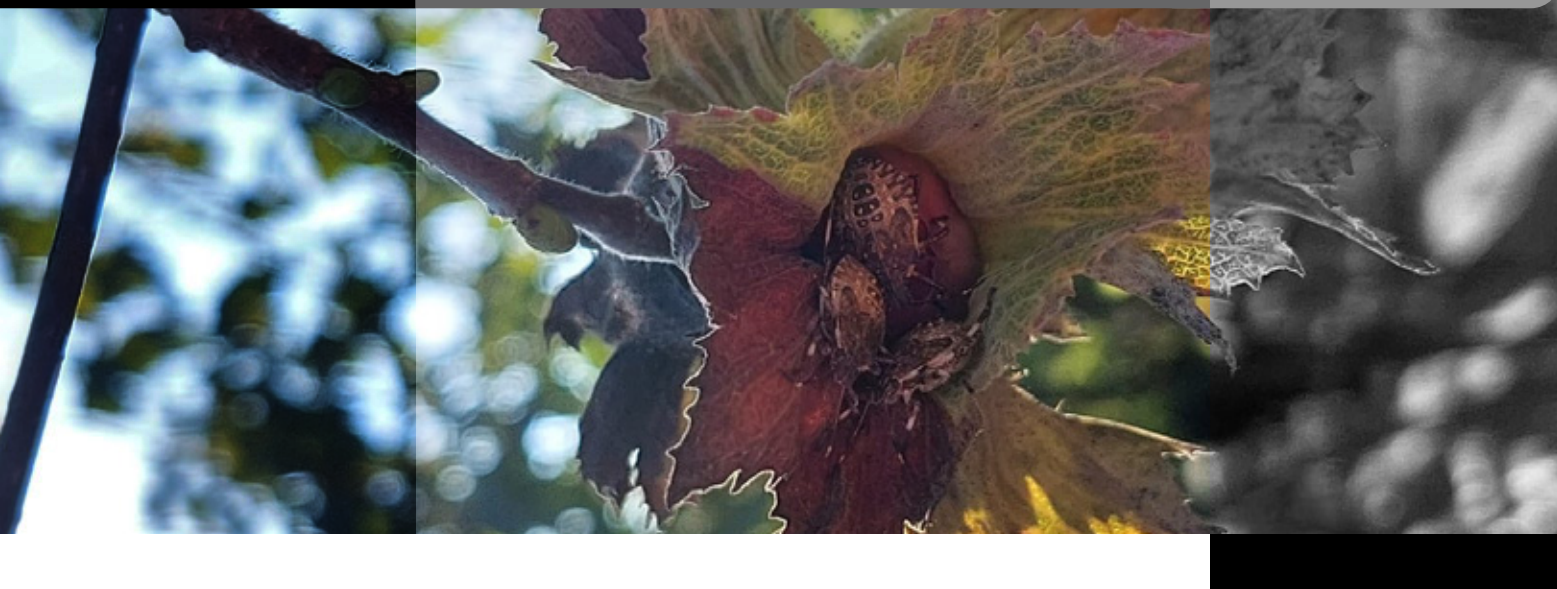
2025 Audits and Assessments

As Balsu, we successfully completed third-party verification audits during the 2025 harvest season. The B.E.S.T (Balsu, Ethical, Sustainable, Traceable) Program, including its transition year, was independently verified through these audits. This process served as a guiding tool to further strengthen supply chain compliance with the standard.

In addition, audits were also carried out within the frameworks of Rainforest Alliance, which we have implemented since 2014, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), which we have pursued since 2016, and the Fair Labor Association (FLA), of which we have been a member since 2013. These programs were applied across 5 provinces, 40 districts, and 420 villages, reaching a broad producer network.

Through these verifications, our program continues to conduct comprehensive risk analyses covering both farm-level and supply chain requirements, while advancing sustainable solutions in critical areas such as combating child labor, empowering communities, and protecting the environment.





Review of the 2025 Harvest

We are in a period where the impacts of climate change are clearly observed. Frost and drought in March-April have manifested in the harvest with losses in yield and quality, while the brown marmorated stink bug continues to put pressure on production. Based on our field observations, we launched preparations for the new season in August with leaf analyses conducted in model orchards.

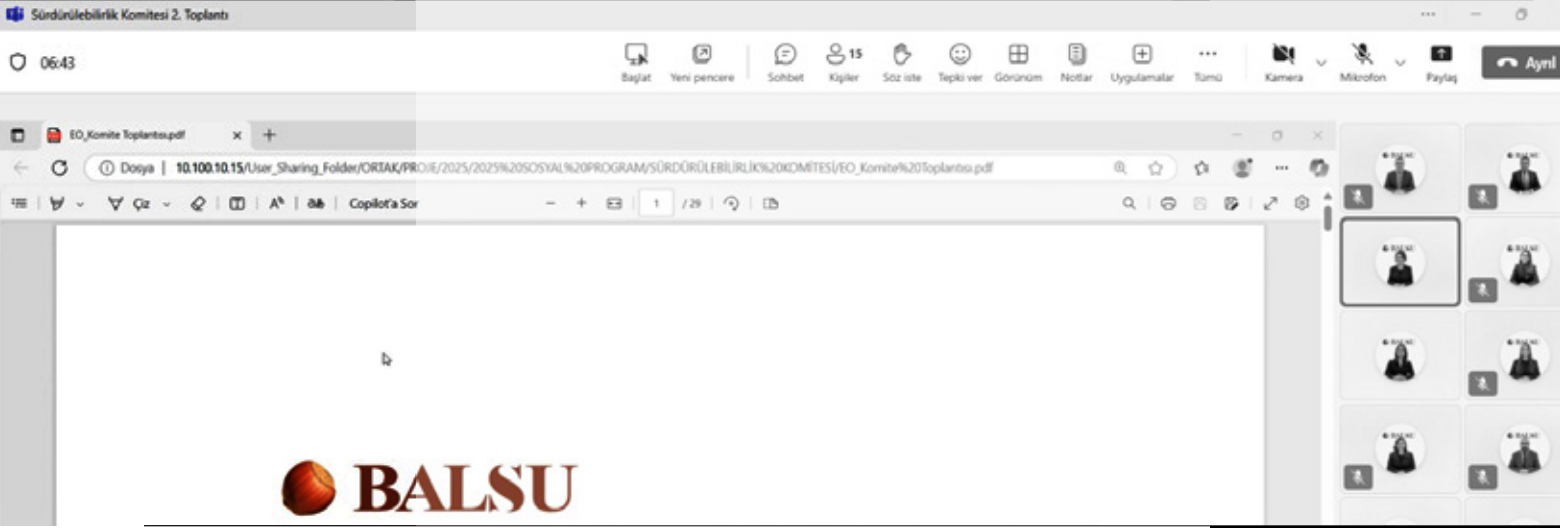
By strengthening our training modules with new focus areas related to climate change, our program will continue to enhance farmers' knowledge and skills, safeguard productivity in hazelnut production, and develop sustainable solutions for the future.



**BALSU**

SUSTAINABILITY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025



Balsu Sustainability Committee Meeting



We support our sustainability strategy with a strong governance structure. Within this framework, our Sustainability Committee held its regular meeting as part of the harvest period.

With the contributions of our expert team in environmental, social, and governance areas, the committee's work aims to strengthen transparency, traceability, and sustainable agricultural practices across our supply chain. Combating child labor, occupational health and safety, community empowerment, and environmental risk management were among the committee's key agenda items.

By convening twice a year, our committee regularly reviews sustainability initiatives and contributes to achieving our company's long-term value creation goals.

