THE CALIFORNIA GRADE



California Walnuts in the UK

AUTUMN 2019



An overview of California Walnuts' UK trade and consumer activities during 2019.

June to September 2019

OVERVIEW JUNE TO SEPTEMBER

Shelled imports in July **increased** by 6.09% as the UK imported 896,189 pounds (versus 844,747 pounds). The UK remains 4th in export volume in the EU behind Germany, Spain and the Netherlands.

With the new harvest starting in late August, the 2018-19 year to date results (to 31st August) show that the UK demand for 'shelled' California Walnuts has grown substantially.

UK shipment figures to 31st August highlight a yearon-year increase for 'shelled' California Walnuts of **over 15%.**

This equates to an uplift of 1,358,293 pounds, or just over 616 metric tonnes (MT)* - a significant increase on 2017/18.

*Source: CWC Shipment figures in August 2019 shelled pounds - 2017/18: 8,689,019 against 2018/19: 10,047,312

TRADE: EXHIBITIONS

London Produce Show 2019

Grosvenor House Hotel,

6th June 2019



This prestigious one-day event gave exhibitors direct access to international produce buyers from retail, foodservice and wholesale markets from **45 countries**. The show provided an excellent platform for California Walnuts, showcasing alongside other great agricultural products from California represented by the California Agricultural Export Council (CAEC). The event was hosted by **US TV chef Amanda Freitag**, who visited with Yael Lempert, the US Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission, and sampled California Walnuts. Later in the day, Ms Freitag held a live cooking demo which featured California Walnuts in her Waldorf salad. The demo generated some lively discussion among the audience, comprising of chefs and product development professionals from major retail and foodservice companies.





BUYERS 45 FROM COUNTRIES



Speciality & Fine Food Fair 2019

London Olympia

1st to 3rd September 2019



California Walnuts encouraged visitors to 'Be Inspired' at the 20th Anniversary Speciality & Fine Food Fair. Visitors were treated to a first-hand experience of the superior quality, unique taste and versatility of California Walnuts.

The California
Walnut Commission

(CWC) was an **official partner for the event** and showcased a variety of retail products, with the offer to sample CA Walnuts. The new creative approach featuring the new 'light bulb' displayed at the entrance to Olympia via tree wraps, helped direct visitors to the CA Walnuts stand.



SPECIALITY

FINE FOOD FAIR

1-3 SEPT 2019

Visitor highlights:

175 BOOTH VISITORS

41%

POOD MANUFACTURERS: 240/0

IMPORTERS / WHOLESALERS

14%

WALNUT ENQUIRIES 496 MT

FROM 11 COMPANIES

10,000 INDUSTRY BUYERS AND FOOD & DRINK PROFESSIONALS

700 PRODUCERS & SUPPLIERS OF ARTISAN FOOD & DRINK

TRADE: NEW ADVERTISING AND EDITORIALS FOR 2019

A new trade advertising, editorial and advertorial campaign launched in September with new creative for both online and print media. The initial campaign is centred around the idea of 'Be Inspired' using a unique light bulb walnut graphic. The concept is designed to encourage the industry to view California Walnuts in a different light and introduces the idea of California Walnuts being used in a variety of ways.

Four adverts have so far been launched, which offer the following key messages:

- INSPIRE YOUR PRODUCTS
 ('Be Inspired')
- PROVENANCE OF CALIFORNIA ORIGIN ('California Grown')
- QUALITY OF CALIFORNIA WALNUTS ('First Class')
- CALIFORNIA WALNUTS' CONSISTENCY ('Incredibly Consistent')

The advertising supports the core messages that California Walnuts wish to continually communicate to UK audiences: origin, health, quality, taste and versatility.



as well as MULTIPLE AND

INDEPENDENT RETAIL.





to September 2019

RADE: RETAIL ACTIVITY

TOP 5 FOODSERVICE SUPPLIER

IN THE UK



California Walnuts Partners RM Curtis in COUNTRY RANGE

A new partnership for California Walnuts with one of the leading UK importers, RM Curtis. Editorial was placed in 'Stir it Up' Magazine, the in-house magazine of the Country Range Group.

Country Range Group is one of the top 5 Foodservice suppliers in the UK and works on behalf of

12 independent wholesale food suppliers who operate from over 15 depots throughout the UK. Each wholesaler in the group offers an unrivalled package based on local knowledge and service, flexibility and comprehensive product offering, including the Country Range brand with regular promotions across ambient, chilled and frozen categories.



CWC GOES TO LUNCH!

with RM Curtis at London, ExCel during September.





CWC partnered again with R M Curtis during September at the London based 'Lunch!' event at ExCeL. 'Lunch!' is a unique trade show that brings together the entire food-to-go industry under one roof, with over 400 exhibitors and 6000 visitors in 2 days. Packed full of products and ideas to take café, sandwich bar or coffee shop business to the next level – from delicious new food and drink and innovative packaging solutions to leading keynotes and unrivalled networking.

CWC showcased a selection of flavoured CA Walnut products, already available in overseas markets, to both inspire and encourage UK food manufacturers.

home bargains

CWC gives HOME BARGAINS A BOOST

Promotional activity with importer Community Foods helped to give Home Bargains' customers a welcome boost. The 200g snack pack SKU was promoted via a snacking gondola end. The activation went live in 225 stores UK wide and ran until mid-September.

Doug Moseley, Key Account Manager for Community Foods commented, 'the pre-ordering pipe fill from Home Bargains was a record for Community foods'.

The promotional activity across the three California Walnut SKU's delivered an uplift of 52% during the campaign and a settle down rate, following the end of the campaign, of over 17%*.

(*36,861 total units sold during the week of 26 Aug, increasing to 56,155 during 02 Sep, then settling to 43,175 on 16 Sep)





RANGE IN 350 STORES

TRADE: RETAIL SUPPORT

Sainsbury's

CALIFORNIA WALNUTS IN SAINSBURY'S

During August activity took place with Whitworths, a UK household name in the dried fruit, home baking and snack products market, to launch five products across a range of exclusively sourced products, under the name 'Gloriously Grown.' The new brand launched exclusively in Sainsbury's. The lead product in the range is California Red Walnuts and Sorbet Raisins, also sourced from California.

The launch took place across mainstream media and digitally across a newly created website and social media feeds. CWC will be providing support for instore promotional activity in 350 Sainsburys stores, which is expected to grow to 500 stores, driving traffic to the new Whitworths-California Walnut SKU.



whitworths.co.uk

California Walnuts goes BNUTZ

With UK consumers welcoming new flavours and ingredients, walnut-based products are seeing increasing success. More nut butters are using California Walnuts as an ingredient and awareness is rising among trade and consumers.

The CWC UK team has been in close contact with BNUTZ during development of their 'Espresso Nut Butter - Made with California Walnuts'. The new product offers great taste, smooth texture and consistency.



BNUTZ use premium organic ingredients, ethically sourced and free from palm oil, preservatives and refined sugar. BNUTZ founder Bianca Avory was keen to use California Walnuts as a base ingredient, for their health benefits and superior taste and texture. The nut butter has a rich dark chocolate taste with subtle caramel sweetness and creaminess from the California Walnuts, adding up to a truly unique flavour. The product launched in June 2019.

MEWS ROUND UP

BNUTZ founder, Bianca Avory, commented "the promotional support that California Walnuts has provided so far has been tremendous. We have noticed an uplift in product sales both via our online shop and from retail enquiries looking to stock the new product".

READERSHIP OF

115K+

June to September 2019

CONSUMER: PR ACTIVITIES

Media Partnerships

California Walnuts carried out partnerships with three leading consumer titles to promote the **versatility**, **culinary and health benefits** of California Walnuts.

Activity with Health & Wellbeing included a sponsored article featuring storage tips, while Plant Based magazine featured the storage tips and a California Walnuts recipe.

EAT TO LIVE

The partnership with Veggie included an advertorial on the health benefits of California Walnuts, and a recipe feature focusing on versatility.

All three publications, which have a combined readership of over 115k, included a full page California Walnuts advert.

Sugar-Free Summer: DIY Vegan Lollies | Chocolate Banana Bread

For vegetarians







Between June and September 2019, 18 articles were published for the California Walnuts campaign generating a reach of more than 1.5m. Publications that featured California Walnuts included Sunday Mirror, Health & Wellbeing, and Men's Fitness.

Campaign dietitian Sian Porter who was also featured on the FoodTalkShow Podcast discussed the health benefits.





Media Influencers

California Walnuts have secured the partnerships with two leading UK influencers, Ruby Bhogal, and Dr Rupy

Ruby, a former finalist in the **Great British Bake Off**, will be developing two new recipes for the campaign and providing social media support. She will also be joining the CWC Harvest Tour in October.

Dr Rupy, who will also **develop four exclusive recipes**, will be taking part in a radio day to help promote California Walnuts' health benefits.

Further details of these activities will follow in the next update.





15%

INCREASE IN FOLLOWERS

SOCIAL MEDIA SUCCESSES TO DATE

The total number of followers for the California Walnut social media channels now stands at over 12,250 – a 15% increase since the start of June*, during which time the platforms have generated more than 3.9m impressions.



TWITTER

1.1m impressions

1.1k engagements

29k video views

984 link clicks

49% increase in followers





FACEBOOK

3m impressions

6.3k engagements

160k video views

11.9k web clicks

12% increase in followers





INSTAGRAM

829k impressions

49k engagements

42k video views

4% increase in followers

3.9M

IMPRESSIONS ACROSS
ALL PLATFORMS

Autumn 2019... Website update

www.californiawalnuts.co.uk

In the coming months CWC will be launching a Health Care Professional (HCP) section of the UK website. The new section will offer useful information and resources relevant for health care professionals. There will also be an HCP news update section and an opportunity to sign-up for relevant newsletter mailings.



The California Walnut Commission is here to support the UK trade and educate consumers on the benefits and unique attributes of California Walnuts.

Both trade and consumer marketing campaigns are designed to increase both awareness and consumption of California Walnuts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

CALIFORNIA WALNUT COMMISSION TRADE@CALIFORNIAWALNUTS.CO.UK 01628 535 755 WWW.CALIFORNIAWALNUTS.CO.UK