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Blue Diamond Growers Welcomes the Signing of the Renegotiated KORUS Agreement

SACRAMENTO, CA – Blue Diamond Growers, the world’s leading non-profit almond processing and marketing cooperative, applauds the signing of the updated United States-Republic of Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS) by President Trump and President Moon in New York City on September 24. With South Korea representing a top-ten export market for California almonds, the continuation of the KORUS agreement is vital to the livelihood of California almond growers.

KORUS has provided significant benefits to California’s almond industry by removing or eliminating burdensome tariffs on almonds and almond products. Since implementation of the agreement in March 2012, almond shipments from California have more than doubled in value from approximately \$84 million in pre-KORUS 2011 to nearly \$174 million in 2017. The continuation of KORUS will allow for further growth and expansion of California almonds into South Korea.

Blue Diamond Growers extends its appreciation to President Trump and his trade negotiators for their dedication in successfully completing this important initiative. The cooperative believes free trade agreements, such as KORUS, are necessary for American industries to thrive in an increasingly competitive global marketplace. We look forward to the completion of future and ongoing negotiations of agreements, particularly the North American Free Trade (NAFTA) agreement.

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About Blue Diamond

Blue Diamond Growers, a grower-owned cooperative representing over 3,000 of California’s almond growers, is the world’s leading almond marketer and processor. Established in 1910, it created the California almond industry and opened world markets for almonds. Blue Diamond is dedicated to delivering the benefits of almonds around the world and does so by providing high-quality almonds, almond ingredients and branded products. Headquartered in Sacramento, the company employs more than 1,500 people throughout its processing plants, receiving stations and gift shops. To learn more about Blue Diamond Growers, visit www.bluediamond.com and follow the company on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.