



MORRISON & COMPANY

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CHOOSING THE RIGHT GRANT PROJECT

Morrison Consultant Hilary Triccerri offers points to consider when seeking grant funding.



MORRISON SNAPSHOTS

See what the Morrison & Company team has been up to.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

100 years later, the 4th generation continues to thrive in Butte County's farm land.



GROWING FOR THE FUTURE



When retired English sailor Sam Strickland planted the first hazelnut tree in Oregon 160 years ago, he could not have imagined that a single tree would grow into an industry that generates an economic impact of more than \$250 million a year.

Today, more than 800 Oregon farm families grow hazelnuts on over 70,000 acres, accounting for over 99 percent of the United States hazelnut crop. Oregon-grown hazelnuts are sold around the world roasted, salted, diced, covered in chocolate, and even in a dairy-free beverage.

One of the leading organizations growing, processing, and marketing hazelnuts is Hazelnut Growers of Oregon, wholly-owned by Wilco Farmers after the two grower-owned cooperatives merged in 2016. Wilco's owners include over 180 hazelnut growers and expects to process more than 15,000 tons of hazelnuts this year alone.

With the Oregon hazelnut crop expected to double over the next five years, Wilco recently celebrated the grand opening of a state-of-the-art 120,000 square foot processing facility. The plant boasts the latest in nut processing technology and is the only hazelnut processing facility in the Pacific Northwest that uses steam pasteurization. At full capacity, the facility will be able to receive 160,000 pounds of hazelnuts per hour; steam pasteurize more than 10,000 pounds per hour; slice/dice in excess of 5,000 pounds per hour; and roast

more than 3,000 pounds per hour. With this increased capacity, Wilco will be better able to serve food service supply companies, confectionaries, snack food makers, and bakers around the globe.

Morrison and Company is blessed to have assisted Wilco Farmers in successfully securing grant funding through two separate programs: the Oregon Specialty Crop Block Grant Program and the USDA Value Added Producer Grant Program. Grant funding will assist with marketing and promotional efforts domestically and internationally. We're thankful for our relationship with Wilco Farmers—and especially thankful for the chocolate-covered hazelnuts they provide!



New Oregon Hazelnut Plant