



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 15, 2026

**contact:** Chris Zanobini

chris@agamsi.com

## **California Pear Growers Maintain Market Stability for 2026 Crop**

**Sacramento, CA** – Most California pear growers will continue to have a dependable market for their crop as Pacific Coast Producers (PCP) has announced it plans to maintain canned pear volume following its recent acquisition of Del Monte’s shelf-stable fruit assets.

The development provides some continuity for pear processing volumes that have long been a cornerstone of the industry.

“In recent years, Del Monte had contracted for nearly 40 percent of the pears used in canned products,” said Chris Zanobini, Executive Director of the California Pear Advisory Board. “With the closure of their Modesto facility, maintaining that tonnage in the system was critical. Pacific Coast Producers’ plan to contract a significant portion of that volume, will help keep the industry operating at sustainable levels and provide some certainty for growers heading into the season.”

Approximately two-thirds of California’s pear crop is utilized in processed products such as canned pears and fruit cocktail. While processing capacity in the state has consolidated in recent years, PCP’s expanded role helps ensure a continued outlet for that fruit.

Pacific Coast Producers is an agricultural cooperative owned by 160 family farmers in Northern California. The company operates facilities in California and Oregon and employs more than 4,000 people. Since 1971, PCP has focused on delivering quality fruit products while supporting the long-term viability of its grower-owners and partners.

PCP is expected to contract with both cooperative members and independent growers, providing flexibility and continuity across the industry.

In a recent statement, PCP said: “We are committed to a viable agricultural community in our state. We have increased our purchases of West Coast fruit to ensure a reliable supply for our customers while maintaining the quality consumers expect.”

California pear growers continue to navigate a competitive global market, with imports—particularly from Argentina—remaining a factor. Industry leaders are actively working on trade policy to support fair market conditions.

Approximately 60 pear farming families remain in California today, continuing a long-standing tradition of pear production. The 2026 crop is expected to be early and plentiful, and growers are well positioned to supply both fresh and processed markets.

###