



HOUWELING'S TOMATOES



Houweling's Tomatoes is a second-generation, family-owned greenhouse tomato farm with operations in Camarillo, CA; Delta, BC; and Mona, UT.



Water retention pond in Camarillo

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.HOUWELINGS.COM

The Cool Planet Project Program provides utility business and government customers with education and technical training to measure and manage their energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. The Cool Planet Project Program is funded by California utility rate payers and administered under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission, through a contract awarded to The Climate Registry. California customers who choose to participate in this program are not obligated to purchase any additional services offered by the contractor. This program is offered on a first-come, first-served basis from 2/1/2013-12/31/2015 or until funds are depleted. Terms and conditions apply. The trademarks used herein are the property of their respective owners.

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“Taking a leadership position in sustainability is not without risks, headaches and challenges, but I believe it is the right thing to do. As business leaders we need to continue to push forward, innovate and invest in projects that allow us to do more with fewer resources.”
Casey Houweling, Proprietor and CEO



Today, led by Casey Houweling, the company owns and operates 203 acres under glass-enclosed structures. A grower first and CEO second, Houweling is driven to do more with less and has solidified his position as an industry leader through technical innovation and environmental stewardship.

Houweling's vision for sustainability is based on the principles of environmental soundness, economic feasibility, and social equity. Houweling's respect for the earth inspires them to innovate and invest in sustainable practices, which includes generating solar electric power, conserving water, minimizing pest and plant disease, and providing year-round employment for nearly 800 people companywide. Year-round growing enables the company to produce the annual equivalent of 3,000 field acres in a 125-acre footprint.

WATER EFFICIENCY EFFORTS

Houweling's greenhouse environment includes computer-controlled and grower-managed drip irrigation systems to ensure water usage is at maximum efficiency. To further reduce overall water usage, excess water is recirculated to an on-site water purification facility for reuse. In Camarillo, the greenhouse roofs are fitted with gutter systems to capture rainwater for irrigation use. Compared to open field tomatoes, Houweling's uses one-sixth the water for equivalent annual tomato production.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Houweling's 35-year history of innovation in the greenhouse industry includes a number of "firsts". The company's installation of the first USA cogeneration power system (three in Camarillo and two in Delta) allows them to generate power on-site, supply excess electricity to the grid, and capture traditionally wasted heat and CO2 for use in growing. In Mona, the greenhouse farm is adjacent to a natural gas power plant, where nearly 100% of the heat and CO2 is captured from the exhaust stack and used for growing. In Camarillo, a 5-acre solar PV field generates renewable energy and solar thermal panels, situated on the company's pack house roof, capture renewable thermal energy.

RECENT AWARDS

- California Governor's Environmental & Economic Leadership Award (GEELA), 2011
- The Climate Registry's Cool Planet Award, Agriculture Sector, 2014
- California Energy Solutions Center's Partnership Award for Innovative Energy Solutions, 2014
- Ventura County Resource Conservation District's Excellence in Agricultural Stewardship and Sustainability Award, 2014



Outside the greenhouse in Camarillo