



# OCTOBER IS FAIR TRADE MONTH



*Every Fair Trade purchase empowers farm workers to improve their communities by deciding as a collective how and when to invest the Fair Trade premium.*

## WHAT IS THE FAIR TRADE PREMIUM AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

### How exactly does Fair Trade benefit the workers?

A few extra cents paid by the consumer – the Fair Trade Premium – will allow for democratically chosen projects to become a reality in farm worker communities; whether it's a bus for the High School students, dental services or a multipurpose room, this benefit will bring empowerment through decision making and project execution. The Premium that is added to the cost of produce goes directly in its entirety to the bank account of the Workers Association.

### How can the workers use the Fair Trade Premium?

One of the most important aspects of Fair Trade is: funds are specifically designated for social, economic and environmental development projects. The workers are the ones who know what's best for their own community and Fair Trade USA and Fair Trade International have enabled a democratic system for the community to decide how and when the Premium will be invested.

### Can the grower use part of the Premiums?

Absolutely NOT. The funds CANNOT be used to invest in the company's property or cover company's expenses (wages, operation, supplies, etc.) Benefits are exclusively for the workers, by the workers. The grower IS responsible for covering all Fair Trade Certification and promotional expenses.

### How often is the Premium paid to the Workers Association?

Through a transparent process that is traceable and audited by Fair Trade USA or Fair Trade International the grower has assumed the responsibility of paying, on a monthly basis, the correct amount of Fair Trade Premium to the Workers Association bank account. Being able to track and verify the correct movements of the Premium from the moment a sale takes place until the deposit is made is a critical audit criteria.

***Choosing Fair Trade means supporting standards and actions that put more power in the hands of workers themselves.***



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