



Commitment to the environment:

## **Hortifrut inaugurates the first floating photovoltaic plant in Chile**

*As part of an innovative business model that currently positions Hortifrut as the largest producer and marketer of blueberries in the world, the company inaugurated the first floating photovoltaic energy plant of the country in its operations in the Valparaíso Region, Chile.*

**Santiago, September 11, 2020.-** With the aim of promoting the use of renewable and more efficient energies, during 2019 Hortifrut began to develop together with Solarity, a company specialized in clean energy projects, a photovoltaic project for the electricity consumption of the company's farms and production plants. This project continued today with the inauguration of the eighth solar plant installed in Hortifrut operations, this time in the Santa Teresa field of Agrícola Mataquito, in the Valparaíso Region of Chile. This is the first floating photovoltaic plant in the country that is connected to the electricity grid.

The initiative will allow annual energy consumed in the Santa Teresa field to be replaced by 53%, also reducing CO2 emissions to the environment. "This is the eighth active solar plant installed in the different operations of Hortifrut Chile, as our goal is to replace at least 50% of the energy used in our farms and production plants," says Juan Ignacio Allende, Hortifrut's CEO. In this way, the company maintains its commitment to the environment and communities as a certified "B" company, ensuring progress in the development and implementation of renewable energies in its operations throughout the country.

The floating solar plant, in addition to being innovative, presents additional benefits compared to conventional installations on the ground, thus helping to reduce the evaporation of water from the reservoir with the respective savings. Additionally, it increases the efficiency of the solar panels, since being in contact with water decreases their operating temperature. It allows better use of solar energy when the installation area is limited.

"We will install a total of 18 solar plants that we expect will be in active operation during the first quarter of 2021", concludes Allende.

### **About Hortifrut**

*Hortifrut is a global business platform and certified "B" company, that connects the most important berry producers in the two hemispheres with the most important clients and markets in the world, delivering the best fruit throughout the whole year. It stands out for its unique business model based on innovation, genetic development, sustainability and the digitization of its processes. Currently, the company has operations in North America, Central America, South America, Europe, Africa and Asia.*

- **Photos of the Plant:**

