

Natural Gum Manufacturers of the Year 2023 - France

Established in 1884, Alland & Robert is an international leader and expert in natural gums. Its primary focus is on acacia gum, an organic and ecofriendly ingredient and additive which is used in a range of industries across the world. The company's products, processes, policies, and culture are centred around the customer, designed to provide them with the best experience.

Acacia gum is a 100% plant-based, multipurpose exudate of the acacia tree, which has been used in a range of industries for many centuries. Today, it is commonly used in thousands of products, including cosmetics, confectionary, carbonated drinks, pharmaceuticals, and more. It is a highly safe additive which offers a number of functional properties, serving as a texture agent, emulsifier, stabiliser, and a source of fibre. It is also a great alternative for use in vegetarian and vegan food products.

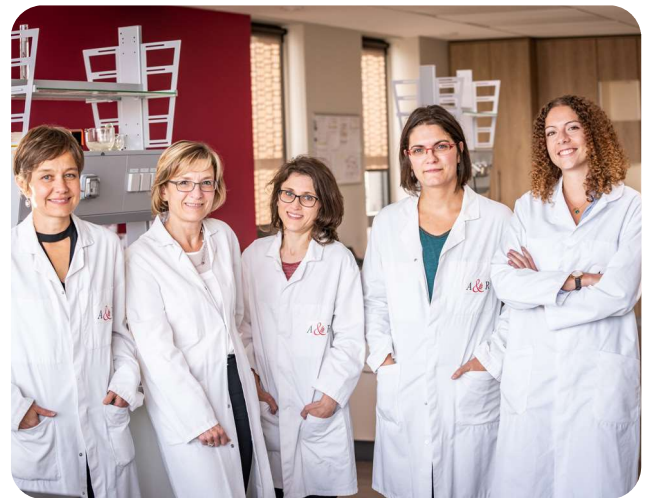
In 1884, Alland & Robert was founded by chemist Francisque Alland and his partner Alfred Robert to market acacia gum as well as other natural gums and resins. After six generations and many developments, the company is proud to remain a family-run, French business with a commitment to sustainable development and a passion for natural ingredients. Now employing 120 people, it is the international leader in natural gums, exporting to all continents with the help of its network of distributors across the world.

Acacia gum is sourced in the "gum belt", located in Africa. From Senegal to Eritrea, the harvest zone spans across countries like Mali, Nigeria, Chad, Niger, Sudan, and Ethiopia. The harvest of gum provides revenue to millions of people in this region.

Alland & Robert predominantly sources its acacia gum from producers and suppliers in the gum belt. The company therefore contributes towards the livelihoods of countless people in these countries. Alland & Robert is committed to helping the local communities linked to acacia gum. It works to preserve the natural resource that provides them with indispensable income, engaging in various reforestation projects.

Acacia gum is harvested between December and April. Using handmade tools, harvesters make an incision in the stems or branches of acacia trees, inducing exudation. They cut the nodules formed by the acacias with a blade to handpick them, sort them, dry them, and store them.

Alland & Robert is committed to delivering high quality and excellence in its products. If the gum is not harvested, dried, and



stored properly, it can lose its functional properties. For this reason, the company takes quality control very seriously. The members of the quality department personally visit all suppliers' facilities every year to conduct an audit and help them improve their processes with new tools and methods. This ensures that the gum reaches a level of quality consistent with the company's expectations.

Before it is shipped to Alland & Robert's factories and research centre, the gum is cleaned to the company's rigorous standards. At the factory, the company uses cutting-edge technology to perform quality checks and ensure conformity with its internal specifications and external regulations. The gum is then sorted, spray dried, and quality checked again before it is exported to clients.

Alland & Robert's meticulous methods ensure that it provides clients and final consumers with safe, healthy, and natural products. The company supplies a variety of companies across the world, so it is crucial that its product meets a wide range of regulations, both in terms of industry and geography. The expectations of its customers have evolved drastically in the last two decades, so the company constantly interacts with them to ensure that its processes are in line with their requests and requirements. Its goal is to provide complete customer satisfaction by delivering a truly superior product.

As a result of its commitment to quality and excellence, Alland & Robert has been awarded Natural Gum Manufacturers of the Year, France, in the International Life Sciences Awards 2023. We congratulate the company on this achievement and look forward to seeing what it goes on to accomplish in the years to come.

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