

## Press Release 09.07.2008

# Almarai grows its net profit in the 1st half of 2008 by 37.9% to SAR 397.4 million



In the 1st half of 2008 Almarai Company (Almarai) generated a consolidated net profit of SAR 397.4 million, an increase of SAR 109.3 million or 37.9% compared to the same period last year (SAR 288.1 million). The consolidated net profit for the quarter grew by 42.3% to SAR 235.2 million compared to the same period last year (SAR 165.3 million).

Sales for the period ended 30 June, 2008 amounted to SAR 2,366.6 million compared to SAR 1,712.7 million for same period last year, which represents an increase of 38.2%. The consolidated income from main operations also grew substantially by 39.3% to reach SAR 467.7 million versus SAR 335.7 million for the comparative period last year. The earnings per share (EPS) for the period ended 30 June, 2008 increased to SAR 3.65 compared to SAR 2.64 in the same period 2007. This performance is the result of the company's plans to achieve continued growth in sales and profits.

In June 2008, the Board reviewed the company's five-year plan and expressed satisfaction with the progress to achieve the goals of the plan. They also approved a capital investment plan estimated at SAR 6 billion for the 5 year starting 2009 until 2013. These significant investments will further strengthen Almarai's position as the leader in the GCC food market, as well as ensuring the Company's continued strong profit growth and return on investment.