

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 8-K**

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT  
TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of report (Date of earliest event reported): **February 1, 2022**

**CALAVO GROWERS, INC.**  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**California**  
(State or Other  
Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

**000-33385**  
(Commission File Number)

**33-0945304**  
(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**1141-A Cummings Road, Santa Paula, California 93060**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: **(805) 525-1245**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock	CVGW	Nasdaq Global Market

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

**Item 8.01 Other Events.**

On February 1, 2022 Calavo Growers, Inc. issued a press release announcing that Director and former interim Chief Executive Officer Steven Hollister will replace Link Leavens as Chairman of the Board. This move will coincide with Brian Kocher starting his appointed position as the new Chief Executive Officer on February 1, 2022, as disclosed on Form 8-K on December 22, 2021. Link Leavens will remain on the Board of Directors. A copy of our press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

[99.1](#) [Press Release dated February 1, 2022](#)

104 Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as inline XBRL).

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

February 1, 2022

Calavo Growers, Inc.

By: /s/ Brian Kocher  
Brian Kocher  
Chief Executive Officer



### Hollister Named Chairman of Calavo Growers, Inc.

**SANTA PAULA, Calif., Feb. 1, 2022**— The Board of Directors of Calavo Growers, Inc. (**Nasdaq-GS: CVGW**), a global avocado-industry leader and provider of value-added fresh food, today named Steven Hollister as Chairman of the Board of Directors effective immediately. Hollister served as Calavo's Interim Chief Executive Officer from Sept. 8 to Jan. 31.

As previously announced, Brian W. Kocher assumes the role of Calavo's President and Chief Executive Officer today. J. Link Leavens, who had served as chairman since March 2020, will remain on the board.

"It has been a privilege to serve as chairman of Calavo Growers," Leavens said. "I fully support Steve as he assumes this new role. It is a positive move for the company and its shareholders to have an independent chairman leading the board, and I look forward to my continued service on the board under Steve's leadership."

A board member since 2008, Mr. Hollister also has been a Managing Member of Rocking Spade, LLC, a diversified investor and developer with interests in ranching and commercial properties, since 2001. Previously he was Vice President of Sunrise Mortgage & Investment Company, General Manager of Niven Family Wine Estates, Chief Operating Officer of Fess Parker Winery & Vineyard and Santa Barbara County Wine Center, and Senior Vice President of Central Coast Farm Credit.

"I'm appreciative of my fellow board members for the trust and confidence they've placed in me by selecting me to serve as chairman," Hollister said. "I believe that my experience in finance and agriculture, in addition to my time as interim CEO, will continue to benefit both the board and the company's leadership team. I'm looking forward to working with and supporting Brian as he leads Calavo into what we believe will be a new phase of long-term growth to benefit all our stakeholders."

### About Calavo Growers, Inc.

Calavo Growers, Inc. is a global avocado-industry leader and provider of value-added fresh food serving retail grocery, foodservice, club stores, mass merchandisers, food distributors and wholesalers worldwide. The Company's Fresh segment procures and markets fresh avocados and select other fresh produce, including tomatoes and papayas. The Renaissance Food Group (RFG) segment creates, markets and distributes a portfolio of healthy, fresh foods, including fresh-cut fruit, fresh-cut vegetables and prepared foods. The Foods segment manufactures and distributes guacamole and salsa. Founded in 1924, Calavo's fresh food products are sold under the respected Calavo brand name as well as Garden Highway, Chef Essentials and a variety of private label and store brands.

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## **Safe Harbor Statement**

This press release contains statements relating to future events and results of Calavo that are "forward-looking statements," as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, that involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. These statements are based on our current expectations and are not promises or guarantees. If any of the risks or uncertainties ever materialize or the assumptions prove incorrect, the results of Calavo may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements and assumptions. The use of words such as "anticipates," "estimates," "expects," "projects," "intends," "plans" and "believes," among others, generally identify forward-looking statements.

For a discussion of the risks and uncertainties that we face, please see the risk factors described in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and any subsequent updates that may be contained in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Forward-looking statements contained in this press release are made only as of the date of this press release, and we undertake no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

### Investor Contact:

Financial Profiles, Inc.

Julie Kegley, Senior Vice President

310-622-8246

[calavo@finprofiles.com](mailto:calavo@finprofiles.com)

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