

News from Olive Oil World

Syria that lead the way in global table olive consumption per capita, with the two Mediterranean nations consuming 10.8 and 10.1 kilograms per person each year, respectively. Algeria is the third largest consumer per capita and the largest among IOC nations, with each person eating on average 7.2 kilograms per year. The fourth highest rate is Egypt and Turkey, both of which consume 4.1 kilograms per capita. By comparison, the United States only consumes 0.6 kilograms per capita.

During past three decades, table olive production has nearly tripled with total production rising from 950,000 tons in 1990-91 to 2,953,500 tons in 2017-18.

Egypt recently announced an ambitious plan to become the world's largest table olive producer, which would

involve planting 100 million new olive trees by 2020. Spain, which in recent years has boosted olive yields, in part, due to more efficient agricultural techniques, is currently the largest global table olive producer, harvesting 6,13,000 tons of table olives in the 2017-18 season.

"The use of new semi-intensive and extensive plantations with high-density trees per [acre] increase the production," Vicente Calvo said. "They are also working with grafts, more efficient water procedures as well as improving the mechanization and dynamism of the sector."

Source: <https://www.oliveoiltimes.com/olive-oil-business/table-olives-consumption-has-doubled-since-1990/67213>

Did You Know?

5 Things You Should Know About Olives

1) Olives, like Grapes, are Very 'Terroir' Dependent

As with wine, the climate and growing location shape the characteristic tastes and flavors of olives. According to, Phil Meldrum, the CEO and founder of FOODmatch, a specialty foods importer, "An olive with a "good terroir" is representative of the soil, climate, and tradition of the area from which it came; it transmits a story. In fact, some olives can only be grown in very specific regions. For example, the Lucque olive from the Languedoc region of France has not been replicated anywhere else in the world. This makes for a lower yield, higher demand and a truly unique flavor profile."

2) Olives Can Have Significant Health Benefits

Studies have shown that since they are high in vitamin E, working them into your diet can improve cognitive function and assist in preventing heart disease. They are also filled with potent antioxidants, which are of course beneficial in decreasing inflammation. They consist of monounsaturated fat, i.e. the good fat. And in a study by the Department of Medicine, Breast Cancer Translational Research Laboratory, Evanston Northwestern Healthcare Research Institute, it was found that olive oil consumption could have positive benefits for those affected by breast cancer.

3) There are Over 2000 Varieties of Olives

There are 24 million acres of olive groves across the world. They are traditionally a Mediterranean crop, with the majority of the trees found in Greece, Italy,

France, Spain etc., but the fruit can also thrive in certain parts of North Africa, South America and North America.

4) Raw Olives Are Inedible

Olives must go through a significant curing process to give them their characteristic brininess, texture and flavor. But, according to olive expert Phil Meldrum, "Unlike wine, which gets better as it ages, olives are best enjoyed during the months closest to when they finish curing. For olive oil, one of the greatest measures of a high-quality product is the amount of time it takes for the fruit to go from being picked to being crushed. The less time it takes, the fresher the oil will likely taste." To keep your olive oil in its peak quality, store it in a dark, sealed container. The more sun and air exposure it gets, the faster it will lose its preferred flavor profile.

5) You Can Estimate the Flavor of an Olive Based on its Color

Light/Bright Green:	Mild, sweet, floral
Grassy Green:	Herbal, buttery
Blonde/Light Brown:	Fruity, nutty
Purple/Eggplant:	Smoky, fruity
Black (Brine Cured):	Mild, nutty, fruity
Black (Dry/Salt Cured):	Deeply fruity (licorice), aromatic, bitter

Source: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/jqlouise/2019/06/01/5-things-you-should-know-about-olives-but-dont/#6581e2db2c59>

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Indian Olive Association

From the President's Desk



Dear Friends,

The Association circulated the comparative data on import of olive oil with Italy and Spain breakups for the financial year April-March 2018-19 and April-March 2017-18. India's imports of table olives were also circulated. Details are given below.

Rahul Upadhyay

Data on Olive Oil and Table Olive Imports

Olive Oil

Financial Year

Total olive oil imports by India during April-March 2018-19, as per Department of Commerce, Government of India, were 11,669 MT as compared to

10,915 MT during FY 2017-18. The shares of Spain and Italy for this period stood at 65% and 30% respectively. Given below is the percentage contribution of different commodities for the periods FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19 as well as the breakup for Spain and Italy.

HS Code	Commodity	TOTAL		SPAIN	ITALY
		FY 2017-18 (%)	FY 2018-19 (%)	FY 2018-19 (%)	FY 2018-19 (%)
15091000	OLIVE OIL VIRGIN	15.13	13.71	13.24	12.47
15099010	OLIVE OIL & ITS FRACTNS (EXCLDNG VRGN)OF EDIBLE GRDE	65.69	57.54	70.66	33.38
15099090	OTHER OLIVE OIL & ITS FRACTNS (EXCLD VRGN)	2.52	1.30	1.00	0.56
15100091	OTHER OIL (EXCLD CRUDE OIL) OF EDIBLE GRADE NOT CHMCLY MODFD FR OLIVES	15.97	23.46	10.87	50.44
15100099	OTHER OIL OTHER THAN EDIBLE GRADE(EXCLDG CRUDE OIL) FROM OLIVES	0.70	3.98	4.22	3.16

Table Olives

Total imports of table olives by India during April-March 2018-19, as per Department of Commerce, Government of India, stood at 3,289.90 MT, witnessing

a decline of 1.70% from previous year. Total imports of table olives by India during the last financial year April-March 2017-18 were 3,346.74 MT. Table olive imports from Spain this year amounted to 2,815.77 MT.



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EU Olive Oil Exports to Reach Record Levels

A report by the European Commission predicts that olive oil exports from the European Union (EU) will reach record levels for the current 2018-2019 season.

In its April 2019 report, 'Short-Term Outlook for EU Agricultural Markets in 2018 and 2019,' the European Commission projects that an increase in olive oil production in EU countries combined with high worldwide demand and a decline among non-EU producers will result in a record-high EU exports. EU is the world's biggest exporter of olive oil.

More specifically, the report predicts that olive oil production will grow by three percent for 2018-2019, and exports will rise by 11 percent to 625,000 tons, a record high.

The EU is also the world's leading olive oil producer, with Spain being its largest producer by far, followed by Italy and Greece.

Despite production shortfalls in Italy and Greece – largely due to the harsh weather experienced in these parts of Europe last year, it is thanks to Spain's good harvest that the EU's production figures are up. Spain produced 1.7 million tons of olive oil in 2018-2019, which represents the second highest amount since 2003.

The report points out that increased supply will have an effect on prices. In February 2019, the average price of virgin olive oil in the EU came to €290 per 100 kg, 17 percent less than the previous year.

The EU is also the world's biggest consumer of olive oil: EU citizens consume between 1.5 and 1.6 million tons of olive oil a year.

The European Commission's report cautions that production is expected to fall for the 2019-2020 campaign due to insufficient rainfall during the first few months of 2019 in Portugal, Spain, the south of France and northern Italy.

Source: <https://www.oliveoiltimes.com/olive-oil-business/eu-olive-oil-exports-to-reach-record-levels/67786>

Italian Olive Oil Production Touches Historic Low In 2018

Olive oil production in Italy dropped by 57% in 2018 compared with figures from 2017, a study has found. The data comes from an ISMEA report, which has defined the season as 'one of the worst vintages ever for national olive growing.'

The sector report, based on production

declarations from December, indicates that olive oil production stood at 1,85,000 tonnes last year, which is much lower than the optimistic forecasts made in October of last year.

The lack of products is already affecting the market, with the price of extra virgin olive oil reaching €5.60 per kilogram in December (+40% compared to June), with values higher than €7.00 per kilogram in Sicily, and close to €6.00 per kilogram in Bari.

Source: <https://www.esmmagazine.com/italian-olive-oil-production-touches-historic-low-in-2018/70372>

Tunisia: Olive oil will exceed 2 billion DT of 2018 in export

Tunisian olive oil is highly appreciated not only locally but also internationally for its quality, taste and price. According to information unveiled by the National Office of Oil (ONH), many constraints and challenges arise in the Tunisian olive oil sector and it is important today to find the appropriate solutions to them.

According to data recently unveiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia is one of the leading countries in the cultivation of organic olive oil with 7,900 olive growers who are dedicated to this activity. Tunisia is also in the forefront of producers of organic olive oil at the Arab and African level.

Tunisian olive groves today account for more than 86 million olive trees and occupy 30% of the cultivable land (1.8 million ha) whose average production is 190 thousand tons, during the last five years.

Exported quantities of olive oil registered a record of 2 billion dinars of revenue. These exports represent 57% of agricultural exports and 7% of the overall exports.



Source: https://africanmanager.com/site_eng/tunisia-olive-oil-will-exceed-the-2-billion-dt-of-2018-in-export/

Olive Oil Production in Spain Sets Record

Spain's Ministry of Agriculture, Fishing and Food has reported that olive oil production reached 1.77 million tons for the first half of the 2018-19 campaign — a record figure. This marks a 43-percent increase for the same period in 2017-18 and 49-percent higher than the average yields of the last four campaigns.

Domestic and international sales have already reached 7,53,300 tons, an 18-percent increase from last year's figures over the same period. Average monthly sales for the first half of the 2018-19 olive campaign have reached about 1,25,550 tons.

On the domestic front, Spanish olive oil producers increased their sales, having sold 2,67,960 tons, which represents a nine-percent increase over last year's figures and is three-percent higher than the average of the past four years.

Spain is expected to make up 75 percent of the European Union's olive production and 50 percent of the global production this year, compensating the decreases other top olive producing countries in the European Union experienced.

Andalusia, Castilla La Mancha and Extremadura were the top three producing provinces in Spain.

Production of table olives increased by four-percent in 2018-19 in comparison to last year's numbers, but has experienced a slight decrease in sales, due mostly to lower sales in the domestic market. Total sales of table olives within Spain have gone down 3 percent with respect to those of last year.



Source: <https://www.oliveoiltimes.com/olive-oil-business/olive-oil-production-in-spain-sets-record-according-to-report/67839>

Egypt to plant 100 million olive trees across the country by 2022

Egypt's Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Ezz El Din Abu Steit, has revealed that 100 million olive trees are set to be planted across the country by 2020. Abu Steit, who also serves as the President of the International Olive Council, revealed that the assigned plots, which are open for both Egyptian and foreign investors, include 10,000 acres in Upper Egypt's West Minya, and 25,000 acres in Marsa Matrouh and its neighboring Western Desert Oases. The likes of Southern Sinai's El Tur Area is set to be reserved for Egyptian Investors only, enjoying 10,000 acres exclusively allocated for the plantation of olive trees in the Peninsula.

While Egypt sits comfortably as both the second largest exporter and producer of table olives globally, after Spain, it's also one of the major importers of olive oil, importing 98% of its olive oil needs. Such discrepancies are likely due to the eating habits of Egyptians, who tend to favour olives in pickled form.

Source: <https://cairosce.me/Buzz/egypt-to-plant-100-million-olive-trees>

Table Olive Consumption Has Doubled Since 1999

Over the past three decades, global table olive consumption has grown by about 179 percent, according to data from the International Olive Council (IOC). The bulk of this consumption increase has come from key table olive producing countries. The IOC also suspects that increased awareness in the health benefits of table olives has also helped to spur growth in places such as European Union countries.

"The main characteristic of this evolution is the growth of consumption in the non-EU countries, which has risen steadily in recent decades" Juan Vicente Calvo, the head of research and economic statistics at the IOC said. "The European Union has remained stable in the recent decades."

Egypt which is the world's second largest table olive producer and Algeria, the fourth experienced highest levels of growth with consumption increasing by 3,260 percent and 2,330 percent respectively. Over the same period of time, table olive consumption in Turkey more than tripled, while consumption in European Union countries grew by nearly 70 percent.

The combined markets of the European Union, Egypt, Turkey and the United States currently account for about 57 percent of global table olive consumption. However, it is Albania and

