MARKET NEWSLETTER
No 120 – October 2017

BRAZIL – IMPORTS OF OLIVE OIL AND TABLE OLIVES

1. Olive oil and olive-pomace oil

Although Brazilian olive oil and olive-pomace oil imports have risen by 19% year-on-year over the 2016/17 crop year, at 60 139.9 t, they have not reached the average volumes of the last four crop years. As regards the provenance of imports, 84% of the total comes from European countries: 57% from Portugal, followed by Spain with 20%, Italy with 6% and Greece with 1%; the remaining 16% comes from Argentina (9%), Chile (6%) and other countries (1%). Table 1 shows import trends over the last five crop years. It shows how Portugal, which is the first exporter to Brazil, maintains its leading position in this market in both absolute and relative terms. Over the period reported in Table I, imports decrease by 14 734 t (-24%). This decline is attributed to the economic crisis and the devaluation of the Brazilian currency; following the increase in the last crop year, however, everything is pointing to a recovery. Graph 1 presents the development of Brazilian imports over more than 20 crop years, observing a constant increase that reached its maximum point in the 2012/13 crop year. The monthly movements of this market are shown in Section I.1.

Table I – Brazilian imports of olive oil by country of origin (2012/13-2016/17)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>43,096.6</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>43,072.5</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>40,915.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>18,485.5</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>15,056.8</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>13,754.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>6,574.1</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6,634.3</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>5,337.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>6,637.1</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4,333.5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>4,087.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1,762.0</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>3,469.9</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>2,707.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>314.1</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>428.5</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>346.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>136.0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>63.2</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>63.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>52.8</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>83.1</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>63.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>27.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>43.1</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>191.0</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>198.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL | 74,073.6 | 100.0% | 73,383.3 | 100.0% | 67,778.2 | 100.0% | 50,649.3 | 100.0% | 65,189.9 | 100.0% |

Table I – Brazilian imports of olive oil by country of origin (2012/13-2016/17)

Graph I Import trends 1992/93 – 2016/17

2. Table olives

The Brazilian table olive market performed well in the 2016/17 crop year (September 2016 – August 2017) reaching 114 283.85 t which is an 18% increase compared to the previous year. Graph III shows that imports over the last 20 crop years have gone from 4 6849.7 t in 1996/97 to 114 283.85 t in 2016/17, resulting in a 144% increase.
Table II shows the imports of the last crop year per country of origin. Argentina is the largest provider in this market with 54% of the volume of imports (61,874.86 t), followed by Egypt with 27% (31,064.43 t); Peru with 10% (11,754.13 t), Spain with 7% (7,914.87 t) and Portugal with 1% (1,068.47 t). Section I.2 shows the monthly movements of this market.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2016/2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>61,874.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>31,064.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>11,754.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>7,914.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>1,068.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>223.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>147.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>113.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>103.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>6.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>114,283.85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

50th meeting of the Advisory Committee

On 19 October 2017, the 50th meeting of the Advisory Committee was held at the headquarters of the IOC in Madrid (Spain). This Committee brings together representatives of associations of producers, industry, trade and consumers in IOC member countries. Observers included representatives of Brazil and of the Australian Olive Oil Association (AOOA), QvExtra! Internacional, Filiere Olivicola Olearia Italiana (FOOI), North American Olive Oil Association (NAOOA), Associação Brasileira de Produtores, Importadores e Comerciantes de Azeite de Oliveira (OLIVA) and Watania-Agri (Saudi Arabia).

The items on the agenda included the conclusions and recommendations of the update workshop on the organoleptic assessment method for virgin olive oil, which had been held on 18 October 2017 and in which the representatives of the Advisory Committee had participated. The recommendations arising from the workshop included the creation of a working group to examine and develop the method, which would be made up of experts in organoleptic assessment and representatives of the Advisory Committee.

I. WORLD TRADE IN OLIVE OIL AND TABLE OLIVES

1. OLIVE OIL - 2016/17

Imports in olive oil and olive pomace oil in the first eleven months of this crop year (October 2016 – August 2017) in the eight markets listed in the table below point to an increase of 21% in Brazil; 13% in China; 2% in Russia; while figures remain stable in Japan. In the United States and in Canada, however, imports decreased by 4% and 2% respectively compared to the previous crop year.

At the time of publishing this Newsletter, the figures for Australia were not available for the month of August but over the first ten months of the year imports grew by 20%.

EU figures\(^1\) for the first ten months of the current crop year (October – July 2017) indicate that intra-EU acquisitions increased by 4% and extra-EU imports decreased by 3% compared to the same period the previous year.

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\(^1\) EU data for August 2017 were not available at the time of writing.
At the close of the 2016/17 crop year\(^2\) (September 2016 – August 2017) imports of table olives had increased by 15% in Brazil. Canada and the United States closed the year on a downturn with a 4% year-on-year decrease in both markets. The data for Australia were not available for the month of August but the first eleven months saw a 6% increase.

EU\(^3\) figures for the first eleven months of the 2016/17 crop year (September 2016 – July 2017) indicate that intra-EU acquisitions increased by 6% while extra-EU imports increased by 5% compared to the previous crop year.

II. PRODUCER PRICES – OLIVE OIL

Graph 1 tracks the weekly movements in the prices paid to producers for extra virgin olive oil in the top three EU producing countries and in Tunisia, while graph 3 shows the weekly changes in producer prices for refined olive oil in the three main EU producer countries. Monthly price movements for these categories are given in Graphs 2 and 4.

**Extra virgin olive oil** – Producer prices in Spain have remained generally stable over the last few weeks, coming in at €3.71/kg at the end of October 2017, which is a 19% increase compared to the same period the previous year (Graph 1).

Italy – Prices in Italy have continued decreasing in recent weeks, coming in at €5.33/kg at the end of October 2017, which is a 7% year-on-year increase. Graph 2 shows the monthly price movements of the extra virgin olive oil category in recent crop years.

Greece – The prices in Greece increased slightly in recent weeks, coming in at €3.88/kg, which is a 32% increase compared to the same period the previous year.

Tunisia – Prices in Tunisia fell in recent weeks coming in at €3.68/kg at the end of October 2017 for a 14% year-on-year increase.

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2 According to the new provisions of the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 2015, which came into force on 1 January 2017, "table olive crop year" means the period of twelve months from 1 September of one year to 31 August of the next. Under the 2005 Agreement, the crop year for table olives was the same as that for olive oil (October to September).

3 EU data for August 2017 were not available at the time of writing.
**Refined olive oil:** Producer prices for refined olive oil in Spain and Italy generally follow the same trend as the prices for extra virgin olive oil. The price in **Spain** in October 2017 stood at **€3.65/kg**, up by 20% compared to the same period the previous year. In **Italy** it reached **€3.75/kg**, for a 19% year-on-year increase. No price data are available for this product category in Greece.

At the end of October 2017, the price difference in Spain between refined olive oil (€3.65/kg) and extra virgin oil (€3.71/kg) was of €0.06/kg. In Italy, the price difference between the two categories was greater than in Spain at €1.58/kg (Graph 3).

![Graph 3](image-url)
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