102nd session of the IOC Council of Members – In the last week of November the IOC headquarters in Madrid hosted the 102nd session of the Council of Members. During the session, the Economic Committee held its 14th meeting to discuss the olive oil and table olive data presented in the balances for 2012/13 (final), 2013/14 (provisional) and 2014/14 (estimated) as well as producer prices and the trends on the world market. The balances approved for these crop years can be viewed at:
http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/estaticos/view/134-approved-balances?lang=es_ES

During committee discussions, the representatives of two major IOC producers – Spain and Tunisia – gave a slide presentation on their domestic olive and olive oil balances (see them at Spain **http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/documents/viewfile/9456-spain-balances/1** and Tunisia **http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/documents/viewfile/9457-tunisia-balances/1)**

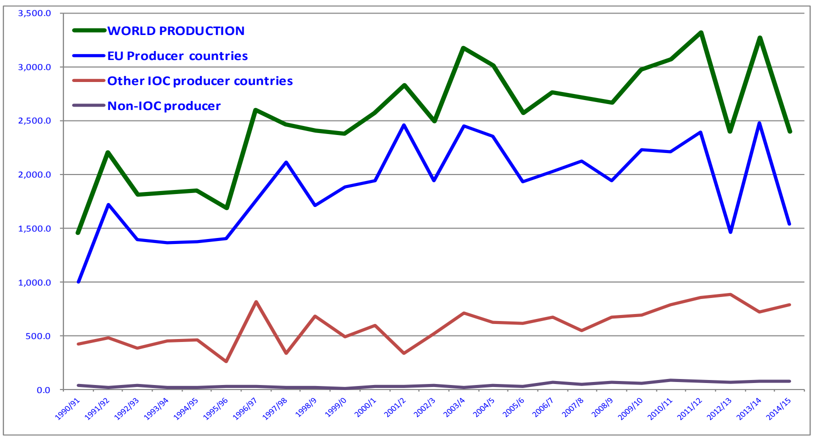
- **World olive oil balances for 2013/14 and 2014/15**

The 2013/14 crop year opened with 557 500 t in world stocks of olive oil. **World production** is assessed at 3 270 500 t, up by 36 pc from 2012/13. It is the second best crop year to date; the first was 2011/12 when output totalled 3 321 000 t. Aggregate olive oil production by IOC member countries stood at 3 199 500 t, equal to 98 pc of the world total. The EU countries produced 2 476 500 t of olive oil, 69 pc more than in the previous season. Individually, Spain produced a record tonnage (1 775 800 t), followed by Italy (461 200 t), Greece (131 900 t), Portugal (91 600 t), Cyprus (5 600 t) Croatia (4 900 t), France (4 900 t) and Slovenia (600 t). Output in the rest of the IOC Members was 16 pc lower overall. The leader of the group is Turkey (190 000 t) with Syria in next position (165 000 t) and then Morocco (120 000 t), Tunisia (70 000 t, well down on the season before), Algeria (44 000 t), Argentina and Jordan (each 30 000 t), Lebanon (20 500 t), Israel and Libya (each 15 000 t), Albania (10 500 t) and Iran (5 000 t). The remaining four Members produced smaller volumes. Spain stands out in that its production in 2013/14 was 187 pc higher than the previous crop year and accounted for a 54 pc share of world output. Chart 1 plots the trend of world production, broken down by three producer groups: EU/IOC Members, other IOC Members and non-IOC Members.

World consumption in 2013/14 is assessed at 3 030 000 t. The EU/28 consumed 1 717 000 t of this tonnage, equating with 6 pc growth on 2012/13. Consumption in the rest of the IOC member countries was 11 pc lower than the season before. The biggest decreases have been concentrated in Syria, Tunisia, Egypt, Algeria and Albania. In the case of non-IOC Members, consumption increased by 6 pc. The most significant increases have been in the United States (+5 pc), Australia (+19 pc; here we are speaking of the spring 2013 harvest), Canada (+9 pc) and Japan (+6 pc). In contrast, consumption went down sharply in China (-18 pc) and slightly in Brazil (-1 pc).

Olive oil imports in 2013/14 totalled 794 000 t while exports came to 817 500 t.

Chart I – Trend of world production over the last 25 crop years

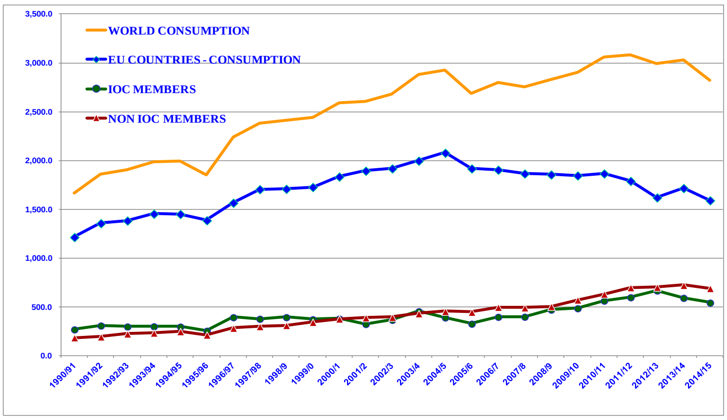


Turning to the **2014/15 crop year,** the latest estimates supplied by countries point to a 27 pc drop in world olive oil production, forecast at 2 393 000 t, compared with the season before. As announced in previous issues of this newsletter, bad weather has caused output to drop in some of the producer countries. Aggregate output by the IOC membership is estimated at 2 320 000 t, of which EU producers are expected to account for 1 532 000 t, thus showing a 38 pc season-on-season decrease. A further breakdown of the estimates shows Spain with a production of 825 700 t, much lower than the previous season, followed by Italy (down to 302 500 t), Greece (up to 300 000 t), Portugal (steady at 90 000 t). The volumes produced by the rest of the EU producers are expected to be lower. Elsewhere among the IOC membership olive oil production is forecast to be 9 pc higher than in 2013/14. In first position is Tunisia, where production looks set to rise sharply to 260 000 t, followed by Turkey (stable at 190 000 t), Morocco (down slightly to 110 000 t), Syria (down sharply to 50 000 t), Algeria (steady at 44 000 t), Jordan (up to 35 000 t), Egypt (up to 21 000 t), Israel (up to 17 500 t), Lebanon (down to 16 500 t), Libya (steady at 15 000 t), Albania (up to 12 000 t), Iran (up to 9 000 t) and Argentina (down sharply to 6 000 t – the crop year in Argentina is for the harvest beginning in April 2014). Smaller tonnages are forecast for the rest of the countries.

World olive oil consumption for the 2014/15 crop year is forecast to total 2 823 500 t. This would be 7 pc lower than the season before.

Chart II shows the trend of world consumption divided into three groups: EU countries, IOC member countries and non-IOC member countries.

Chart II – Trend of world consumption over the last 25 crop years



Anyone interested can view the historical time series data for production, consumption, imports and exports since 1990/91 until the present crop year at the following links:
Olive oil: http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/estaticos/view/131-world-olive-oil-figures
Table olives: http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/estaticos/view/132-world-table-olive-figures?lang=es_ES

I. WORLD MARKET FOR OLIVE OIL AND TABLE OLIVES

1. WORLD MARKET FOR OLIVE OIL IN 2013/14

At the close of the 2013/14 crop year (October 2013–September 2014), the data for olive oil and olive pomace oil imports by the seven countries listed in the table below show higher figures for Canada (+10 pc), the United States (+5 pc), Japan (+4 pc) and Australia (+1 pc) versus the season before. Imports have moved downwards in China (-15 pc) and to a smaller extent in Brazil (-2 pc). In the case of Russia, data are only available up to April 2014, i.e. for the first seven months of the season, and reflect an increase of 8 pc in imports.

At the time of writing, EU data were not available for September 2014 but the figures for the first eleven months of the season (October 2013–August 2014) flag up a 17 pc increase in intra-EU acquisitions and a drop of 63 pc in imports from outside the EU versus the same period in 2012/13. This cumulative fall in extra-EU imports seems logical, given Spain's high production in 2013/14.

Olive oil imports (including olive-pomace oils) (t)

No	Importing country	October 12	October 13	November 12	November 13	December 12	December 13	January 13	January 14
1	Australia	3518.5	2169.9	3857.8	2461.2	1506.2	2004.0	2227.3	2236.5
2	Brazil	9847.4	9075.3	8995.4	6239.6	6001.3	7156.7	5500.7	5163.6
3	Canada	4392.0	4014.7	3361.0	2845.6	2568.1	2662.2	4040.8	3649.0
4	China	2826.8	2609.4	4443.8	3030.7	4732.9	4007.6	6360.5	3268.3
5	Japan	4431.0	4410.0	4474.0	4386.0	3994.0	3967.0	4253.0	4271.0
6	Russia	3678.1	2982.0	3358.9	2763.7	2766.0	3174.3	1616.5	1818.0
7	USA	28507.3	23274.0	25118.0	27163.1	26504.0	21455.9	24570.9	26704.8
8	Extra-EU/27	14267.4	14233.4	10093.5	6660.6	4407.4	5141.1	8924.3	6711.3
	Intra-EU/27	92208.6	87862.7	76066.0	74873.7	95922.6	96563.5	97359.5	93392.9
	Total	**163677.1**	**150631.4**	**139768.4**	**130424.2**	**148402.5**	**146132.3**	**154853.5**	**147215.4**

No	Importing country	February 13	February 14	March 13	March 14	April 13	April 14	May 13	May14
1	Australia	1905.0	2048.7	2225.0	2946.1	2485.1	2703.2	1927.1	2104.3
2	Brazil	7855.8	5215.4	6592.4	6746.9	4457.3	5281.0	3600.5	5110.2
3	Canada	3403.4	2785.0	2882.4	3955.8	2375.6	5648.4	2879.2	3865.3
4	China	1766.4	1050.3	2510.5	2323.1	3382.6	2532.7	2430.4	2954.8
5	Japan	3599.0	4039.0	4184.0	4840.0	4480.0	5634.0	5050.0	5394.0
6	Russia	2346.4	2643.9	2245.9	3535.7	2663.9	3178.2	2651.5	**nd**
7	USA	19018.9	17979.9	33207.5	29814.3	27270.7	37422.5	19927.5	23534.5
8	Extra-EU/27	15411.0	2110.4	14689.6	3849.5	14352.6	3741.0	15689.5	2090.7
	Intra-EU/27	83224.8	107591.3	86414.1	98077.7	79162.7	95873.1	66211.5	103856.8
	Total	**138530.7**	**145463.9**	**154951.4**	**156089.1**	**140630.5**	**162014.1**	**120367.2**	

No	Importing country	June 13	June14	July 13	July 14	August 13	August 14	September 13	September 14
1	Australia	1769.8	2002.0	1739.0	3558.0	1666.6	2471.5	3935.0	2231.8
2	Brazil	4125.3	5158.0	5042.0	6416.0	6508.6	5759.2	6346.9	6060.0
3	Canada	2781.1	4808.7	3162.1	2697.6	3011.6	2683.5	3298.2	2351.5
4	China	2863.2	4032.4	3333.1	4367.1	4055.7	3387.3	3672.8	2327.3
5	Japan	4467.0	3961.0	5190.0	5574.0	5287.0	4163.0	4541.0	5578.0
6	Russia	3107.7	**nd**	2803.0	**nd**	**2574.0**	**nd**	**2707.0**	**nd**
7	USA	23850.7	28791.5	23240.5	30075.8	28472.7	20486.0	19162.0	25852.0
8	Extra-EU/27	25193.7	2611.7	14819.7	4987.3	12465.6	3496.8	10514.1	nd
	Intra-EU/27	75356.1	96856.2	82446.3	114969.1	73166.6	95908.9	79173.3	nd
	Total	**143514.6**		**141775.7**		**137208.4**		**133350.3**	

2. WORLD MARKET FOR TABLE OLIVES IN 2013/14

At the end of the 2013/14 crop year (October 2013–September 2014) table olive imports by the five countries listed in the table had increased by 5 pc in Brazil, 0.4 pc in Canada and 1 pc in Australia while dropping by 5 pc in the United States. Again the data for Russia are only available up to April 2014, i.e. for the first seven months of the season and show a period-on-period drop of 12 pc.

The EU data for September 2014 were not available when writing this newsletter but in the first eleven months of the crop year, intra-EU acquisitions dropped by 9 pc while imports from non-EU countries increased by 10 pc.

Table Olive Imports (t)

Nº	Importing country	October 12	October 13	November 12	November 13	December 12	December 13	January 13	January 14	February 13	February 14	March 13	March 14
1	Australia	1330.0	1511.0	1858.0	1657.0	1821.0	1905.0	1597.0	1740.0	1906.0	1431.0	1423.0	1640.0
2	Brazil	12957.5	11769.2	11357.4	11299.5	10731.5	8721.4	7005.4	6171.8	7419.6	6273.1	7229.7	7564.4
3	Canada	2942.0	2795.0	2807.0	2656.0	2997.0	2070.0	2832.0	2622.0	1805.0	2297.0	1939.0	2215.0
4	Russia	9574.4	8882.2	9692.4	9073.0	6485.1	5026.1	5680.9	4425.2	5886.7	4802.2	6415.8	5954.7
5	USA	10404.0	11434.0	11100.0	10396.0	10050.0	10937.0	9317.0	10483.0	8970.0	9452.0	12126.0	10932.0
6	Extra-EU/27	9125.0	8645.3	8147.7	7337.5	8740.1	9368.3	8456.5	9903.7	8258.8	9812.9	10724.9	13486.5
	Intra-EU/27	35174.6	30248.3	30242.8	28073.4	26733.8	26755.5	26804.0	21800.6	25034.8	26432.0	28969.6	26318.7
	Total	**81507.5**	**75285.0**	**75205.3**	**70492.4**	**67558.5**	**64783.3**	**61692.8**	**57146.3**	**59280.9**	**60500.2**	**68828.0**	**68111.3**

Nº	Importing country	April 13	April 14	May 13	May 14	June 13	June 14	July 13	July 14	August 13	August 14	September 13	September 14
1	Australia	1161.0	1408.0	1785.0	1437.0	1183.0	1195.0	1258.0	1440.0	1289.0	1128.0	1126.0	1421.0
2	Brazil	7199.1	9458.1	8824.2	9928.2	9408.0	9644.0	8748.0	11386.0	8409.0	9981.0	9761.7	11800.0
3	Canada	2033.0	2621.0	2365.0	2556.0	2414.0	2381.0	2560.0	2753.0	2067.0	1778.0	2254.0	2376.0
4	Russia	5403.9	5160.2	4913.4	nd	3764.5	nd.	5133.5	nd.	5711.8	nd.	6514.8	nd.
5	USA	12451.0	11764.0	12608.0	10722.0	11428.0	12165.0	14109.0	14505.0	19961.0	13194.0	10865.0	9598.0
6	Extra-EU/27	12184.3	12724.4	12318.4	12894.9	10225.5	12922.0	10566.8	12719.2	8259.2	8175.2	7569.6	nd.
	Intra-EU/27	32662.3	27022.4	32318.8	27494.3	31682.7	30769.4	36563.3	35647.4	27946.7	22727.2	26780.9	nd.
	Total	**73094.6**	**70158.1**	**75132.8**		**70105.7**		**78938.6**		**73643.7**		**64872.0**	

II. PRODUCER PRICES

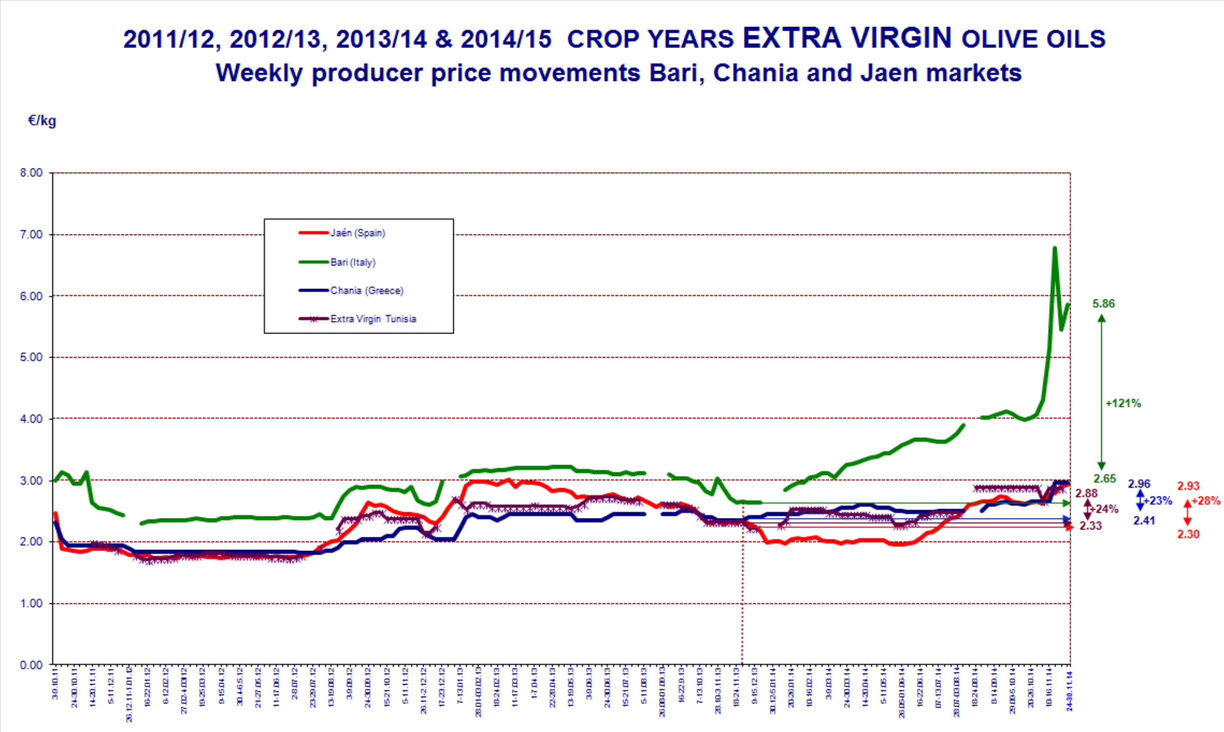
Graph 1 tracks the weekly movements in the prices paid to producers for extra virgin olive oil in the three top EU producing countries plus Tunisia while Graph 3 shows the weekly changes in the producer prices for refined olive oil in the three main EU producers. The monthly price movements for the same two grades of oil are given in Graphs 2 and 4.

Extra virgin olive oil: Since June 2014, producer prices in **Spain** have been rising constantly. By the second week of September they had reached €2.74/kg. In October the market seemed to be searching for equilibrium in that prices fell but in November they reversed direction, moving up to **€2.93/kg at the end of November.** This level is 28 pc higher than a year earlier and 49 pc higher than the low recorded in May 2014 (€1.96/kg). The highest price recorded during the period under review (€3.02) was recorded at the beginning of March 2013 (see Graph 1).

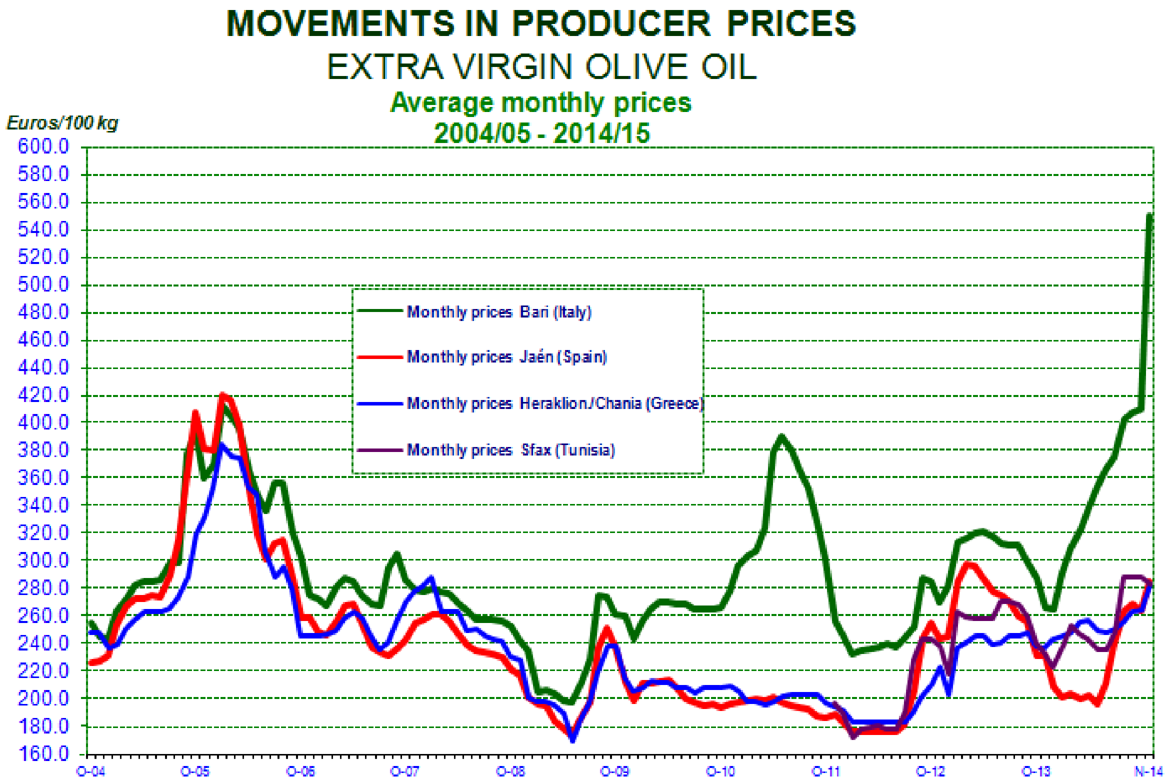
Italy: In recent months, producer prices in Italy have been on a very clear upward trend. In the week from 10 to 16 November, they hit the highest level of both the period under review and the last decade (see Graph 2), reaching €6.79/kg. This price hike has probably been prompted by the forecasts of a lower-than-usual harvest. The IOC does not know the volume of product sold at these prices. After a small dip in the second last week of November, prices switched back upwards to reach **€5.86/kg** at the **end of November 2014,** equating with an increase of 121 pc on a year earlier and 122 pc compared with the low recorded in the second week of December 2013 (€2.64/kg). Graph 2 shows how the monthly prices of extra virgin olive oil have changed over the last ten crop years.

Greece: After holding steady at €2.51/kg through July and August, producer prices in Greece climbed for several weeks, then falling back at the beginning of October only to peak at the highest level recorded in the Graph 1 (€2.96/kg), thus showing 23 pc growth on the same period of 2012/13.

Tunisia: At the end of October 2013, producers were paid €2.53/kg for their extra virgin olive oil. Prices then started moving downwards until late December 2013, when they levelled off after some fluctuations. At the end of November 2014 they had rallied to €2.88/kg (+24 pc compared with a year earlier) and they have remained at this level for the last three weeks.



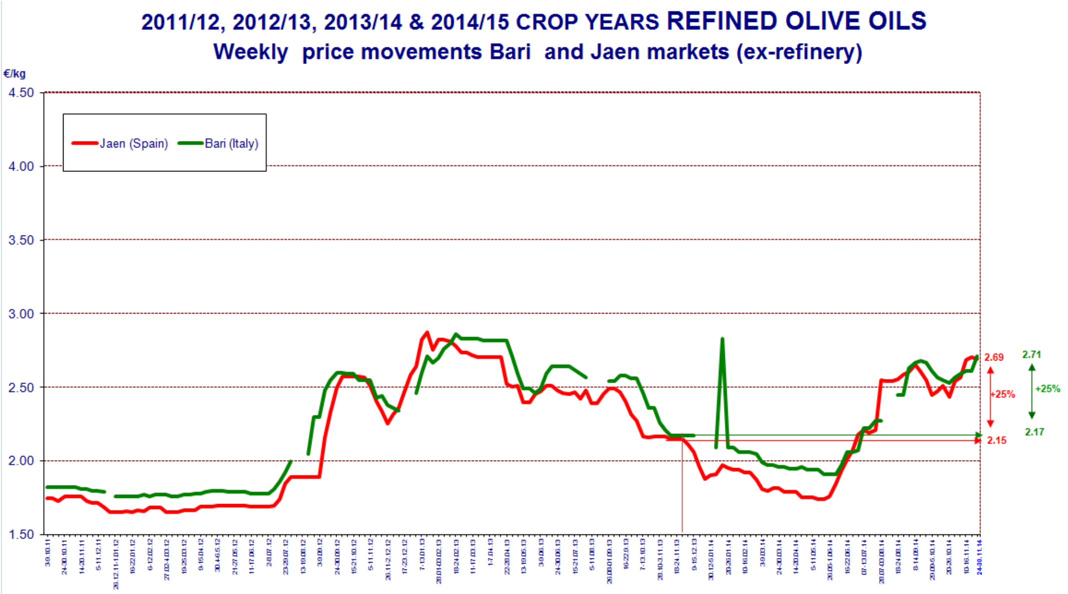
Graph 1



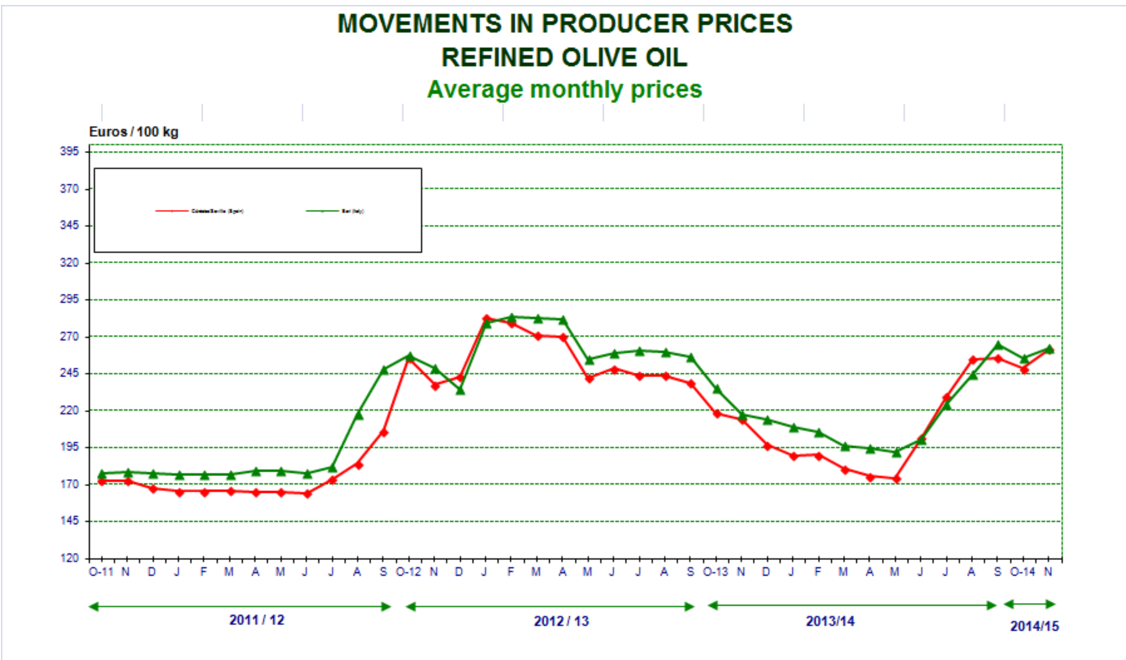
Graph 2

- **Refined olive oil:** Producer prices for refined olive oil have been very similar in Spain and Italy and started to move upwards from June 2014. In Spain they then dipped slightly in the last two weeks of September 2014 only to pick up again to reach €2.69/kg by the end of November 2014. This is 25 pc higher than the level in the same period of 2012/13. In Italy, while prices have been moving in parallel with those in Spain, they did peak in the third week of January (€2.83/kg). At the end of November, prices were hovering around €2.71/kg, translating into a period-on-period increase of 25 pc which restores Italian prices to their usual position above Spanish prices. No price data are available for this product category in Greece.

At the end of November 2014, the price of refined olive oil and extra virgin olive oil in Spain differed by €0.24/kg with €2.69/kg being paid for the first category and €2.93/kg for the second. In Italy, the difference in price between the two categories is quite a lot wider than in Spain (€3.55/kg - Graph 3).



Graph 3



Graph 4

Other news:

- **The IOC has joined an initiative launched by the *Associazione Italiana Pandolea – Donne dell'olio*, an Italian association of women with a passion for olive oil, who are publishing olive-oil-based recipes in the WE-Women for Expo section of the Milan Expo 2015 site. Find out more at:** http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/news/view/666-year-2014-news/526-your-best-recipes-with-olive-oil?lang=es_ES

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