



## ALBANIA RETURNS TO THE IOC

**New York** - On 6 March 2019, Albania submitted its instrument of accession to the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 2015, to the depositary at the United Nations Office in New York.

Albania's accession to the IOC brings us to a total of 16 members. According to provisional data from the IOC Executive Secretariat, olive oil production in Albania for the 2017/18 crop year is estimated at around 11,000 t, which would be a fall of approximately 4% compared to the previous crop year. Table olive production is expected at 30,000 t, a 21% decrease compared to the previous crop year. Imports of olive oil and table olives in Albania are expected to reach 1,500 t and 5,000 t respectively. Consumption could reach 12,500 t for olive oil and 31,500 t for table olives in the 2017/18 crop year.



■ The flag of Albania



## JAPAN: A TEAM WORKS TO FACILITATE ADOPTION OF THE IOC STANDARD

**Madrid** – **Abdellatif Ghedira**, alongside Head of the Economy and Promotion Unit **Ender Gunduz**, took part in several meetings with Japanese olive-growing authorities and companies with the goal of Japan acceding to the IOC.

The representatives of the Executive Secretariat of the International Olive Oil Council first met the Japanese parliamentarians led by **Mr Kawamura**, who chairs a special study group on olive oil within Parliament. They also met with the Japanese Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, **Mr Takamori Yoshikawa**, who outlined how the government had attenuated the phenomenon of the growth of olive oil consumption in Japan for its positive health effects. The minister also pointed out that the country has an interest in looking into harmonizing Japanese standards with those of the IOC and for this reason the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Olive Oil Study Group of the Parliament, the Association of Japanese Olive Oil Processors and the IOC should continue to work together to share the common interest in adopting the same standards for olive oil.

The main olive producers in the country also gave their support for the project. After a meeting in Shodoshima, a statement was released encouraging the Japanese government to strengthen its ties with the IOC so that Japan can adopt the IOC's standards.



■ Abdellatif Ghedira and Keizo Hamada, governor of the Kagawa Prefecture



## PROMOTION: NEW IOC CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED IN CHINA

**Beijing** - A new campaign to promote IOC standards has started in China. Promotion activities will start officially on 15 March 2019 in Beijing with a press conference. This event will illustrate the most important stages of the new information campaign. The IOC will be represented by Deputy Executive Director **Jaime Lillo** and the Head of the Economy and Promotion Unit **Ender Gunduz**. During the press conference, nutritionist **Dr Liu Na** will give a lecture illustrating the health benefits of extra virgin olive oil in a balanced diet. Then, **Chen Yibing**, a well-known athlete in China, will give a talk about his experience consuming extra virgin olive oil. The IOC has also sent panel leader **Alberto Morreale**, an expert speaker, to hold a tasting, while chef **Mars Liu** will give a practical demonstration cooking with extra virgin olive oil. A tasting will follow, as well as an educational illustration. French company **SOPEXA** initiated this promotion campaign.



■ The IOC regulations govern organoleptic examination



## TRAINING COURSE FOR VIRGIN OLIVE OIL TASTING IN POLAND

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**Gdynia (Polonia)** - A taster training course for virgin olive oil was organised by the IOC in Gdynia, Poland, a city found on the Baltic coast. The panel was made up of 13 technicians from different analytical fields at the Agricultural and Food Quality Inspection Laboratory, Poland. They took part in this training course with a view to officially establishing organoleptic analysis in Poland.

The course focused recognising the different defects found in olive oils, such as fusty/muddy sediment, musty-humid-earthly, frost-bitten and rancid, in varying intensities. Participants also had the opportunity to taste the oils that had won the Mario Solinas award in its different forms, with entries from Spain, Croatia, Portugal, Greece and France. The tasting technique was explained, as well as the positive attributes that the oils presented, such as oil fruitiness, bitter and pungent. The laboratory for official inspection received samples from various Mediterranean countries and these were analysed for their physico-chemical characteristics, and participants were taught about virgin olive oil production and how negative attributes arise, as well as the requirements of the ISO 17025 standard for sensorial analysis accreditation.

The panel members tasted the samples, noted down the results on a sheet of paper and commented on their findings for each of the samples, including the tastes and smells perceived. The results from the samples and reference materials that were analysed were collected on an Excel spreadsheet, so that they could check their level of training.

The results of this IOC course were very positive, and the gorgeous weather they had throughout the course further boosted the participants enthusiasm to learn and boost their knowledge of organoleptic assessment.



■ In Poland, too, they recognise the importance of quality





# OPEN CALL FOR EXPERTS

## OPEN CALL FOR EXPERTS AND LABORATORIES WORKING ON POSSIBLE CONTAMINANTS IN OLIVE OILS AND OLIVE-POMACE OILS

**Madrid**– The IOC Executive Secretariat would like to invite experts and laboratory leaders working on possible contaminants in olive oils and olive-pomace oils to express their interest in participating in data collection and method validation. The IOC Working Group on the determination of contaminant residues in olive oils and olive-pomace oils is actively carrying out several studies on the following topics:

- MOSH (Mineral Oil Saturated Hydrocarbons) and MOAH (Mineral Oil Aromatic Hydrocarbons)
  - Method of analysis, analytical error (LOQ and LOD)  
MOSH-MOAH.AM
  - Data on the presence of these contaminants in oils, for each commercial category  
MOSH-MOAH.DC
  - Investigation about the possible cause of contamination and ways of minimising it  
MOSH-MOAH.DC2
- 3-MCPD (3-monochloropropane-1,2-diol)
  - Data on the presence of these contaminants in oils, for each commercial category  
3-MCPD.DC
- HAPs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons)
  - Method revision for the determination of HAPs  
HAPs.ME
  - Method validation for specific HAPs  
HAPs.ME2

Experts in the sector, especially those with analytical facilities and skilled personnel able to perform the required analyses, are invited to contact the IOC Executive Secretariat. Experts from IOC member and non-member countries are also invited. Please refer to the code reported in the above list when communicating with us about your expression of interest.



■ The IOC's headquarters in Madrid



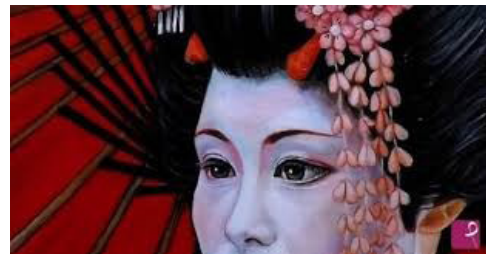
# THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET

(Source : Economy and Promotion Unit)

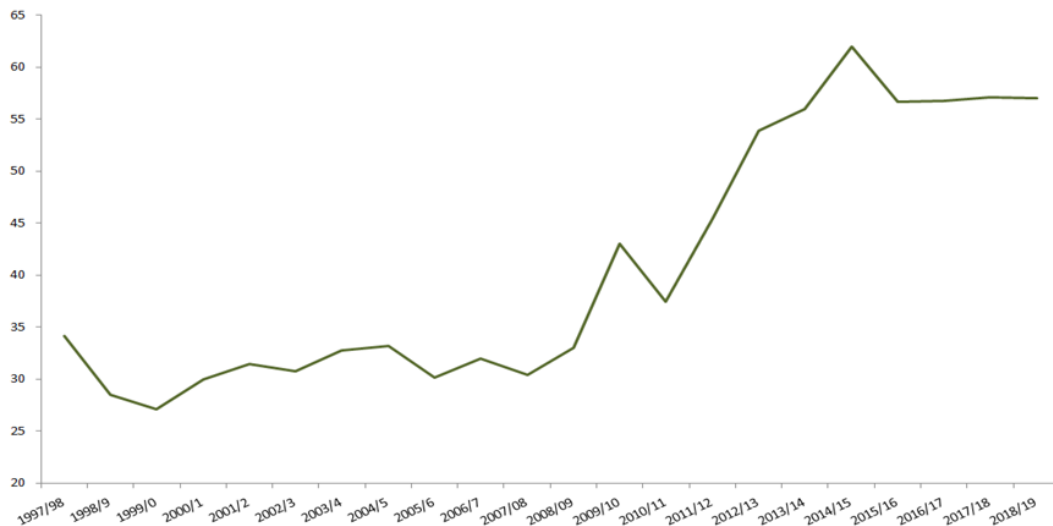
## I. WORLD TRADE IN OLIVE OIL AND TABLE OLIVES - FOCUS ON JAPAN

CHANGES IN IMPORTS OF OLIVE OIL – JAPAN (18% increase in the first few months of the 2018/19 crop year)

**Tokyo** – Imports of olive oil and olive pomace oil in Japan increased by 0.5% in the last crop year. The olive oil market in Japan, as shown in Graph 1, has steadily grown in the period between 2006/07 and 2014/15, reaching a peak of 62,000 t. However, the 2015/16 crop year resulted in an 8.5% fall compared to the previous crop year. In the ensuing crop years, imports in Japan have remained stable.

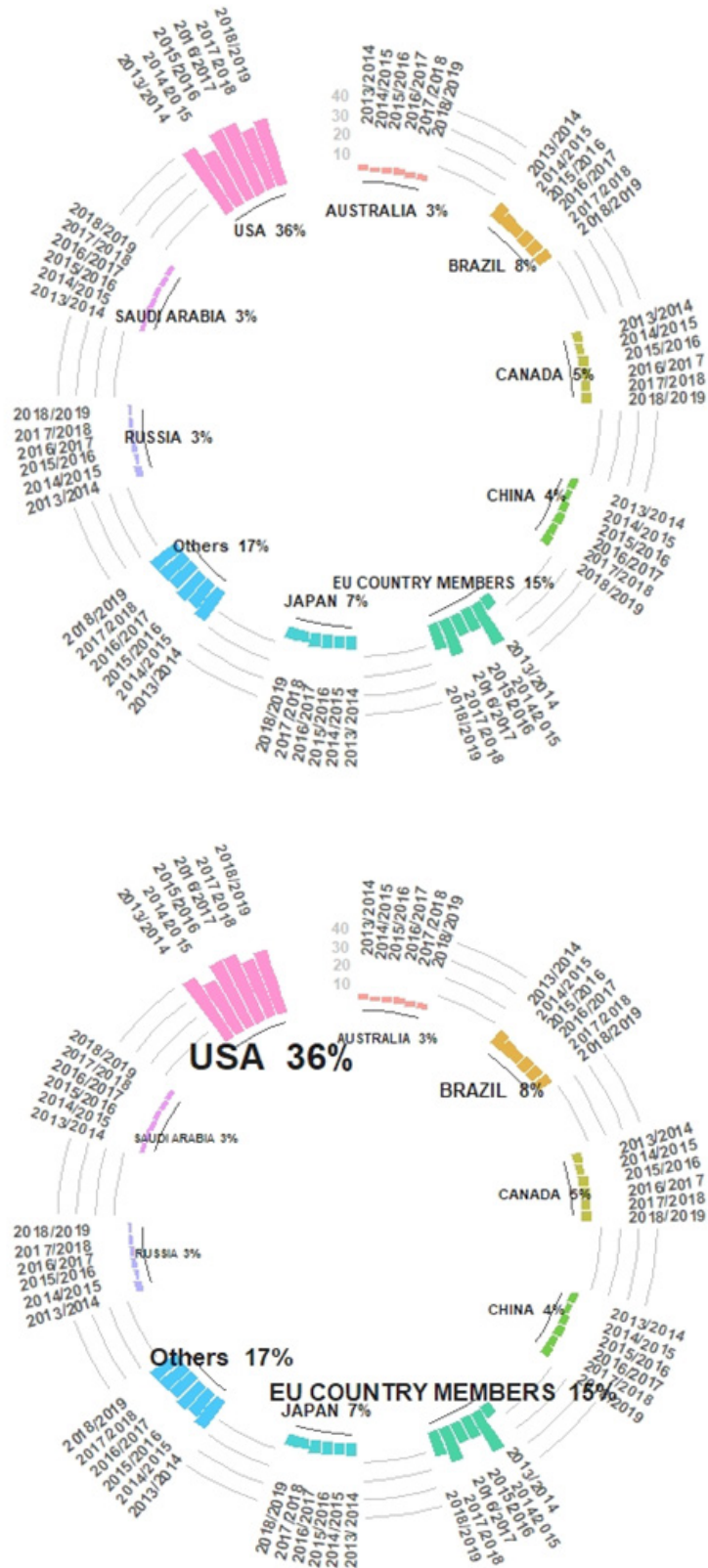


In the first three months of the current crop year (2018/19), imports in olive oil grew by 18% compared to the same period the previous crop year.



■ Graph 1 – Japan – Olive oil imports by crop year (x1000 t)

Japan imports an average of 7% of world olive oil, placing it in fourth place behind the US with 36%, the EU with 15% and Brazil with 8% of total imports. Together, they represent around 66% of world imports.



■ Graph 2 – Distribution of world olive oil imports



By import origins in Japan, 94% of imports from the 2017/18 crop year came from the EU; Spain takes the lead at 58.8%, followed by Italy with 33.3%. The remaining 7.3% came from Turkey, Greece, Portugal and Tunisia.

As for volumes per product, 72% of imports came under code 15.09.10 (virgin olive oils), followed by 25% of imports of code 15.09-90 (olive oils), and the remaining 3% of code 15.10.00 (olive pomace oils).

Japan – Olive oil and olive pomace oil imports by country.

Country	OLIVE OIL		OLIVE POMACE OIL	TOTAL
	150910 VIRGIN OLIVE OIL	150990 OLIVE OIL	151000 OLIVE POMACE OIL	
SPAIN	23575	9259	788	33622
ITALY	13823	4644	556	19022
TURKEY	2409	348	0	2757
GREECE	690	8	7	705
PORTUGAL	41	4	352	397
TUNISIA	349	6	0	355
AUSTRALIA	91	0	0	91
CHILE	59	0	0	59
NETHERLANDS	0	38	0	38
USA	34	0	0	34
FRANCE	32	1	0	32
OTHERS	52	1	0	53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41154</b>	<b>14308</b>	<b>1704</b>	<b>57166</b>

\* Source: Own elaboration based on trade Statistics of Japan - Ministry of Finance

## 1. OLIVE OIL – BEGINNING THE 2018/19 CROP YEAR WITH IMPORT HIKES

Trade in olive oil and olive pomace oil began strong the 2018/19 crop year well: in the first three months (October – December 2018), the markets that appear in the table below showed an increase of 28% in Russia; 25% in Australia; 18% in Japan; and 15% in Brazil. China is the only country which saw imports fall – results came out 18% lower than the same period the previous crop year. Data from the US and Canada<sup>1</sup> were only available from November when this newsletter was published. The data showed an increase of 28% and 15% respectively.

Intra-EU acquisitions increased by 7% and extra-EU acquisitions by 19% in the first two months of the current crop year<sup>2</sup>, compared to the same period the previous crop year.

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

<sup>1</sup> Data from the US and Canada were not available for December 2018 at the time of publishing this newsletter

<sup>2</sup> Data from the EU were not available for December 2018 at the time of publishing this newsletter





	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL	CANADA	CHINA	JAPAN	RUSSIA	USA	EXTRA-EU/27	INTRA-EU/27	TOTAL
OCTOBER 17	2843,6	5443,7	4313,7	2722,0	4871,0	2254,7	27198,7	6495,9	76921,2	<b>133064,5</b>
OCTOBER 18	3343,7	8245,6	4663,2	2495,9	5142,4	3058,9	34986,8	12787,9	89163,6	<b>163888,0</b>
NOVEMBER 17	2039,0	7285,3	3218,8	3833,4	4432,0	2036,0	20715,0	16739,1	91723,7	<b>152022,3</b>
NOVEMBER 18	3378,8	8467,6	4028,9	4405,4	5893,7	2291,4	26394,3	14892,6	91148,2	<b>160900,9</b>
DECEMBER 17	2016,3	7275,6	2888,2	7696,5	3946,3	2106,9	26836,2	25156,9	95192,9	<b>173115,8</b>
DECEMBER 18	1894,3	6310,5	nd	4740,2	4610,2	2836,1	nd	nd	nd	<b>20391,3</b>

## 2. TABLE OLIVES – BEGINNING OF 2018/19 CROP YEAR

The table below shows trade in table olives during the first four months of the 2018/19 crop year<sup>3</sup> in some countries. The data show an increase of 14% in Australia and 11% in Brazil. Data for Canada and the US<sup>4</sup> were only available for the period September–November at the time of publishing this newsletter. Compared to the same period the previous crop year, the data showed increases of 10% and 3% respectively.

Trade in the EU<sup>5</sup> of table olives in the first three months of the 2018/19 crop year (September–November 2018) increased by 7% for intra-EU acquisitions and 14% for extra-EU acquisitions, compared with the same period the previous crop year.

Table olive imports (t)

	AUSTRALIA	BRAZIL	CANADA	USA	EXTRA-EU/27	INTRA-EU/27	TOTAL
SEPTEMBER 17	1501,0	7949,2	2077,0	10237,0	6243,2	27039,9	<b>55047,3</b>
SEPTEMBER 18	1598,5	9521,8	2702,7	9902,5	6524,8	29062,2	<b>59312,5</b>
OCTOBER 17	1295,0	9492,3	2843,0	11055,0	7304,7	32329,3	<b>64319,3</b>
OCTOBER 18	1462,9	12056,6	2641,3	11907,0	8783,1	31866,1	<b>68717,0</b>
NOVEMBER 17	1406,0	11115,3	2539,0	12596,0	8255,4	29794,9	<b>65706,6</b>
NOVEMBER 18	1997,5	12807,1	2848,2	13040,2	9502,7	34640,1	<b>74835,8</b>
DECEMBER 17	1336,8	11055,2	2663,6	12469,9	10381,4	27305,2	<b>65212,1</b>
DECEMBER 18	1232,9	9626,1	nd	nd	nd	nd	<b>10859,0</b>

<sup>3</sup> 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).

<sup>4</sup> Data from the US and Canada were not available for December 2018 at the time of publishing this newsletter.

<sup>5</sup> Data from the EU were not available for December 2018 at the time of publishing this newsletter.



### III. PRODUCER PRICES – OLIVE OIL

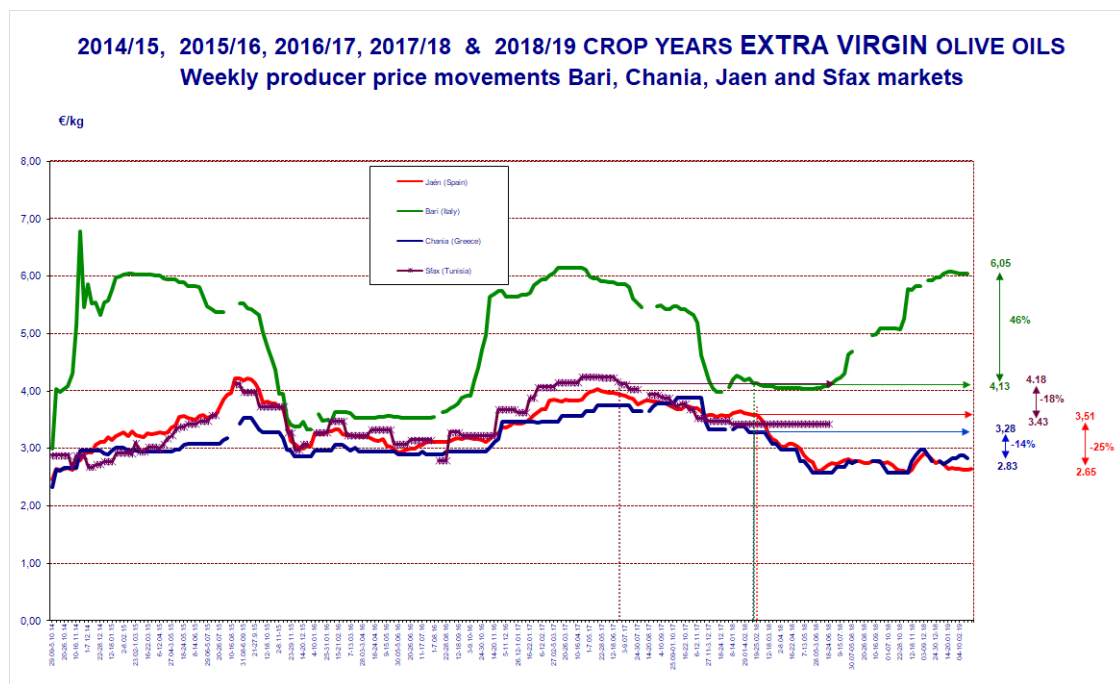
Graph 1 shows weekly producer price movements for extra virgin olive oil in the three main producer countries of the EU and Tunisia. Graph 3 shows weekly producer price movements for refined olive oil in the main producer countries of the EU. Monthly price movements for these categories can be found in Graphs 2 and 4.

**Extra virgin olive oil** : Producer prices in **Spain** during the last few weeks have remained stable at €2.65/kg in the third week of February, which is a 25% decrease compared to the same period the previous crop year.

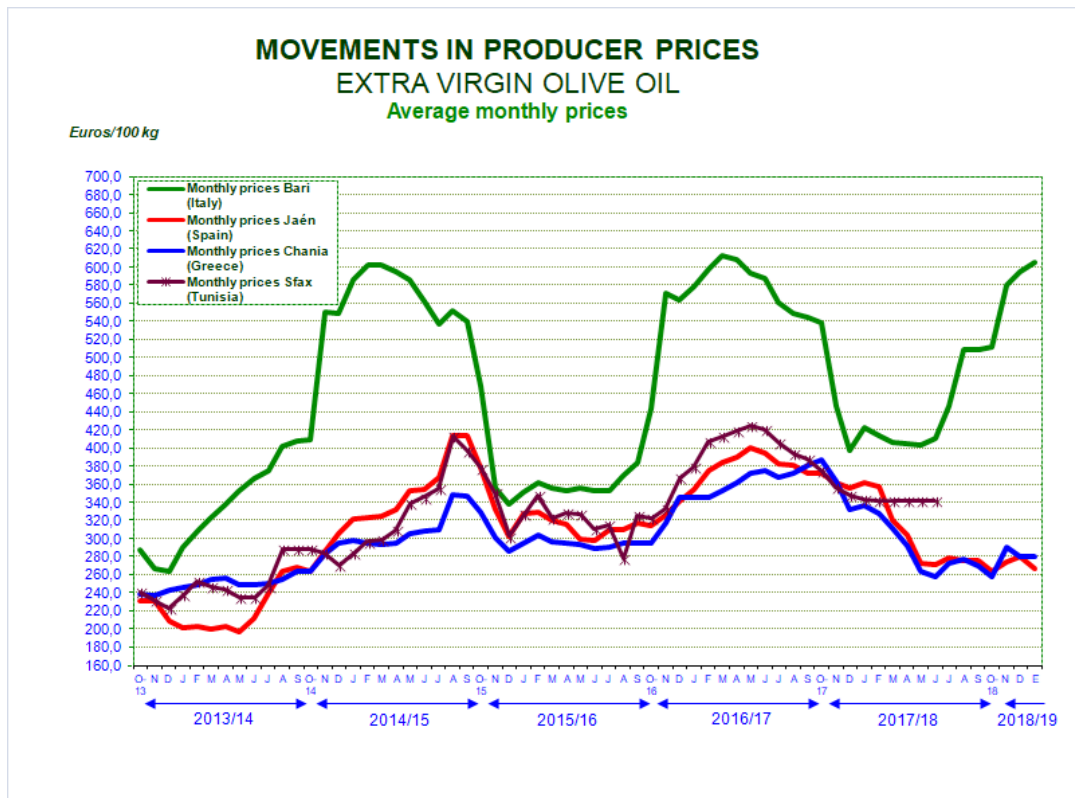
**Italy** – Producer prices in Italy have been ticking upwards since the end of May, coming in at €6.05/kg in the second week of February, or 46% more than the same period the previous crop year.

**Greece** – Prices in Greece in the second week of February 2019 came in at €2.83/kg, a 14% fall compared to the same period the previous crop year.

**Tunisia** – Prices in Tunisia remained stable in the last few weeks of June 2018, coming in at €3.43/kg, an 18% fall compared to the same period the previous crop year.



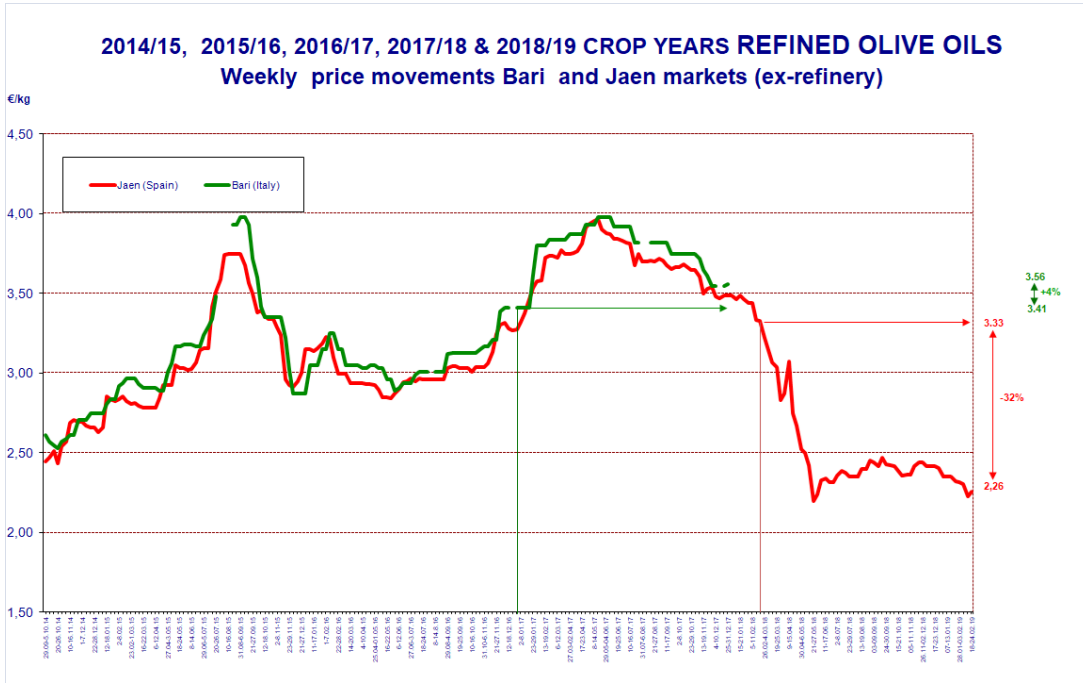
■ Graph 1



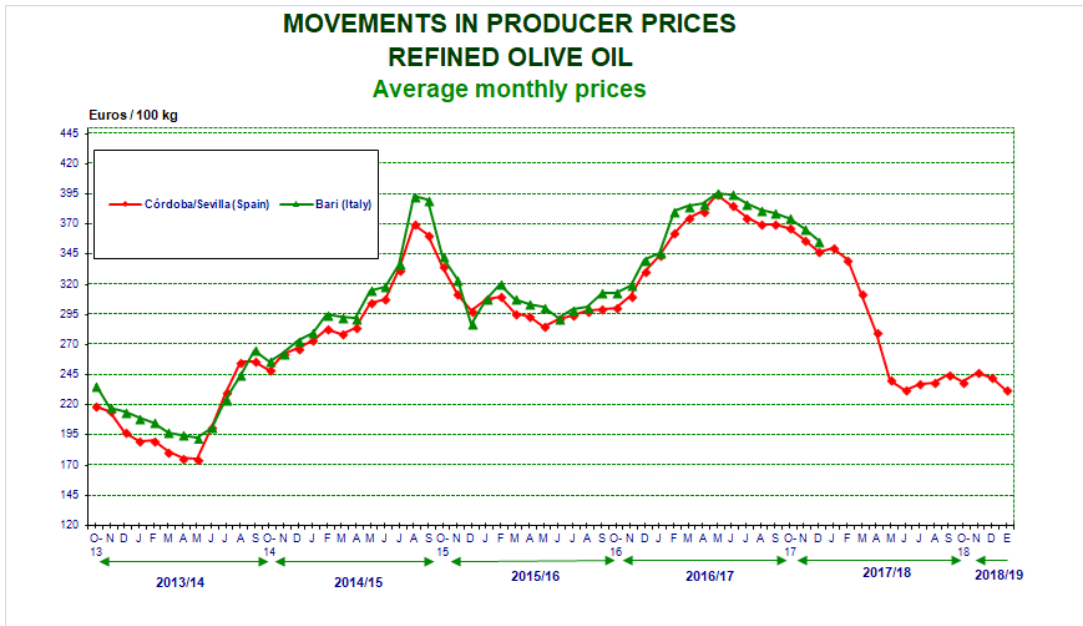
■ Graph 2

**Refined olive oil** : Producer prices in Spain came in at €2.26/kg in the third week of February, a 32% fall compared to the same period the previous crop year. Data for this category from Italy were not available from the end of December 2017, when they showed a 4% increase at €3.56/kg.

By the third week of February 2019, the price difference in Spain between extra virgin olive oil (€2.65/kg) and refined olive oil (€2.26/kg) was €0.39/kg, while it was €0.43/kg in Italy according to data from December 2017 (Graph 3).



■ Graph 3



■ Graph 4



## STAY TUNED!

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<http://www.internationaloliveoil.org>

Keep up with the olive sector through Olive News:

<http://www.scoop.it/t/olive-news>

and the goings-on at the IOC:

<http://www.linkedin.com/company/international-olivecouncil>

Our scientific journal Olivæ is available at:

<http://www.internationaloliveoil.org/store/index/48-olivae-publications>



■ The International Olive Oil Council's headquarters in Calle Principe de Vergara 154 in Madrid