



XV MASTER IN OLIVE GROWING AND OILTECHNOLOGY

Cordoba | Spain | September 2023

www.masterolivicultura.org



INTRODUCTION

The world productions of olive oil and table olive, the two main products of some 10 million hectares of olive groves, reach 2,800,000 t and 1,700,000 t respectively. More than 98% of the world productions of olive oil and table olive is to be found in the Mediterranean Basin, where this agricultural system has been developing for thousands of years, characterised by its adaptation to the environment and its empiricism.

Several factors have modified the olive production and processing systems in the last decades. The crisis of traditional agriculture and the valorisation of olive oil, due to its organoleptic attributes and its beneficial influence on health, are probably the two most important features. Therefore, great advances have been made in olive growing and olive oil technology.

Spain is the main olive producing country. The average olive oil production in Spain has increased in recent years and its productive potential can be estimated at 1,100,000 t of olive oil. The volume exported has also increased to approximately 400,000 t. Spain is also at the forefront of table olive production and exportation with 500,000 t and 300,000 t respectively. Besides the economic importance of olive products, the R&D efforts made over the last decades have placed Spain among the leading countries in the technological progress of olive groves and their products.

The existence in Córdoba of long-standing teaching and research institutions such as the Universidad de Córdoba (UCO), the Instituto Andaluz de Investigación y Formación Agraria, Pesquera, Alimentaria y de la Producción Ecológica (IFAPA) and the Instituto de Agricultura Sostenible (IAS), and their proximity to Sevilla and Jaén, the home of other prestigious institutions working in the subject: the Instituto de la Grasa (IG), the Instituto de Recursos Naturales y Agrobiología de Sevilla (IRNAS) and the IFAPA Venta del Llano (Jaén), provide an excellent venue at which to develop an international programme on olive growing and on the processing of olive oil and table olives, contributing to train professionals and researchers in these fields and to develop cooperation relationships between the participants.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Master is to train professionals whose profile responds to the growing demand for specialists at the highest level in olive growing and olive oil technology. Hence, the training, both theoretical and practical, is characterised by:

- An updated content of the fundamental scientific aspects and the most innovative technologies
- Orientation towards the obtention of quality productions
- Knowledge of the economic framework of the sector, so that it can be increasingly more competitive, in both traditional and new markets.

Furthermore, a period of initiation into research in the field of olive growing and olive oil technology is introduced, leading to a Master Thesis.

ORGANISING INSTITUTIONS

The Master programme is jointly organised by the Universidad de Córdoba (UCO), the Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca y Desarrollo Sostenible de la Junta de Andalucía (CAGPDS), the Instituto Andaluz de Investigación y Formación Agraria, Pesquera, Alimentaria y de la Producción Ecológica (IFAPA), the International Olive Council (IOC), the International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM), the Spanish Higher Council for Scientific Research (CSIC) and the Fundación Patrimonio Comunal Olivarero (FPCO).

STRUCTURE

The Master programme is spread across two academic years, the first year covers the Postgraduate Specialisation Course and the second year, of initiation to research, leading to the preparation of the Master of Science thesis, with a total of 120 ECTS.

First year

The Specialisation course (60 ECTS) is held during the first year, and is made up of theoretical lectures,

practical field and laboratory work and technical visits. The course will take place from the **end of September 2023 to the end of May 2024** mainly in morning sessions. Full time commitment is required for this course.

Second year

The participants that have passed all the subjects in the Postgraduate Specialisation Course may opt to complete the Master programme. To do so, 60 ECTS must be earned through initiation to research work and a written Thesis with the results of a research project, to be presented publicly before an examining board.

ORGANISATION

Admission

The Master caters for a maximum of 30 participants satisfying the following conditions:

- a) University degree, preferably in agronomy, biology, agricultural industry, or food technology.
- b) Proficiency in Spanish, which will be the working language of the course. For those candidates admitted whose first language is not Spanish, language courses will be provided online in July and face-to-face in September 2023. **Attendance is compulsory.** The Instituto Cervantes has a virtual classroom to teach Spanish through the internet. Information can be obtained at <http://ave.cervantes.es>, available in several languages.
- c) Reading knowledge of English, necessary to follow part of the material distributed during the course.
- d) As the specialisation course will begin at the end of September 2023, students that are not enrolled by that date will not be admitted.

Diplomas

Upon completion of the Postgraduate Specialisation Course, the participants who have passed the stipulated control tests will receive the **Postgraduate Specialisation Diploma in Olive Growing and Oil Technology** awarded by CIHEAM.

Those participants that have completed the whole cycle will obtain the University Master Degree in Olive Growing and Oil Technology.

Scholarships

The International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM) and the International Olive Oil Council (IOC) may award a limited number of scholarships to participants from member countries of these organisations. Scholarships will be awarded according to academic merit.

Non Spanish candidates may also apply for scholarships to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID). Those interested may consult the website www.becasmae and send an application through the same site or they may contact the Embassy of Spain in their country or the nearest Consulate.

More information on scholarships may be obtained at the following sites:

<http://www.uco.es/idep/masteres/principal/becas-ayudas>

<http://www.fundacioncarolina.es/formacion/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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LECTURERS

The programme will be given by highly experienced lecturers from the organising institutions and guest lecturers belonging to teaching and research institutions, government departments and private entities.



UNIVERSIDAD DE CÓRDOBA



Junta de Andalucía

Consejería de Agricultura, Ganadería,
Pesca y Desarrollo Sostenible



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CSIC

