

## OLIVE OIL IN ITALY: FACTS AND FIGURES

- Olive farms: about 900,000
- Hectares of olive groves: over 1.1 million
- 2018/19 production (estimate): 185,000 tonnes of oil
- Olive sector turnover (industrial stage): 3 billion euros, equal to 3% of total turnover in the agro-food industry
- from November 2017 to August 2018, in quantitative terms, purchases through channels other than large-scale retail doubled, while their impact on total household purchases increased to 11% compared to 6% for the previous campaign
- PDO and PGI: almost 40% of the olive oils recognised by the EU are Italian brands (42 DOP and 5 PGI - ed. Puglia PGI has provisional approval). Greece and Spain follow with 29 recognitions each

The Italian PDO and PGI extra virgin olive oil sector achieved turnover of more than 72 million euros in 2017 (+3.5%), while value at consumer level came to 115 million euros. In terms of value, exports represent 52% of certified production (56 million euros).

In 2017, just over 10,000 tonnes of extra virgin olive oil with denomination of origin (+1.3%) were certified.

There are 21,881 PDO/PGI operators in Italy. The first three PDO/PGI products in terms of production value are PDO Terra di Bari, PGI Toscano and PDO Val di Mazara, together representing 68% of the total olive oils with designation of origin.

The provinces taking the podium for the highest sales values for olive oils with designation of origin are Bari, Barletta-Andria-Trani and Grosseto.

Italy and the world:

- 3rd olive producer after Spain and Greece in 2018/19
- 1st importer, in particular 157 thousand tonnes imported from Spain in the period January-June 2018 (-37%); in the same period, however, imports from Greece (+75%) and especially from Tunisia (+187%) increased considerably.
- 2nd exporter, with 144 thousand tonnes (January-June 2018), down 2.1%. The reason for this decline is the slowdown for exports to the United States (-11% in volume and -14% in value). On the other hand, exports to Canada, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Brazil are increasing

Average EU olive oil consumption in 2017 was 1.1 kg per capita. In more detail, consumer countries saw first place taken by Greece with 12.5 litres per year, followed by Spain with 11.5 and Italy with 10.5 kg. Among European nations, special mention must go to high consumption in Luxembourg, with 3.2 litres per capita per year. Consumption in the United States, although growing, is still below the EU average, with 1 litre per capita per year.

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Ismea, Istat

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