

OLIVE GROWING – CIHEAM’S CONTRIBUTION

Sharing Knowledge, Feeding the Future

About CIHEAM



Created in 1962, the [CIHEAM](#) (International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies) is a Mediterranean Organisation that works for improving sustainable agriculture and fisheries, for ensuring food and nutrition security and for developing rural and coastal territories. The CIHEAM gathers 13 Member States from both shores of the Mediterranean (Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia and Turkey) and works with several international and regional institutions. CIHEAM’s actions rely on a bottom-up collaboration and are problem solving oriented, connected to the special needs of the countries. With its Member States, public and private partners and academics the CIHEAM strive to meet the 4 following challenges:

- Combating all form of waste (Knowledge-Natural Resources-Food)
- Boosting Sustainable Agriculture and Food
- Investing in new generations and fragile territories
- Preventing risks and managing tensions

The Olive tree in the Mediterranean: A Historical strategic asset

An Economic Asset for the Mediterranean Region

Olive Sector Production represents:

80% of world olive production worldwide

97% of the world production of olive oil (2013)

More than **98%** of the production of olive oil and table olives is to be found in the Mediterranean Basin

A common Mediterranean culture

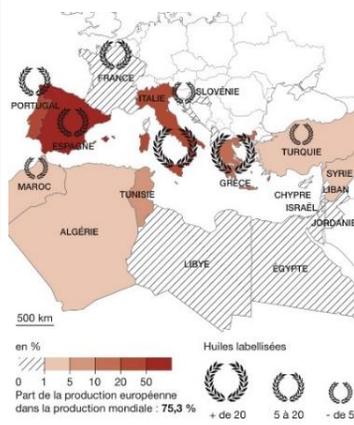
At the heart of the geography and history of this region, the olive tree is an **emblem of peace** whose cultivation plays a crucial role in the economy, landscape and agricultural production of the countries of the region and in the vitality of the rural territories where it is rooted.

Olive cultivation constitutes a **key element** of the Mediterranean agricultural sector, and Mediterranean countries clearly dominate world olive oil and table olive production and consumption.

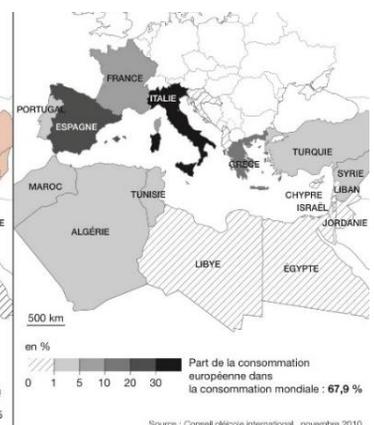
It is a symbol of **resilience** of territories, an instrument of sustainable social and economic development, an agent of the struggle against climate change and an ally of health and nutrition. Olive oil is a key element for food and nutritional security that is significant in the **Mediterranean diet**.

In order to support and to contribute to sustainable development of olive growing, CIHEAM deploys various means for its protection and promotion, notably through research activities, technical assistance, sharing of knowledge and know-how.

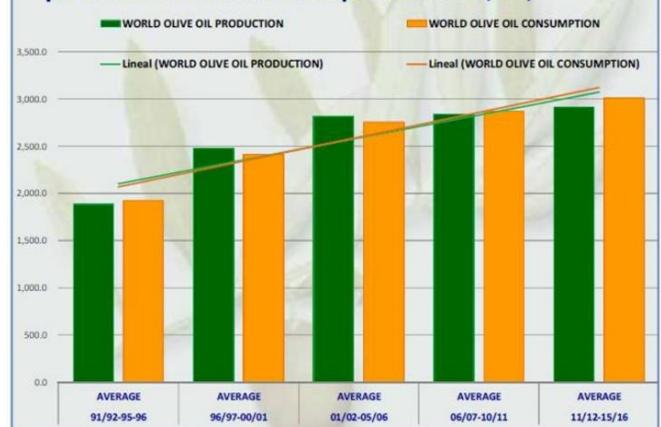
Olive oil production



Olive oil consumption



Average rates over the last fifty years - Global production and consumption trends (10³)





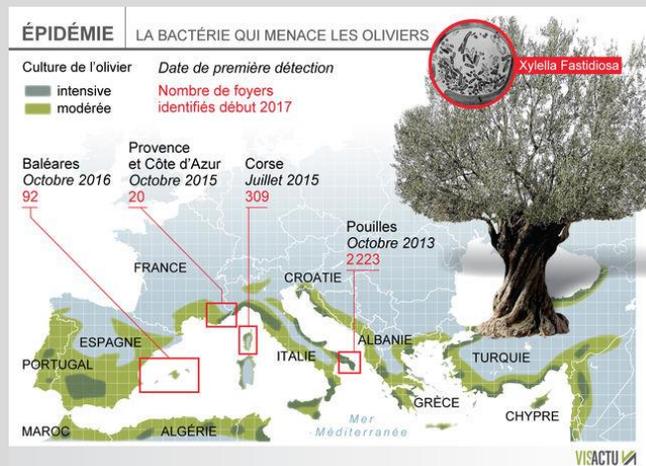
Plant Health & Risk Management

Crisis & Resilience

It is important to raise awareness on the role and importance of the olive tree in the Mediterranean but also on the dangers that threaten it. Faced with the intensification of **risks to plant health**, it becomes essential to strengthen the resilience of the olive sector and to gradually adapt the organisation of this sector to meet the challenges of development that must be more inclusive and sustainable and more responsive to the globalisation of agricultural markets and food products.

Strengthen the fight against *Xylella Fastidiosa*

There is an urgent need to gather data from the world's leading research centres in the fight against the *Xylella fastidiosa*, this **devastating bacterium** that is severely affecting Mediterranean olive trees. A Plan of action to address challenges through common actions for the prevention, control and mitigation of *Xylella fastidiosa* appear to be a growing common priority.



The olive tree chain value: a cross-cutting issues of CAPMED 2025

Like the challenges related to olive oil and its consumption, the challenges of olive cultivation and protection are at the heart of the 2025 Strategic Agenda of the CIHEAM, revolving around the four pillars aimed at preserving the environment, improving food and nutrition security, fostering inclusive development, and managing crises and building resilience in the Mediterranean.

What We Do?

The CIHEAM is involved in several cooperation projects, actions and provide training to contribute to the sustainable development of olive growing in the Mediterranean.

COOPERATION PROJECTS

→XF-ACTORS (2016-)

The project will accomplish researches & innovation actions to improve the prevention, early detection and control of Xf under different phytosanitary conditions and maximize the impacts of the EU research programs.

<https://www.xfactorsproject.eu/>

→CURE-XF Project (2017-2021)

CURE-XF involves 18 partners from the following countries: Italy, France, Greece, Spain, Belgium, UK, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Lebanon, Palestine and Iran. In this project the different aspects of *Xylella fastidiosa* assessment and management (pathogen-hosts interaction, characterization, diagnosis, epidemiology, monitoring, etc) are tackled. This project is Funding by European Union's Horizon 2020.

<http://www.cure-xf.eu/>

→Rural Empowerment of Kurdistan Region through Sustainable Development of the Olive Oil Value Chain, KORES (2018-2019)

Project objective is to enforce the institutional support and producers capacities within the Kurdish virgin olive oil value chain. Project targets at the whole Kurdistan Region, focusing the olive oil developed area in the territories of Dohuk, Erbil, Sulaymaniyah and Garman Governorates.

→Albanian Sustainable Development of Olive Sector - ASDO (2017-2018)

The project is in line with the National Plan for EU Integration of Albania, reflecting the SAA (The Stabilisation and Association agreement) and aims to increase the efficiency of corporates and competitiveness of agriculture and processed products through EU standard implementation in olive sector. 4 components: harmonization of legal and institutional framework, propagation material, primary production, processing and marketing. The project will establish the guidelines for future development of olive sector.



→BANCA DEI GENI TUNISIA (*Bank of Genes Tunisia*) 2017

The main objective is to reduce the impacts of climate change by strengthening biodiversity conservation programs and genetic resources with greater focus on the protection of ecosystems. The project proposes to create a "genetic chain" to preserve new varieties adapted to the changing conditions of the Tunisian environment; strengthening human resource capacity and infrastructure; the recovery and the practical use of important genetic resources, with direct and active participation of Tunisian farmers and institutions, in the process of localization, conservation and evaluation of local genetic resources (mainly cereals, olives and fruit trees).

→Olio del Libano III (*Oil Lebanon III*) 2017-2018

The project aims to Improve the socioeconomic conditions of olive oil operators, whether associated or not, and of their families, to increase food security level and to strengthen quality of Lebanese olive oil chain.

<http://www.oliolibano.net>

→BeFOre, *Bioresources For Oliviculture* (2015-)

The project aims at establishing a multi-lateral network of research and innovation staff active in OLIVE germplasm access, conservation, evaluation and exploitation, strengthening research capacities through the exchange of knowledge and expertise on a shared research programme focused on establishing integrated common protocols to phenotype and characterize plants at molecular, morphological and physiological level, and evaluating the olive oil quality related to varieties.

<http://www.beforeproject.eu>

→The olive oil of the Governorate of Medenine to improving the economic and cultural partnership, CG34_HOME

The project aims at developing a fair and sustainable economic partnership between two agricultural cooperatives of Medenine and entrepreneurs of the Department of Hérault in France in the olive oil sector.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

→ Master Olive growing and olive oil technology (*CIHEAM-Zaragoza, Sept 2017-June 2019*)

The Master of Science is jointly organized with the International Olive Council and the Spanish National Research Council as well as other prominent research centres of the olive sector. It has been running since 1995/96 and has provided top-level training for 319 students from 27 countries.

<http://www.iamz.ciheam.org/en/education/masters/oliviculture>

→Mediterranean Agribusiness School

(*CIHEAM-Zaragoza, June-July 2019*)

The Summer program aims to provide knowledge on the Mediterranean Diet, Agro-Food industry and Spanish food Culture by case studies on the main Mediterranean products, tasting sessions, field trips and Technical visits as well as Spanish language lessons.

<http://mediterraneanagribusinessschool.education/>

→ Master Mediterranean Organic Agriculture

(*CIHEAM-Bari, 2018-2019*)

<http://www.iamb.ciheam.org/en/education/masters/moa>

→Mediterranean Diet Cooperation

(*CIHEAM Chania, 2-21 September 2018*)

It is a training programme including non-traditional teaching methods based on observation of interactive learning and problem-solving collaboration including the visit of the laboratories of the Institute to observe the procedure of olive oil analysis as well as the participation in an olive oil tasting workshop.

→Advanced Course on Plant diseases caused by *Xylella fastidiosa*: Detection, identification, monitoring and control (*CIHEAM Zaragoza, 12-16 November 2018*)

The course provided advanced knowledge, improved capacity building and raised awareness on the following: biology and ecology of *X. fastidiosa* and its vectors; epidemiology of the diseases it causes; status of the current situation in Europe and worldwide; new approaches to investigate host-pathogen-vector interactions; recent developments in sustainable disease management and legislative measures. Involving 14 European and international expert lecturers, this course was sponsored by Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentación de España and supported by several EU projects including XF-ACTORS, Ponte Projecteu, Cure-Xf.

→1st International Summer School on "*Xylella fastidiosa* – detection, epidemiology and control measures" (*CIHEAM-Bari, 10 sept-17 Oct 2018*)

The 1st International CURE-XF Summer School objectives was to provide basic scientific knowledge and practical experiences on different aspects underlining the complex pathogen-hosts-vectors interactions, promote research capacity building, raise awareness on the emerging threats posed by *Xylella fastidiosa*, support pest risk assessment.



Political Dialogue & Events

2018

12-14 December, Bari

International Meeting

Integrated actions against Xylella fastidiosa to protect olive trees and international trade

➤ 21 March, Bari

Seminar “Communicating science: Xylella and the quick decline olive syndrome”, co-organized by Apulian Regional Council and Academy of Sciences of Apulia

2017

➤ 13-15 November, Palma de Mallorca

European conference on Xylella fastidiosa: finding answers to a global problem, organised by EFSA, University of the Balearic Islands, Euphresco network, EU Horizon 2020 projects POnTE & XF-ACTORS, European Commission (DG RTD)

2016

➤ 28-30 November, Bari

International workshop on the Xylella Fastidiosa, CIHEAM & IOC

➤ 19-22 April, Bari

High-level international seminar on the monitoring of the bacteria Xylella Fastidiosa organised by CIHEAM, FAO, NEPP, EPPO, IPPC

➤ 15 July, Tunis

Memorandum of Cooperation with the International Olive Council

2012

➤ 26-28 November, Zaragoza

International Seminar on Present and future of Mediterranean Olive sector, IAMZ-CIHEAM & IOC

Publications

CIHEAM – NEWMEDIT

➔ Karaca C. & Huseyin Ozturk H. (2018), **An economical, energetical and environmental management of olive oil production wastes,** *New Medit n.1*, pp. 4-12.

CIHEAM – Options méditerranéennes

➔ D'Onglia A.M. (ed.), Brunel S. (ed.), Valentini F. (ed.). **Xylella fastidiosa & the Olive Quick Decline Syndrome (OQDS). A serious worldwide challenge for the safeguard of olive trees.** Bari : CIHEAM, 2017. 172 p. (*Options Méditerranéennes : Série A. Séminaires Méditerranéens; n. 121*).

➔ **L'oléiculture au Maroc de la préhistoire à nos jours : pratiques, diversité, adaptation, usages, commerce et politiques.** Montpellier : CIHEAM, 2016. 215 p. (*Options Méditerranéennes : Série A. Séminaires Méditerranéens; n. 118*). 3. *Rencontre interdisciplinaire internationale : L'Oléiculture au Maroc de la Préhistoire à nos Jours: Pratiques, Diversité, Adaptation, Usages, Commerce et Politiques, 2015/03/06-09, Chefchaouen (Maroc).*

➔ **Present and future of the Mediterranean olive sector.** Zaragoza: CIHEAM / IOC, 2013. 207 p. (*Options Méditerranéennes : Série A. Séminaires Méditerranéens; n. 106*). *International Seminar: Present and Future of the Mediterranean Olive Sector, 2012/11/26-28, Zaragoza (Spain).*

CIHEAM - WATCH LETTER

➔ **L'oléiculture face aux changements climatiques en Méditerranée,** Francesco Serafini, in *Watch Letter n° 37*, CIHEAM, September 2016

➔ **Invasive Species in the Mediterranean.** Paris: CIHEAM, 2015 – *Watch Letter n°33*.

➔ CIHEAM, 2011, **Huile d'olive et oléiculture en Méditerranée,** *Lettre de veille, n°16*.

CIHEAM – MEDITERRA

➔ **Trade and logistics: the case of the olive oil sector** Dimitrios Niklis, George Baourakis, Boubaker Thabet and Georgios Manthoulis, Chapter 11, *Mediterra 2014*, CIHEAM.

➔ *Mediterra 2012. The Mediterranean Diet for Sustainable Regional Development,* CIHEAM. - Paris: Presses de Sciences Po, 2012.

For Further Information...

www.ciheam.org

Follow us on [Twitter](#) & [Facebook](#)

More details on the [CAPMED 2025](#)

Contact secretariat@ciheam.org

