

Olives New Zealand Certification Programme

Change in Certification

Olives New Zealand implemented a new Certification programme in 2012¹.

This was driven by a variety of factors:

- Withdrawal of Plant and Food Laboratory use (IOC accredited)
- Succession Planning Concerns with Loss of Panel members
- Cost (in having a new laboratory accredited and training a new panel, assuming a suitable laboratory and people could be found plus the lead in time)
- Timing Constraints (limited period when oil could be certified)
- Perceived Impartiality.

Certification – 2012 onwards

The new system implemented in 2012 uses the Oil Testing Service operated by the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries. It became a “one-stop shop” operated by the Olives NZ Executive Officer. Members were required to make one step submission vs. the earlier three step submission, including the OliveMark Licence Agreement and payment². The OliveMark Licence Agreement and payment had been a fourth step to the previous process. In addition, other results were now also provided back to the member – UV Absorption figures and the Organoleptic results for Defects and Fruity.

There was no increase in cost to the member for a more efficient and value added system.

Also, given the significant investment in the original panel by Olives New Zealand and their expertise, every attempt has been made to retain their skills. Those available have been offered opportunities to be involved in the judging panel for the NZ Extra Virgin Olive Oil Awards.

Certification 2014

For 2014, Olives New Zealand is pleased to announce that an additional chemical analysis and more detailed Organoleptic results will be provided at no additional cost. The chemical analysis is the Polyphenol content (which will assist in understanding the taste profile) and the Organoleptic results will also include Pungency and Bitter.

Summary of Certification Process and Cost

Up to 2011 - 3 step process	2012/2013 - 1 step process	2014 - 1 step process
<u>1. AsureQuality</u> Submission Form 1 x 50ml sample Payment of \$42.20	<u>1. Olives NZ</u> Request for Certification Form 2 x 250ml Samples Payment of \$242 per oil	<u>1. Olives NZ</u> Request for Certification Form 2 x 250ml Samples Payment of \$242 per oil
<u>2. Olives NZ</u> AsureQuality Certificate Declaration Document Set of Labels Payment of \$200		
<u>3. Plant & Food</u> Submission Form 2 x 200ml samples 1 x 50ml sample		
<u>Total Cost Per Sample</u> \$242.20 plus 2 x courier fees <u>Documentation Received</u> AsureQuality Chemical Analysis showing: Free Fatty Acid Peroxide Value Olives NZ letter advising met or not met NZ EVOO requirements	<u>Total Cost per Sample</u> \$242 plus 1 x courier fee <u>Documentation Received</u> Olives NZ Certification Certificate showing: Free Fatty Acid Peroxide Value <i>UV Absorption (3 figures)</i> <i>Organoleptic Results (Defects, Fruity)</i>	<u>Total Cost per Sample</u> \$242 plus 1 x courier fee <u>Documentation Received</u> Olives NZ Certification Certificate showing: Free Fatty Acid Peroxide Value <i>UV Absorption (3 figures)</i> <i>Polyphenol Content</i> <i>Organoleptic Results (Defects, Fruity, Pungency, Bitter)</i>

Bold figures show the additional results data provided from the original system

¹ To see the full report - <http://www.olivesnz.org.nz/members-news/certification-future-directions/>

² The annual fee of \$57.50 has remained unchanged