

The production of Chilean olive oil has increased by 46.6% in the last five years

The production of olive oil in Chile has reached 22,000 tons in 2018, which is 10% more than in 2017 (20,000 tons) and 46.6% compared to 2013 (15,000 tons), according to ChileOliva.

In this report, this association has explained that although in terms of kilos of fruit, the yields in 2018 have been considerably higher than those obtained during the previous season, a lower accumulation of oil has been observed in a generalized way.

Likewise, during the first semester of 2018, the national surface of olive plantations for olive oil remained at 25,000 hectares as in the last four years.

Regarding the quantity of shipments of olive oil abroad, during the first semester of 2018, a total of 4,663 tons of olive oil were exported, which represents an increase of 15.7% over the same period of the previous year. The main destinations were Brazil (2,692 tons), followed by the United States (1,509 tons), Canada (124 tons), Colombia (60 tons), Uruguay (52 tons), Japan (32 tons), China (27 tons) and Mexico (25 tons). Between January and June 2018, of the total of 4,663 tons exported, 29.3% (1,367 tons) corresponded to exports of olive oil in bulk. Of this percentage, 88% were exports to the United States, followed by Spain (6%) and Japan (0.1%).

In turn, 70.7% (3,296 tons) of a total of 4,663 tons exported were sent as bottled olive oil to different markets of destination, of which 80% corresponds to the Brazilian market, followed by the United States (9%) and Canada (4%).

Regarding imports registered during the first semester of 2018, they stood at 2,135 tons, 471% more than in the same period of 2017.

Precision farming

On the other hand, the association has reported that the Chilean Government has approved the fourth Technological Diffusion Program (PDT) of ChileOliva, a new project called "Precision Agriculture in the olive oil industry", which will have a duration of 18 months and is directed to the olive oil industry at a national level, represented by the entity.



The objective of this initiative is to increase the yields of the olive tree through the improvement of agronomic management through the incorporation of knowledge in precision agriculture.

Through a series of training sessions with experts in precision agriculture from the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of Chile, among others, the professionals of the benefited companies will be able to incorporate the use of technology that will allow them to improve agronomic management, increase productions and be more efficient with the use of resources such as water.

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