



## **According to initial estimates, the 2019/2020 olive oil production will increase by more than 3% and in Italy is expected to double the production.**

**The first provisional global data relating to the 2019/2020 olive oil production campaign foresee a growth of more than 3% in world olive oil production and a redemption of Italy whose production will grow significantly compared to the previous year.**

Although it is still too early to have reliable data on the next olive oil production campaign, it is worth emphasizing the increase in olive oil production in the Mediterranean countries and that olive growing now occupies 11.68 million hectares in the world. Olive oil is produced in 64 countries and consumed in over 180 countries on five continents.

The first provisional global data relating to the 2019/2020 olive oil production campaign indicate that Spanish production is expected to fall while in other producing countries (Mediterranean but not only) better forecasts are recorded than in the previous 2018/2019 olive oil campaign, primarily in Italy.

While **Spain** should produce between 1.1 and 1.3 million tons of olive oil, a little less than the 1.77 million tons of the previous highly productive harvesting campaign, **Italy** should probably be able to double the production compared to the previous oil campaign reaching up to 360,000 tons of olive oil. Production will return to growth especially in Central and Southern Italian regions, particularly in Puglia where a large part of national production is concentrated, while it is expected to fall in regions such as Liguria and Tuscany. From the qualitative point of view, Italy can count on the largest number of PDO extra virgin olive oils in Europe (43 PDO and 4 GPI) with a heritage of 250 million plants and 533 varieties of olives, the largest biodiversity heritage in the world.

As for **Greece**, the estimates predict that the total production of olive oil could exceed 250,000 tons, of which 80,000 only on the island of Crete, while in **Portugal** the production for the next oil campaign is estimated at 135,000 tons of olive oil.

However, beyond the positive forecasts for the increase in olive oil production worldwide, the EU continues its commitment to food security and production sustainability. Also, thanks to the EU-funded "Taichi" project, the Italia Olivicola and UNAPOL consortia, which aggregate over 60% of Italian producers, are at the forefront so that the quality, authenticity and safety of the product is guaranteed to all consumers.

The TAICHI project aims to disseminate information and knowledge on the world of olive oil to increase consumers' awareness of mainland China and Taiwan on the consumption of this product. The project, through its website, various social media platforms and the OurOliveOil APP - available in the App Store and Google Play offers consumers all the information they need to understand the benefits of olive oil consumption.

**Sources:** <https://www.ilsole24ore.com/art/unico-e-ricercato-l-olio-extravergine-oliva-5-stelle-ACdHxAT>



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