



IOOC KOTINOS 2025 International Olive Oil Competition

Deadline of receiving samples	Friday 21st February 2025
Cost	180,00 € the first sample 150,00 € every other
Early Bird until 31/01/2025	150,00 € (for the first sample)
Delivery Address	FILAIOS, Solwnos 20, 17674 Kallithea Attica Greece Tel. 2103248567 E-mail gram@filaios.org

REGULATION

A. GOALS – OBJECTIVES OF THE COMPETITION

Willing to promote high-quality extra virgin olive oils and disseminate information about their specific characteristics, the (Hellenic) Olive Oil Scientific Society "FILAIOS", re-organizes this year, continuing its historical course that began 16 years ago in the context of the Mediterranean Olive Exhibition & Olive Oil "ELIOTECHNIA 2009" with and the support of other institutional bodies of the olive sector, the International Contest for the Quality of Extra Virgin Olive Oil "KOTINOS 2025".

The main goals of the Competition are the following:

- a) To support and encourage olive oil growers; olive oil producers; olive oil millers; traders and packers, to promote products with exquisite organoleptic characteristics (quality criterion perceived by the consumers), safeguarding and improving their quality and promoting the usage and consumption of high-quality olive oils.
- b) To inform and encourage consumers (including young consumers) and professionals using olive oil (culinary arts schools, chefs, food service establishments-restaurants, taverns, hotels, etc.) to recognize and appreciate, in addition to the particular and scientifically proved healthy and nutritional value and properties, the organoleptic characteristics, namely the sensory properties (aroma-taste-harmony) of high-quality extra virgin olive oils.

B. STEERING COMMITTEE

The Competition is conducted under the auspices of a four-member Steering Committee who are internationally renowned for their scientific and professional expertise in olive oil.

The Steering Committee has the exclusive authority and responsibility of managing and resolving all issues

related to the organization and conduct of the Competition. Among else, the Steering Committee is tasked with the responsibility of respecting for all participants the rules of ethics, confidentiality and equal treatment throughout all stages of the Competition.

The decisions of the Steering Committee are final and irrevocable.

C. TERMS OF PARTICIPATION

The Competition is open to:

Group A

1. Olive oil packing/trading companies
2. Olive oil Cooperatives
3. Individual producers/ producers' organizations which distribute in the market branded packed extra virgin olive oil.

Group B

Olive oil growers

D. CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Participation in the Competition of legal entities of Group A requires the following:

1. To distribute in the market packed branded extra virgin olive oil in containers up to 5 liters.
2. To participate in the Competition with branded packed extra virgin olive oil produced during the current olive crop year which comply with the requirements for this category according to Regulation (EEC) No. 2568/91 as modified and applied.
3. The oils entering the Competition must be from a homogeneous batch of oil stored in a single tank of at least 1000 kgs, which has to be sealed and kept so until the Competition is completed.
4. Samples entering the Competition must carry a labeling with the indications provided by Regulation EU 29/2012 or the IOC Trade Standard. In the case of samples of extra virgin olive oils packed in a unit located in Greece, they must also carry on their label the identification code (EL 40 XXX) of the packing unit. A corresponding obligation regarding the country of origin of the product is provided for the samples that will be presented by foreign participants.

Participation in the Competition of individuals of **Group B** requires the following:

1. To have from the competent authorities, the necessary legal documents for the respective category in which they wish to compete (e.g. certificate from the relevant certification body for organic olive oils, etc)
2. To produce during the current crop year per category of extra virgin olive oil for which they participate in the Competition a homogeneous batch of at least 500 kgs.

E. OBLIGATIONS OF PARTICIPANTS

All those interested in participating in the Competition must submit to the Secretariat of FILAIOS, **the latest until 21/02/2025**, the following:

1. The Application Form (Annex A or Annex B per case) fully and correctly filled in. For each competing brand name, a separate Application Form is required, **with a clear reference to the category of prizes.**
2. For every brand name of extra virgin oil entering the competition four (4) sealed bottles of the product in containers of 500 or 750 ml or 1 litre.
3. In the case of participants of Group B (Olive Oil Growers) four (4) bottles of the product, in full and tightly closed containers of 500 or 750 ml or 1 litre.
4. For every brand name of extra virgin oil entering the competition a Chemical Analysis Certificate, issued by a Laboratory accredited according to ISO 17025, for the following indexes: Free fatty acids, Peroxide value and specific absorptions (K232 nm, K270 nm, & variation) proving its classification (in terms of chemical quality criteria), as well as an organoleptic evaluation certificate from an accredited laboratory, according to ISO 17025, proving its category.
5. A Technical Information Sheet (Annex C), fully and correctly filled in, for each brand name of participants of Group A and for each category of prizes for participation in the Competition, both for group A and for Group B.
6. A copy of the receipt, proving the payment of the cost of participation in the Competition, based on the cost of participation for each Group.

F. WINNERS AND AWARDS

The following three categories of extra virgin olive oils from each group of participants, as mentioned above, will be awarded in the context of the Contest.

- 1. Extra Virgin Olive Oils of Protected Destination of Origin - PDO and/or Protected Geographical Indication - PGI)**

2. Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oils

3. Extra Virgin Olive Oils (conventional cultivation)

*For each category of olive oils, according to the intensity of their fruitiness – **robust, medium and delicate** - the following prizes will be awarded:*

1. GOLDEN KOTINOS 2025

2. SILVER KOTINOS 2025

3. BRONZE KOTINOS 2025

4. Honor Certificate 2025 (for samples with minimum score 70 on the scale 0 - 100) In case of a draw, equivalent prizes will be given.

The awarded brand names, as well as the details of the olive oil growers that will be awarded, will be publicized through specific actions and events to be organized by FILAIOS.

G. COMPETITION PROCESS

1. Publication of the Competition

The Competition will be publicized by all appropriate means and will include events presentation, the terms and conditions of participation and the prizes. The Press (newspapers, magazines), television and radio spots, Internet and Social Media will be used as means of publication.

2. Expression of Interest / Applications for Participation

All those interested in participating in the Competition must submit to the Secretariat of FILAIOS, Solwnos 20, 17674 Kallithea Athens, tel. +302103248567, e-mail gram@filaios.org, the required documentation as specified above, in section E.

The Secretariat of FILAIOS is tasked to examine the appropriateness and completeness of the applications and their full compliance with the rules of the Competition, as detailed in sections C and D.

The cost of sending the documents, as well as their safe and timely delivery to the Secretariat of FILAIOS are borne by the Participants in the Competition and relate entirely to them.

3. Submission and Storage of Samples

In addition to the necessary documentation participants in the Competition must also dispatch the latest

till the date specified above in section E, four (4) samples of packed branded product in containers of 500ml or 750ml or 1lt from the batch participating in the Competition, which will be preserved until the announcement of the results of the Competition.

Shipping and any other cost related with the transport of samples are payable by the Participants in the Competition.

The Competition Steering Committee shall not accept entries after the closing date (date of dispatch in case of Applications sent by registered post) and is not responsible for the total or partial loss of participating documents/materials, physico-chemical or organoleptic alterations of the samples due to temperature changes or eventual breakage of bottles, or any other damage which might occur during transportation.

Once the Secretariat of the Competition receives the samples, the Steering Committee is responsible for their proper and safe storage, as well as for the necessary confidentiality concerning their anonymity according to the rules of the Competition.

4. Participation Fee for Group A

The participation fee in the Competition amounts to **180,00€** per brand name and product category.

- **For early entries to the Competition until 31/1/2025 the participation fee amounts to 150,00€.**
- **If participation in the Competition refers to more than one sample, the fee of the second and any further sample, regardless of the date of submission of the application is reduced to 150,00€.**

(More specifically, if the submission takes place after 31/1/2025, the first sample costs 180,00€ and every other costs 150,00€)

5. Participation Fee for Group B

The participation fee to the Competition for Group B amounts to **150,00€** per sample.

The due participation fee may be paid in cash or deposited in the following bank accounts marked as: "**KOTINOS 2025**" and the name of the company or producer as written in the application form.

FILAIOS - Olive Oil Scientific Society

- **ALPHA BANK - IBAN GR64 0140 1200 1200 0200 2009 914**
- **PIRAEUS BANK - IBAN GR67 0172 0490 0050 4910 1254 205**

6. Evaluation of Samples

The overall evaluation of the samples participating in the Contest will be carried out in two stages as following:

First-stage assessment

The first-stage assessment of the samples will concern the ranking of the samples according to the median fruit intensity value.

The aim of the first-stage assessment is two-fold:

- a. The elimination from the Competition of the samples showing defects related to their organoleptic characteristics, since they cannot be classified under the category of extra virgin olive oils.
- b. The classification of the samples which organoleptically belong to the category of extra virgin olive oils, according to the intensity of the median of the fruitiness in one of the following categories:

- Robust fruitiness
- Medium fruitiness
- Delicate fruitiness

Second-stage assessment

The second-stage of the Competition refers to the assessment of the samples classified in each one of the three categories of fruitiness at of the first stage, by an international Jury of prominent tasters, using a specific profile sheet for the evaluation of the sensory profile of each oil.

The average rating of each sample will be based on the results given by the members of the Jury during the second stage of assessment.

A separate classification table in descending score order will be drawn up for each fruitiness category, to obtain the four (4) prize winners for each category of the Competition. It is noted that in the case of a draw, the corresponding number of prizes will be awarded as appropriate.

The minimum score for an oil to be awarded is 70 for all categories with the classification as Excellent corresponding to a score of 100. The results of the Competition based on the decisions taken by the members of the Jury are definite and irrevocable.

H. SENSORY EVALUATION JURY

The Sensory Evaluation Jury will be composed of at least eight (8) prominent olive oil tasters (Greeks and/or foreigners), with one of them acting as Head of the Jury.

The Head and the members of the Jury are appointed by the Steering Committee of the Competition.

The Head of the Jury shall have demonstrated numerous years of experience in olive oil quality contests in Greece and abroad, and shall be responsible for supervising the official work of the Organoleptic Evaluation Committee and ensuring the smooth and consistent conduct of the procedures.

Olive oil tasters, members of the Jury shall have demonstrated membership in an accredited group of extra virgin olive oil testers and/or have participated as judges in Pan-Hellenic or international extra virgin olive oil contests.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS - AWARDS

The winners of the Competition will be announced through Press Releases, the Media, will be posted on the website of FILAIOS and, also, during special workshops and events organized by or with the participation of FILAIOS.

For reasons of confidentiality for all those participating in the "KOTINOS 2025" Contest, the score of each sample shall not be announced.

However, at a written request to the Secretariat of FILAIOS through the email: gram@filaios.org, the Competitors may obtain information from the Competition Steering Committee, regarding the rating of the submitted samples.

The prizes of the Competition will be awarded to the winners during a special event, the venue and time of which will be communicated as soon as they are fixed to both the participants and the wider public.

The winners of the "KOTINOS 2025" Contest will be entitled to advertise the awarded prize to consumers.

The winners will be entitled to place on the packaging of products of the winning brand, which originate only from the declared for participating in the Contest homogeneous batch, a sticker displaying the title and the year of the Contest, the category of the prize and carrying the "FILAIOS" logo.