



# Olive Growers Council of California

# Newsletter

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## **OGCC VISITS CAPITOL HILL**

In March, representatives of the Olive Growers Council of California (OGCC) traveled to Washington, DC in order to conduct meetings with numerous Members of Congress to discuss the California table olive industry's official position on important topics including: immigration, food safety, trade, transportation/logistics, labor, and pesticide policies, among others. This was an excellent opportunity to highlight many of the important issues for our industry in an effort to obtain additional support in the upcoming Farm Bill, and other relevant legislation. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the OGCC office for more information.

## **OGCC ATTENDS FRUIT LOGISTICA TRADESHOW**

The Olive Growers Council of California participated in the annual Fruit Logistica Tradeshow, held in Berlin, Germany, from April 5-7, 2022. Exhibitors from 86 countries and trade visitors attend Fruit Logistica every year. Fruit Logistica covers every sector of the fresh produce business and provides a complete picture of the latest innovations, products and services at every link in the international supply chain. For more information on this event, please do not hesitate to contact the OGCC office.

## **HEAT ILLNESS TRAINING**

On April 29, 2022, the Department of Industrial Relations, Cal/OSHA Consultation & Agricultural Organizations will be having a scheduled Heat Illness Prevention and Wildfire Smoke Training Session. The no-cost training will be held at the C.P.D.E.S. Portuguese Hall in Fresno. The program is intended for Supervisory Positions and certificates will be given upon completion of the two-hour session. Please [click here](#) to view the flyer for more information.

## **OLIVE GROWERS COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA ATTENDS AMERICAN LOGISTICS ASSOCIATION FOODSERVICE EXPOSITION**

In partnership with the California Olive Committee, the Olive Growers Council of California had the opportunity to attend the American Logistics Association (ALA) Foodservice Exposition. The OGCC met with many key decision makers on food purchasing decisions within the U.S. Military space. This was an excellent opportunity to showcase the quality and versatility of California olives and ultimately demonstrate the industry's potential to supply the U.S. Military's demand for table olives. Please do not hesitate to contact the OGCC office for more information on this event.

## **CALIFORNIA DROUGHT UPDATE**

Following the driest first three months of a year in the state's recorded history, Governor Newsom released an executive order on March 28, 2022 that calls on local water suppliers to activate drought contingency plans. This order also calls the Water Board to consider a ban on watering decorative grass around commercial, industrial and institutional buildings. To further conserve water and strengthen drought resiliency in this critically dry year, the Governor is encouraging suppliers, where appropriate, to consider going above and beyond the Level 2 of their water shortage contingency plans, activating more ambitious measures. To view the executive order, [click here](#).

## OGCC UPDATE

As you are likely aware, the Olive Growers Council of California (OGCC) is a non-profit bargaining association dedicated to serving the table olive industry in California. Aside from annual bargaining efforts, the OGCC is also involved in a number of additional initiatives to support the California table olive industry.

Beginning in 2017, the OGCC has been actively involved in the ongoing antidumping (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) cases against olive imports from the European Union. The OGCC has continued to serve as an active voice in encouraging the United States Trade Representative (USTR), United States Department of Commerce, and World Trade Organization (WTO) to uphold the AD/CVD cases and strengthen their authority in protecting our domestic industry. Most recently, in response to the WTO's ruling on the AD/CVD cases in December 2021, the OGCC worked with various Members of Congress to submit a letter to USTR, among other government organizations, to encourage strong enforcement of the ongoing AD/CVD cases.

The OGCC is also actively working with Members of Congress, the Defense Logistics Association, and the American Logistics Association to support initiatives designed to amend outdated provisions within the U.S. Military. The end goal of this initiative is to require that the U.S. Military source domestic table olives prior to imported product as it is required to do for the majority of other food and agricultural products currently purchased by the U.S. Military to fuel our troops.

Please do not hesitate to contact the OGCC office at (559) 578-8438 if you have any questions regarding the OGCC or our ongoing activities.



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## 2022 BARGAINING EFFORTS SET TO BEGIN SOON

The Olive Growers Council of California (OGCC), a volunteer bargaining organization that represents the majority of ripe table olive growers within the State of California, engages in annual price negotiations. Prior to the start of the ripe olive harvest season, the OGCC Bargaining Committee will meet with the two canners in California, Bell Carter Foods, Inc. and Musco Family Olive Company.

The OGCC appoints six of its members to serve on a Bargaining Committee that is responsible for conducting price negotiations on behalf of the ripe olive grower members of the OGCC. In preparation for the 2022 ripe olive season, the OGCC's Bargaining Committee will meet to develop an initial pricing proposal that will then be sent to both canners. After negotiations conclude, OGCC members will be notified of the final 2022 price. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the OGCC office if you have any questions or are interested in learning more.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **OFFICE CLOSED - Memorial Day**
  - May 30, 2022

*Some events are being held virtually. Please contact the OGCC office for more information.*