



Olive Growers Council of California

Newsletter

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JULY 2022 D.C. TRIP

OGCC staff recently returned from Washington D.C. advocating to Congressional members on behalf of the California ripe olive growers. Staff continued to emphasize the importance of maintaining the current Antidumping and Countervailing duty (AD/CVD) cases against ripe olives from Spain. The European Union has continued to place pressure on the Biden Administration to terminate the olive AD/CVD Cases. In June, President Sanchez of Spain met with President Biden and directly requested that he drop both cases. Currently, the United States must come into compliance with WTO rulings which have stated that the current statutory provision, Section 771B, is inconsistent with WTO rules. However, it is not within the realm of the Executive Branch to terminate the cases. The Uruguay Round Agreements Act stipulates that Section 771B, like all U.S. law, must be carried out until Congress makes an amendment. As a result, OGCC staff made clear to Congressional members that their sovereignty must be maintained, and that they should not let the Biden Administration circumvent them and terminate the AD/CVD cases. OGCC staff is returning to D.C. in September and will keep the industry updated.

PORT OF OAKLAND MARINE TERMINAL RESUME OPERATIONS

After several days of disruption by truck drivers protesting the gig worker law AB5, the Port of Oakland's Marine Terminals opened for normal operations on Saturday July 23rd. After being directed by local law enforcement, truck drivers are now using designated free speech areas to protest AB5. The protests of this past week have prevented the timely flow of international commerce. This is why, the Port of Oakland and the Agricultural commodities, have urged truck drivers who would like to continue protesting to focus their efforts on State lawmakers who are pushing this bill through.

CALIFORNIA DROUGHT UPDATE

Governor Newsom's California Blueprint proposed to invest \$2 billion for drought response, including \$100 million along with the prior investment of \$16 million during the current fiscal year. During the public meeting of the State Water Board, regulations were adopted that will require implementation of local water supplier's level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans. For those without a plan, they are required to limit outdoor water use by banning ornamental grass irrigation on commercial properties and businesses. It also restricts watering during the hottest time of the day and limits watering to two days per week. On July 29th, Governor Newsom called on local water leaders again to urge cutting down urban water use due to the extreme heat and dry weather.



OGCC STAFF MET WITH CONGRESSMAN LAMALFA ON THE HILL IN JULY!

OGCC SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATES 2022 GROWER PRICING

As you are aware, the Olive Growers Council of California (OGCC) has successfully negotiated and has had a positive impact on ripe olive prices in California since its founding in 1978. The OGCC has been working diligently for the last couple of months to ensure the highest price possible was negotiated with the Processors. The California ripe olive industry has been faced with several challenges over the past year. The OGCC is meticulously working to lessen the negative ripple effect from recent industry events that continue to impact the California ripe olive industry. Although it has been a challenging last couple of years, we sincerely appreciate your membership and support of the OGCC. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this year's price negotiation or any other activities the OGCC has participated in throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact our office directly.

2023 FARM BILL DISCUSSION

The 2023 Farm Bill is currently being drafted. If you have any concerns about the drafting of the Farm Bill or any topics or areas of interest, please contact the OGCC for more information. OGCC staff will continue to advocate for continuation of programs such as the Specialty Crop Block Grants and Market Access Program funds that benefit the California ripe table olive industry on both the domestic and international fronts.



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Recipe Corner

Pasta Puttanesca with California Green Olives & Chicken

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp California Olive Oil
- 1 Yellow Onion, diced
- 3 Cloves Garlic, minced
- 2 lb. Tomatoes, cut into large chunks
- 1 Can California Green Olives, in water
- 10-12 Leaves of Fresh Basil
- 1 lb. pasta, cooked according to package
- 2 Chicken Breasts, grilled
- Salt and Pepper



Recipe Courtesy of California Grower

Instructions

- Heat the California olive oil in a sauté pan on medium heat. Add the onion and stir until aromatic. Add the garlic and cook for about another minute.
- Add the cut tomatoes and smash them up in the pan with the back of a fork or another crushing tool. Add the water from the can of California olives and allow sauce to simmer and reduce a bit, about 10- 15 minutes.
- Add the California olives and chopped basil and heat through.
- Add the cooked pasta and toss until well coated.
- Slice the optional cooked chicken on top.
- Serve and enjoy!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **OFFICE CLOSED - Labor Day**
 - September 5, 2022
- **OGCC Staff in D.C.**
 - September 25-30 2022

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