

How to Become a Voluntary Member of the OOC

A new resource for small olive oil farmers and producers who want to know more about voluntary OOC membership is now available on the website. While OOC membership is not required for producers of less than 5,000 gallons of olive oil per year, they may choose to participate in the OOC's mandatory sampling and testing program on a voluntary basis.

A few years ago, the OOC Board created a voluntary version of the OOC's mandatory sampling and testing program to make it more accessible and affordable for smaller producers. The program is available to any California olive oil producer committed to high quality standards for their product and who wishes to have this quality verified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).

This OOC program is only for 100 percent California olive oil. The benefits to members include:

- OOC member olive oil is analyzed by a credible, independent laboratory to ensure it meets stringent standards for quality and purity;
- Samples are collected and verified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture;
- Members who meet the stringent CDFA standards are allowed to use the OOC logo on their packaging and marketing materials;
- A list of OOC *Members in Good Standing*, which includes voluntary members, is maintained and published each year;

The information packet is available [here](#) and includes more details about the OOC program and its costs, an explanation of the OOC's quality and purity standards, a list of current OOC *Members in Good Standing* and other useful resources to help you make an informed decision.

Should you have questions or need additional information, please contact OOC Executive Director Chris Zanobini by email at chris@agamisi.com or phone at (916) 441-1581.