

Regulation

**I N T E R N A T I O N A L
O L I V E O I L
C O M P E T I O N
A I P O S I L V E R
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CATEGORIES IN COMPETITION

Extra Virgin Olive Oil with Protected Denomination of Origin/Protected Geographical Indication (PDO/PGI)

ORGANIC Extra Virgin Olive Oil

Extra Virgin Olive Oil MONOVARIETAL

Extra Virgin Olive Oil BLEND

8th Edition EVOO TOP WINNERS

Condiment based on FLAVORED Extra Virgin Olive Oil

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Art. 1 – Organization and purpose

The A.I.P.O. - Interregional Association of Olive Producers of Verona organizes, with the partnership and the same purposes of intent of the Editorial Group "L'Informatore Agrario" of Verona, in the period **January-March 2023**, the **20th International Oil Competition "AIPO D'ARGENTO-SILVER AIPO"** and the **8th Edition of the Award "EVOO TOP WINNERS"** together with the **"XXIst INTERNATIONAL GOLDEN SUN COMPETITION NORTHERN HEMISPHERE"** (Verona, 20 - 26 February 2023) for companies that pass the selection tests specified in art. 9 - Evaluation Process 4th stage of these regulations; it is understood that the selection procedures for the various categories will refer to the SOL D'ORO EMISFERO NORD 2023-GOLDEN SUN COMPETITION NORTHERN HEMISPHERE 2023 Regulations (www.solagrifood.com/sol-doro).

The initiative - in the following identified with the term "Competition" and / or "Event" and / or "Initiative" and / or "Competition" - **aims to enhance, through rigorous, impartial evaluation analysis of a professional panel, highly qualified and proven international experience, the best oil production in the Mediterranean area** in order to enhance the wide range of quality extra virgin olive oils, Italian and international produced in the Mediterranean area where more than 90% of the world's production of quality oils is concentrated, with the intent to educate consumers to their consumption. The purpose of both competitions is to

- **highlight the best olive oil productions**, making them known to national and foreign consumers and operators
- **valorise typical extra virgin olive oils** in their different varieties, especially related to geographical origin
- **stimulate and reward the efforts of companies** aimed at the continuous improvement of product quality
- **optimise the participation of companies**, which, by registering for the Aipo d'Argento- Silver Aipo International Competition or the Golden Sun International Competition, will automatically take part in both competitions.

The Objective, as indicated, is that, through a stimulating comparison, to also contribute to the affirmation of higher and more qualifying levels of entrepreneurial culture of the entire international olive-growing system both in the management of the olive grove, both in the harvest, in the pressing of the olives, to obtain ever higher quality levels in the oils produced as well as in their proper management and conservation.

Art. 2 – Sponsoring bodies

The Competition is held under the High Patronage of the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies of the Italian Republic and, where appropriate, of regional, national, and supranational bodies, organizations, associations and institutions.

The evaluations of the samples by the Jury carried out by adopting the method of analysis of the C.O.I. (International Olive Council).

The legal representatives of the Ministry and / or other sponsors will be part, by right, of the **Event Guarantee Committee** that may be convened, in case of need and / or to settle any procedural changes arising in the different stages of the competition, by the president of AIPO and will be chaired by the same.

Art. 3 – Admission titles to the Silver Aipo Competition

Eligible for the **20th "AIPO D'ARGENTO" International Olive Oil Competition** are extra virgin olive oils produced and marketed by the following operators:

- a) **olive producers** producing their own oil and marketed under their own label;
- b) **mills, cooperative oil mills, organisations and/or associations of producers;**
- c) **owners of companies** and/or **bottling companies - packaging machines - traders**, subject to all types of control, certification, if they hold, in the area of their competence, a quantity of product ready for release for consumption.

Excluded from the Competition are producers and/or oil mills that do not meet the requirements set forth in points a), b), c) of this regulation (paragraph 1 art. 3).

May participate in the competition all those companies in possession of the requirements and documents, unequivocally and under its responsibility, that the sample(s) of extra virgin olive oil entered has (have) been produced in **quantities not less than 500 kg.**

All samples of companies not in compliance with the provisions of this regulation and those not in compliance with the required documentation (art. 6) and / or the payment of secretarial fees due, will be excluded.

Art. 4 - Eligibility for the Evoo Top Winners Award

Only extra virgin olive oils produced and marketed by the following subjects may be admitted to the **8th Edition of the Evoo Top Winners:**

- (a) **olive growers** producing their own oil and marketed under their own label.
- (b) **oil mills, cooperative oil mills, producer organizations, producer associations.**

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c) **owners of companies** and/or **bottling companies - packaging machines - traders**, subject to any control or certification system, holders, in their competence, of a product ready for consumption.

Producers and /or mills that do **not meet** the requirements set out in points a), b), c) of this regulation (**paragraph 1 art. 4**) will be excluded.

All companies that, in possession of the requisite requirements, document, unequivocally and under their own responsibility, that the sample(s) of extra virgin olive oil presented is /have been produced in quantities not less than 500 Kg.

Participation is reserved exclusively to those companies that in the years 2021 and 2022 have participated in the "International Competition Silver Aipo", winning in one of the categories of competition (first place), or have participated in oil competitions, national and international level, ranking, always in the years 2020 and 2021, in first or second place.

As proof, we require an official document attesting to the ranking achieved or a documented self-certification that will have legal value in case of dispute.

Therefore, all samples from companies that do not comply with the provisions of this regulation and those that do not comply with the required documentation (art. 6) and/or the payment of the secretariat fees due will be excluded.

Art. 5 – Categories and/or subgroups of the event

Each submitted sample will be regularly registered for the **20th edition of the Competition**, in one of the following categories:

ITALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL PRODUCTION AREA

Category 1

Extra virgin olive oil with PROTECTED ORIGIN / GEOGRAPHICAL INDICATION (DOP /PGI).

- subgroup: light fruity, medium fruity, intense fruity

Category 2

ORGANIC extra virgin olive oil

- subgroup: light fruity, medium fruity, intense fruity

Category 3

EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL MONOVARIETAL

- subgroup: light fruity, medium fruity, intense fruity

Category 4

Extra virgin olive oil BLEND

- subgroup: light fruity, medium fruity, intense fruity

Category 5

8° EVOO TOP WINNERS AWARD

- subgroup: light fruity, medium fruity, intense fruity

Category 6

Condiments based on FLAVORED extra virgin olive oil

Each sample will be inserted, as required by art. 9, in one of the following subgroups:

- **spices** (type: nutmeg, cloves, cinnamon, pepper, turmeric, other)
- **citrus** fruits (type: lemon, lime, orange, mandarin, cedar, grapefruit, other)
- **vegetables: vegetable/fresh herbs** (type: green pepper, chilli, dill, thyme, mint, chives, basil, eucalyptus, rosemary, marjoram, bay leaf, tomato, other).

Art. 6 – Forms, sending and participation fees

For each registered sample, the competing Company must fulfill the following commitments:

- a) **send by courier and / or "priority" postal package, no later than February 13th, 2023**, to be able to participate in both competitions (Silver Aipo and Golden Sun), to the Organizing Secretariat (AIPO, Viale del Lavoro 52, 37135 Verona • Tel. +39 045 8678260), **n. 6 packaged and labeled bottles, of 500 ml.** *Samples may also arrive after*

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13 February 2023 and until 31 March 2023, in which case the oils will only participate in the Aipo International Silver Oil Competition.

Each carton must, compulsorily, bear the following inscription on the outside: "**NON-COMMERCIAL SAMPLE participating in the 20th edition of the International Olive Oil Competition "AIPO D'ARGENTO 2023"**".

- b) **oil data sheet** of each sample registered together with the **company data sheet**, both completed, in all their parts, in a legible way, or alternatively sent to the **email info@aipoverona.it** (format: word, jpg, pdf), necessary for the traditional **Catalog of Samples and Companies** participating in the Competition.
Publication that will be disseminated, mainly through the official website of the Competition (**www.aipodargento.it**) and / or through a selected mailing, to the world of Ho.Re.Ca.
The Organization (AIPO) also reserves the right to use part of the samples received for educational activities and / or promotional purposes, and / or through tasting sections.
- c) **application form**, drawn up in block letters, with legible writing, signed by the legal manager of the Company or Mill or Cooperative or competing company, Italian or foreign, compulsorily accompanied by a VAT number and Tax Code.
The Organizers, after receipt of the application(s), may carry out a check, also by e-mail, to verify and / or modify the company data. All to avoid any errors of insertion in the database of the Competition.
- d) **receipt of payment of secretarial fees** to be made by:
- **bank transfer**, payable to Associazione Interregionale Produttori Olivicoli – A.I.P.O. (Intesa San Paolo - Verona Branch, Vicolo Ghiaia n.9 **IBAN: IT35A0306918463100000003934 - SWIFT BIC BCITITMM**) to be sent at the same time as the application for participation (under penalty of exclusion from the Competition).
 - **cash**, it must take place at the same time as the submission of the application by attaching the amount to the documentation, in a sealed and waterproofed envelope, inserted inside the packaging containing the sample (s) registered. The participating company, in this case, will be issued a regular receipt.
- e) **The amount of the participation fee** is set at **€ 130.00/sample (+VAT)** for samples arriving up to 13 February 2023 and who will therefore participate in the two Competitions (Aipo d'Argento and Sol d'Oro); **€ 100.00/sample (+VAT)** for samples arriving from 14 February 2023 and up to 31 March 2023 and who will therefore participate "ONLY" in the Silver Aipo Competition.
- f) For samples coming from foreign countries, VAT will not be separated as it is a service rendered in Italy.
The sample(s) without, even in part, of the required documentation will not be admitted to the competition and payments other than those made by bank transfer and / or cash will not be accepted.

Art. 7 – Reasons for exclusion

The technical-organizational secretariat of the Competition declines all responsibility for:

- any **late arrival** of the samples with respect to the date referred to in Article 6 of this Regulation,
- the **total or partial loss** of samples during transport.
- the **partial and/or total breakage** of the product during transport.
- any **chemical-physical and organoleptic alterations of the samples** due to thermal excursions.
- other anomalies suffered by the sample(s)** during transport.

The **costs of shipping, customs clearance, and subsequent** transport to the place of destination of the package with the sample (s) are always charged by the participating companies.

Failure to comply with these provisions may be a reason for excluding the sample(s) from the Competition, therefore the company will not be able to request the return of the registration fee paid and the samples sent or the reimbursement of shipping costs.

Samples sent at the expense of the recipient will be refused.

Art. 8 – Receiving and anonymisation

From the receiving to the beginning of the sensory analysis, the organizational secretariat will take care of the correct conservation, in a suitable environment and temperature, of the sample (s).

Each sample will be doubly anonymized.

The person in charge of the organization is legally responsible for the correct and transparent execution of each phase and will be able to make use of the collaboration of personnel of his trust and proven professionalism.

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The same will be responsible, for the entire duration of the Competition, for the respect of the formal and substantial aspects of the regulations and operating methods of the Competition as well as the correct behavior of the individual members of the tasting commission.

It will also be the sole guarantor of the procedures for receipt, storage, and anonymization of the samples as well as the verification of the evaluation sheets, their correct compilation and the subsequent realization and approval of the partial and / or final rankings of the Competition.

Art. 9 – Evaluation process

The analysis activities of the samples registered in the Competition will be articulated for the categories 1) 2) 3) 4) 5) referred to in art. 5 in 4 steps:

- **1st Stage:** each sample will be subjected **to chemical analysis** to assess its belonging to the product category of extra virgin olive oils, a document that will subsequently be **transferred, free of charge**, to the participating company, always and only if in compliance with the payment of the Secretariat fees.
- **2nd Stage:** The Tasting Commission (and/or Panel), coordinated by the panel leader and the organizational manager of the Competition, will proceed **with the sensory analysis** of the oils received, will identify the samples with smell/taste differences and the inclusion of all the oils received in the different subgroups (light, medium and intense fruity).
- **3rd Stage:** The Tasting Commission (and/or Panel), coordinated by the panel leader and the organizational manager of the Competition, will proceed to the selection of the samples who have passed the 2nd phase who will access the final phase by assigning them a score expressed in cents.
- **4th Stage:** The Tasting Commission (and/or Panel), coordinated by the panel leader and the organizational manager of the Competition, will proceed to evaluate the best oil samples that have passed the 3rd stage by assigning them a score expressed in cents and the consequent ranking.

The Panel will be composed of 8 tasters regularly registered in the appropriate Register and part of the **AIPO Official Tasting Committee, officially recognized by the Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies**.

The method of evaluation of the samples is the one adopted (COI model) commonly in similar international competitions.

The Panel, at any stage of the planned activities, will express its judgment, independently and in cents.

The final score will be the result of the arithmetic average of the judgments of each panel member expressed in cents.

The ratings of the Tasting Committee are irrevocable.

For category 6) referred to in Article 5 of seasonings based on aromatized extra virgin olive oils, a special tasting committee will be set up to assess the samples entered, provided there are more than four samples for each subgroup.

Art. 10 – Awards –AIPO SILVER

To the samples of each category and subgroup referred to in art. 5 paragraph 1 points 1), 2), 3), 4), 6), the Panel will assign, at its sole discretion, the following awards:

- score from 70/100 to 79,99/100 - **Goccia di Bronzo, Bronze Drop**;
- score from 80/100 to 89,99/100 – **Goccia d'Argento, Silver Drop**.
- score from 90/100 to 100/100 – **Goccia d'Oro, Gold Drop**.
- to the highest score – **Gran Goccia d'Oro, Grand Gold Drop "FIRST ABSOLUTE SILVER AIPO"**

Art. 11 – Awards EVOO TOP WINNERS

To the samples of each category and subgroup referred to in art. 5 paragraph 1 points 5), the Panel will assign, at its sole discretion, the following awards:

- score from 70/100 to 79,99/100 – **Goccia di Bronzo, Bronze Drop**.
- score from 80/100 to 89,99/100 – **Goccia d'Argento, Silver Drop**.
- score from 90/100 to 100/100 – **Goccia d'Or, Gold Drop**.
- to the highest score – **Gran Goccia d'Oro, Great Gold Drop "FIRST ABSOLUTE EVOO TOP WINNERS"**

Art. 12 – SPECIAL Awards

To further reward the efforts of the participants, the AIPO D'ARGENTO also assigns "**SPECIAL**" awards, such as:

1. **Best extra virgin olive oil by Country of Origin** e.g., Italy, Spain, etc. (minimum 10 participating companies from that Country, the sample that has reached the highest absolute score will be awarded);

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2. **Best extra virgin olive oil by Region of Origin for the "ITALIAN" category** e.g., Puglia, Abruzzo, etc. (minimum 10 participating companies from that Region, the sample that has reached the highest absolute score will be awarded);
3. **Best packaging.**

Art. 13 – Promotion and dissemination

The registered samples will become part of a further, special catalog that will be disseminated both by AIPO and by the Editorial Group "L'Informatore Agrario" through their sites, as well as through the most effective and reliable social networks.

Art. 14 – Label or promotional collar AIPO D'ARGENTO "SELECTED COMPANY"

The participating Companies, whose sample (s) has passed the preparatory selection phase (art. 9 phase 1 and 2), and intend to underline the event in their promotional and marketing activities (in any case complying with the regulations in force in each country), may make a written request (with the appropriate form attached to the application form or by email to the organizing secretariat) of the logo of the Competition illustrated below:

Selected Company
AIPO D'ARGENTO INTERNATIONAL OLIVE OIL COMPETITION
Selected Company
INTERNATIONAL OLIVE OIL COMPETITION AIPO SILVER



The minimum stock that can be purchased will be n. 500 Labels or collars at cost, purely as reimbursement of expenses of € 0.20 for each mark (Label).

The Labels or collars will be available only in reels or packages, not divisible, of n. 500 pieces.

Art. 15 – Promotional Label EVOO TOP WINNERS "SELECTED COMPANY"

The participating Companies, whose sample(s) have passed the preparatory selection phase (art. 9 phase 1 and 2), and intend to underline the event in their promotional and marketing activities (in any case complying with the regulations in force in each country), may make a written request (on the appropriate form attached to the application form or by email to the Organizing Secretariat) of the logo of the Competition illustrated below:

Selected Company "EVOO TOP WINNERS"
Selected Company "EVOO TOP WINNERS"

LABEL
 (Size 30mm x 30mm)

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The minimum stock that can be purchased will be n. 500 Labels at cost, as reimbursement of expenses of € 0.20 for each mark (Label).

The Labels or collars will be available only in reels, not divisible, of n. 500 pieces.

Art. 16 – Promotional Label of the "PRIZES"

The participating Companies, whose sample (s) are among the winners as required by articles 10, 11 and 12 and who intend to emphasize the event in their promotional and commercial activity (in any case complying with the regulations in force in each country), may make a written request to receive the high-definition file of the Label showing the category of prize won (**Bronze Drop, Silver Drop, Gold Drop, Golden Drop FIRST ABSOLUTE**) to be printed and affixed on the label, on the collar, on the packaging or on your promotional material (brochure, website, media, press, social networks, etc.).

Price list of the files with the Label certifying the prize category won:

- One Label: € 150,00
- Up to 2 Labels: € 120,00/each
- Over 2 Labels: € 100,00/each

Technical printing specifications for adhesives: **print size: 30 mm x 30 mm** – edge requirements (**standard and minimum dimensions**).

You can request the file by writing to the e-mail address: info@aipoverona.it attaching the relative receipt of payment (**in advance**).

The winners are authorized to affix the reproduction of the Label provided for a fee by the organization, only on the bottles of the same year of production and containing the same extra virgin olive oil or condiment and with the same packaging of the winning sample. Any other use of the prize Label is not allowed, and the organizing secretariat declines all responsibility.

GREAT DROPS
(size 30mm X 35mm)



Art. 17 – Award ceremony

The announcement of the winners will be the subject of a special event organized jointly by AIPO and the Editorial Group "L'Informatore Agrario" and by Veronafiore Spa compatible with the regulations and restrictions Covid 19 of the moment. You can also use digital forms or via social platforms.

Each winning Company will receive, by email or other means, communication of the time and place where this ceremony will take place.

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The awards not collected during the award ceremony will remain available for 60 days at the competition secretariat and ***can be requested by telephone or e-mail, at the expense of the applicant.***

AIPO declines all responsibility for any loss or non-delivery of the required titles.

The ***Competition Management Committee*** reserves the right to modify, in whole or in part, the provisions of these Regulations if it deems it essential for the best performance of the event, its success and in the interest of the participating companies.

For any dispute, the competent court is that of Verona.