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BIG FRESNO FAIR ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 7TH ANNUAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY OLIVE OIL COMPETITION

An incredible 69 entries were received by new and returning olive oil producers throughout California

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, April 13, 2022...After an extensive judging of quality California-produced olive oils, The Big Fresno Fair is excited to reveal the winners of the 7th Annual San Joaquin Valley Olive Oil Competition (SJVOC). This competition, open to all olive oil producers in California with products made from their 2021 olive harvest, received a total of 69 entries from 25 olive oil producers from throughout the State.

Entries were received in two categories, Extra Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO) and Flavored Olive Oil, with 10 classes in total. Gold and Silver Medals were awarded, as well as an overall “Best of Show” and “Best of the Valley” selected from all of the highest scoring gold medal entries in both categories. In total there were 50 EVOO and 19 Flavored Olive Oil entries that were entered for judging. The winners of the 7th Annual San Joaquin Valley Olive Oil Competition are:

Best of Show

Tres Osos *Taggiasca* (Carmel Valley) - EVOO
Coldani Olive Ranch’s *Calivirgin Habanero* (Lodi) - Flavored Olive Oil

Best of the Valley

Coldani Olive Ranch’s *Calivirgin Habanero* (Lodi)

Extra Virgin Olive Oils

• Gold Medal Winners

- **Spanish Blends:** Fresno State *Miller’s Blend* (Fresno), Rancho Azul y Oro Olive Farm *Estate Blend* (San Miguel), Olivaia’s *OLA Block X Blend* (Lindsay), Cobram Estate *Classic* (Woodland)
- **Spanish Singles:** Olivaia’s *OLA Estate Sevillano* (Lindsay), Mountain Springs Olive Ranch *Arbequina* (Paso Robles), The Olive Press *Picual* (Sonoma), Organic Roots *Arbosana* (Maxwell), Rio Bravo Ranch *Picual* (Bakersfield), Coppetti Olive Oil *Manzanilla* (Oakdale)
- **Italian Blends:** Winter Creek *Ruscello D’Inverno* (Valley Springs), Tres Osos *Robust* (Carmel Valley), San Miguel Olive Farm *Tuscan Gold Paradiso* (San Miguel), San Miguel Olive Farm *Tuscan Gold Magnifico* (San Miguel), San Miguel Olive Farm *Tuscan Gold Fantastico* (San Miguel), Toothacre Ranch *Old World Style EVOO* (Ramona), Colomba Bianca (Clements)
- **Italian Singles:** Tres Osos *Taggiasca* (Carmel Valley), Winter Creek *Frantoio* (Valley Springs), Coldani Olive Ranch *Lodi Olive Oil Frantoio EVOO* (Lodi), Cobram Estate *Robust* (Woodland)





Extra Virgin Olive Oils, cont....

- **Gold Medal Winners**
 - **Other Blends:** Cobram Estate *Select* (Woodland), Olivaia's OLA *Block X Heirloom* (Lindsay), Rio Bravo Ranch *Miller's Reserve Blend* (Bakersfield), Mangini Ranch *Calaveras Reserve* (Wallace)
- **Silver Medal Winners:**
 - **Spanish Blends:** California Olive Ranch *Miller's Blend* (Chico), Corto Olive Co. *Truly* (Stockton)
 - **Spanish Singles:** Organic Roots Olive Oil *Organic Arbequina* (Maxwell), California Olive Ranch *Arbequina* (Chico), ENZO Olive Oil Company *Bold* (Clovis), ENZO Olive Oil Company *Medium* (Clovis), Cobram Estate *Mild* (Woodland), Olive Crush Farms *Arbequina* (Valley Springs), Mangini Ranch *Mission* (Wallace)
 - **Italian Blends:** Partridge Family Olive Co. *North Points* (Paso Robles), San Miguel Olive Farm *Tuscan Gold Eleganza Elite* (San Miguel), San Miguel Olive Farm *Tuscan Gold Tuscaneki* (San Miguel)
 - **Italian Singles:** Rio Bravo Ranch *Coratina* (Bakersfield)
 - **Other Blends:** OH Olive Oil (Bakersfield)
 - **Other Singles:** Rosenthal Olive Ranch *Koroneiki* (Madera), Organic Roots *Koroneiki* (Maxwell), ENZO Olive Oil Company *Delicate* (Clovis)

Flavored Olive Oils

- **Gold Medal Winners**
 - **Citrus:** Coldani Olive Ranch *Calivirgin Lavish Lime* (Lodi), ENZO Olive Oil Company *Organic Clementine Crush* (Clovis)
 - **Herbal:** Coldani Olive Ranch *Calivirgin Bountiful Basil* (Lodi), Coldani Olive Ranch *Calivirgin Rustic Rosemary* (Lodi), Sciabica's California Olive Oil *Basil* (Modesto)
 - **Pepper:** Coldani Olive Ranch *Calivirgin Habanero* (Lodi), Coldani Olive Ranch *Calivirgin Hot Virgin Jalapeno* (Lodi), The Olive Press *Jalapeno* (Sonoma), Sciabica's California Olive Oil *Jalapeno* (Modesto)
- **Silver Medal Winners**
 - **Citrus:** Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Lusty Lemon* (Lodi), Sciabica's California Olive Oil *Lemon* (Modesto), ENZO Olive Oil Company *Organic Lemon Crush* (Clovis)
 - **Herbal:** Enzo Olive Oil Company *Organic Basil Crush* (Clovis)
 - **Pepper:** ENZO Olive Oil Company *Organic Fresno Chili Crush* (Clovis), Coldani Olive Ranch *Calivirgin Jalapeno Garlic* (Lodi)
 - **Other:** Coldani Olive Ranch *Guilty Garlic* (Lodi), Rancho Azul y Oro Olive Farm *Smoked* (San Miguel)

"We could not be more pleased with the number of entries submitted by these amazing California olive oil producers - making this year's entries tied for the most entries received since 2017!" said Stacy Rianda, Deputy Manager II at The Big Fresno Fair. "This year the competition saw new submissions by students at Fresno State and then our first San Diego County entry, Toothacre Ranch - with both producers winning Gold! It's a rewarding feeling to be able to showcase these new and returning California-produced olive oils through this competition highlighting the incredible olive oil made right here in the State of California."





Gold Medal and Best of Show winners will have the opportunity to have a booth in the Agriculture Building on one day during a weekend at the 2022 Big Fresno Fair or have a booth at the Fair's Beer and Wine Festival on Saturday, October 8. At either location, they will have the opportunity to display and sell their award-winning product. Additionally, educational information will be set up so that Fairgoers can learn more about the art of making olive oil, its health benefits, recipes and more. Participants in the 2022 SJVOOC were evaluated and scored on the following criteria:

- **Gold Medal:** Awarded to an olive oil that demonstrated its type and/or varietal character, balance, structure and complexities to the highest standards. Gold Medals were awarded to those oils receiving scores between 86 - 100 points.
- **Silver Medal:** Awarded to an olive oil reflecting the correct distribution of balance and character of its type or variety; an oil deemed to be well crafted and of excellent quality. Silver Medals were awarded to those oils receiving scores between 76 - 85 points.
- **Best of Show:** Awarded to an olive oil recognized to possess special characteristics of the highest quality overall.
- **Best of the Valley:** Awarded to the oil that scored the highest with the ranch or office located in the San Joaquin Valley. Medals were awarded for both EVOO and flavored oils. (Kern, Tulare, Kings, Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties eligible)

Details and the 2023 SJVOOC entry application will be posted in February 2023.

LINK TO WINNER PHOTOS: <https://spaces.hightail.com/receive/mAbuIFy6R>

About The Big Fresno Fair:

The Big Fresno Fair, founded in 1884, is the fourth largest fair in the state of California and represents the 21st District Agricultural Association. More than 600,000 people from throughout the State visit The Big Fresno Fair each year making it the largest annual event in the Central Valley. Members of the Board of Directors include: Chuck Riojas, President; Terry Gonsalves, Vice President; Gary Chahil, Secretary/Treasurer; Linda Mae Balakian Hunsucker; Frank Flores; Jerry Pacheco; Annalisa Perea; and Lawrence Salinas. Deputy Managers, Stacy Rianda and Lauri King oversee the daily operations of the Fair. The 2022 Big Fresno Fair will run October 5-16. For more information about The Big Fresno Fair, please visit www.FresnoFair.com.

