



Dear Producers and members

Trust that everyone is back from festive season break and ready to embark on the new year. I want to take this opportunity to share some important information and progress with you.

1. Important dates to diarize:

Annual General Meeting - 5th March 2025

First Board meeting 2025 - 30th January 2025

SA Olive awards ceremony – 9th September 2025

Absa Top 10 Awards ceremony – 15th October 2025

2. Technical Field days :

This year we plan to have 2 Technical Field days. The first technical field day is scheduled for Friday the 28th February 2025 at Oakhurst Olive Farm in Tulbagh.

Communication on the details and the registration to this field day will be released shortly.

The second field day is scheduled to take place on the 22nd October 2025 and will be held at the Costa Farm in Piketberg. Details regarding this field day will be communicated closer to the time.

3. Olive courses:

There is a list of Olive courses planned for this year. We are in discussions with the University of Stellenbosch and Elsenburg college regarding accredited training courses.

The scheduled courses below will be facilitated by SA Olive.

The registration for the Introduction to Olive course for the 11th of February 2025 is now open. Mrs Louise Rabie will be presenting this course.

<https://www.saolive.co.za/event/introductory-olive-course-2025/>

More detail on the other courses (programme, presenter, cost and venue) will be communicated closer to the time in separate newsletters. Details will be available on the website.

- Introduction to Olive – 11th February & 9th July 2025
- Intermediate to Olive – 12th March & 6th August 2025
- Processing Olive Oil – 23rd September 2025
- Trade course in Olive oil – 9th April and 29th October 2025
- Table Olives workshop – 30th September 2025
- Pruning course - 17th September 2025

4. SA Olive board meeting dates for 2025 :

The below is an indication of the board meetings and strategic board sessions scheduled for 2025:

- 30th January 2025
- 27th February 2025
- 12th June 2025
- 23rd October 2025
- 11th December 2025

5. Table Olive and Olive Oil Forum :

This year, we are excited to reintroduce the Table Olives and Olive Oil Forum. These engaging and informative forum sessions will give us an opportunity to share information but also get your feedback on important matters. The forums will be hosted at the Klein Joostenberg Conference Facility in Muldersvlei. The Forum meetings are planned for the last week in February, and the specific dates will be announced soon. If you have any matters that you wish to discuss at these forum sessions, please feel free to email them to info@saolive.co.za. Stay tuned for further updates on the forum meetings.

6. CTC Tasting dates :

Following a strategic session with the CTC Tasting Panel and panel leader at the close of 2024, it has been decided that CTC Tastings will now be held on

Wednesdays. This adjustment ensures an adequate number of tasters are available to conduct the evaluations effectively.

To accommodate this new schedule, please note the following:

- Submission Deadline: All documents and samples for CTC tastings must be delivered to the SA Olive offices by Monday preceding the tasting.
- Confirmation: The Wednesday tasting will be confirmed by close of business Monday, after receipt of the relevant information, samples and confirmation of taster attendance.
- All documents related to the CTC scheme will be accessible on the SA Olive website. <https://www.saolive.co.za/ctc-scheme/>

We appreciate your cooperation in adapting to this new schedule and thank you for your continued support of the CTC scheme.

7. IOC Panel Accreditation – Proficiency test :

The SA Olive tasting panel participated in the yearly IOC proficiency test in May and June 2024. The panel received an outcome in September 2024, indicating that the panel was not awarded accreditation for 2025 due to a technical error that occurred when the results were submitted.

SA Olive appealed this outcome through the Ambassador of South Africa in Spain and the Vice President of the IOC. This matter is currently under review with the IOC and we hope to get an outcome after their sitting. We will communicate to all producers once we have received the outcome on SA Olive appeal.

This does not affect the CTC Scheme and the CTC Tasting panel.

8. CODEX on Vegetables and Olive Oil :

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development published Notice 5751 on January 10, 2025, in the Government Gazette, inviting comments on the proposed draft regulations for edible vegetable oils.

[Draft regulation for edible vegetable oils](#)

[Notice 5751 Government Gazette 51878](#)

[Template for comments](#)

If you would like to comment on the proposed draft regulations, we would appreciate it if you could use the attached template and email this to the SA Olive offices at info@saolive.co.za with heading CODEX Feedback. All comments to be received by the 25th of January 2025 to ensure that we

provide collective feedback to the department.

A CODEX advisory committee has been established that will convene before the end of January 2025. SA Olive will provide collective feedback to the Executive Officer: Agricultural Product Standards, Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development by the 21st February 2025.

9. **Member login details:**

Members and producers are required to ensure that their login details and membership details are up to date. If you wish to have assistance with this, send an email to info@saolive.co.za

10. **Statutory levy submissions:**

This is a friendly reminder that all Statutory Levies on table olives and olive oil will increase effective 1st January 2025 for 2025 submissions. This statutory measure applies to Table olives and olive oil from domestic production and imports, including packing and agro-processing.

NEW LEVY FROM THE 1st JANUARY 2025: (2025 – 2029)

- 15 c/kg on all table olives
- 65 c/litre on all olive oil

This is an appeal to all producers to ensure that your 2020 – 2024 levy submissions are submitted before the 30th January 2025. After this date, levy submissions will be calculated at the new rates.

Levy submissions can be done via the member portal. <https://www.saolive.co.za/login/>

11. **Social Media:**

This year, we are excited to actively drive communication through our various social media platforms. To stay updated with all the latest news, we encourage you to share your images and posts with us. Don't forget to tag us **saoliveindustry** on Instagram and **/SAOliveIndustry** on Facebook. Let's make this a great year of sharing and connection!

If you no longer wish to receive communications from SA Olive, let us know and we will remove you from our mailing list.

Wishing you a wonderful and prosperous start to 2025. May this first month set the tone for a year of success and fulfillment.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Petersen
CEO, SA Olive



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