



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **BIG FRESNO FAIR ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY OLIVE OIL COMPETITION**

*A total of 69 entries were received from olive oil producers throughout California*

**FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, April 13, 2017**...After extensive judging of quality olive oils, The Big Fresno Fair is excited to reveal the winners of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual San Joaquin Valley Olive Oil Competition (SJVOOC). This competition, open to all olive oil producers in the State of California with products made from their most recent olive harvest, received a total of 69 entries from 18 different olive oil producers from throughout the State.

Entries were received in two classes, Extra Virgin Olive Oil and Flavored Olive Oil, with 9 subcategories in total. Gold and Silver Medals were awarded, as well as an overall “Best of Show” selected from all of the highest scoring gold medal entries received in the EVOO and Flavored Oil categories. All of the flavored oils used for the Best of Show, were all co-milled. In total there were 47 EVOO and 22 Flavored Olive Oil entries that were entered for judging. The winners of the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual San Joaquin Valley Olive Oil Competition are:

#### Best of Show

Organic Roots Olive Oil’s *Organic Roots Koroneiki* (Maxwell)  
Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch’s *Calivirgin Hot Virgin Jalapeno* (Lodi)

#### Extra Virgin Olive Oils

##### • Gold Medal Winners

- **Spanish Blends:** Corto Olive Co.’s *Corto Olive Company Olive Oil* (Lodi), La Panza Ranch’s *Outlaw Blend* (Santa Margarita) and Kimberley Wine Vinegars’ *Kimberley California Olive Oil* (Acampo)
- **Spanish Singles:** The Mill at Kings River’s *The Mill* (Sanger), ENZO Olive Oil Company’s *Delicate Ranch 20* (Clovis), The Olive Press’ *Empeltre EVOO* (Sonoma), The Olive Press’ *Sevillano EVOO* (Sonoma) and Organic Roots Olive Oil’s *Arbosana* (Maxwell)
- **Italian Blends:** Alta Cresta Olive Oil’s *Italian Blend* (Paso Robles), The Olive Press’ *Italian Blend* (Sonoma), Scarlata Farms Olive Oil’s *Tuscan Blend Reserve* (Tracy), San Miguel Olive Farm’s *Tuscan Gold Nectar* (San Miguel) and San Miguel Olive Farm’s *Tuscan Gold/Pristine* (San Miguel)
- **Italian Singles:** Bozzano Olive Ranch’s *Bosana Organic* (Stockton) and Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch’s *Lodi Olive Oil Early Harvest Ascolano* (Lodi)
- **Other Blends:** Mangini Ranch Olive Oil Company’s *Mangini Ranch* (Wallace)
- **Other Singles:** Organic Roots Olive Oil’s *Koroneiki* (Maxwell)

##### • Silver Medal Winners

- **Spanish Blends:** ENZO Olive Oil Company’s *Tyler Florence Test Kitchen EVOO* (Clovis)
- **Spanish Singles:** Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch’s *Calivirgin Premium EVOO* (Lodi), ENZO Olive Oil Company’s *Medium Ranch 11* (Clovis) ENZO Olive Oil Company’s *Delicate Ranch 11* (Clovis), ENZO Olive Oil Company’s *Medium Ranch 20* (Clovis), The

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Olive Press' *Arbequina EVOO* (Sonoma), The Olive Press' *Arbosana EVOO* (Sonoma), The Olive Press' *Picual EVOO* (Sonoma), Corto Olive Company's *Truly EVOO – Arbosana* (Lodi), Corto Olive Company's *Truly EVOO – Arbequina* (Lodi), Organic Roots Olive Oil's *Arbequina* (Maxwell) and Rosenthal Olive Ranch's *Arbosana* (Madera)

- **Italian Blends:** Scarlata Farm's Olive Oil's *Tuscan Blend* (Tracy), Bozzano Olive Ranch's *Toscana Organic* (Stockton), Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Lodi Olive Oil – Miller's Blend* (Lodi) and Winter Creek Olive Oil's *Winter Creek* (Winter Creek)
- **Italian Singles:** Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Lodi Olive Oil Frantoio* (Lodi)
- **Other Blends:** Bozzano Olive Ranch's A2 (Stockton) and Rancho Azul y Oro's *Estate EVOO* (San Miguel)
- **Other Singles:** ENZO Olive Oil Company's *Bold Ranch 11* (Clovis), ENZO Olive Oil Company's *Bold Ranch 20* (Clovis), The Olive Press' *Heritage Mission EVOO* (Sonoma), Bamford Family Farms' *Silverstar Early Harvest Mission* (Oroville), Mangini Ranch Olive Oil Company's *Mangini Ranch* (Wallace), Rosenthal Olive Ranch's *Koroneiki* (Madera) and Corto Olive Company's *Truly EVOO* (Lodi)

### Flavored Olive Oils

#### • **Gold Medal Winners**

- **Citrus:** Enzo Olive Oil Company's *Clementine Crush* (Clovis) and The Olive Press' *Limonato* (Sonoma)
- **Herbal:** CaliVirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Bountiful Basil Olive Oil* (Lodi)
- **Other Flavors:** ENZO Olive Oil Company's *Fresno Chili Crush* (Clovis) and Calivirgin - Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Hot Virgin Jalapeno* (Lodi)

#### • **Silver Medal Winners**

- **Citrus:** Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Blood Orange Olive Oil* (Lodi) and Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Lusty Lemon Olive Oil* (Lodi)
- **Herbal:** ENZO Olive Oil Company's *Basil Crush* (Clovis) and Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Rustic Rosemary Olive Oil* (Lodi)
- **Other Flavors:** The Olive Press' *Jalapeno Olive Oil* (Sonoma), Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Jalapeno Garlic* (Lodi), Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Extreme Heat Habanero* (Lodi) and Calivirgin – Coldani Olive Ranch's *Calivirgin Guilty Garlic Olive Oil* (Lodi)

“The SJVOOC continues to grow each year and we are very excited to have received a record number of entries this year,” said Stacy Rianda, Deputy Manager II at The Big Fresno Fair. “California has such a vast and rich food-producing community that it is important to hold competitions, like this, that showcase some of the great products our regions offer the world.”

Participating producers had the opportunity to submit multiple entries under one category but could not submit a particular entry to more than one category. For each entry, producers had to submit two, 250 ml bottles of their olive oil with retail labels and a \$60 non-refundable fee, per entry. Additionally, each entry had to be available for commercial sale at the time of submittal. Submissions were accepted starting mid-January through March 24. All submissions 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.

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- **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.

Gold Medal and Best of Show winners will have the opportunity to have a booth in the Wells Fargo Agriculture Building on one day during a weekend of the 2017 Big Fresno Fair where they can taste, 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.

Planning is already underway for the 2018 SJVOOC. Please check back in November for more information at [www.fresnofair.com/sjv-olive-oil-competition](http://www.fresnofair.com/sjv-olive-oil-competition).

#### **About The Big Fresno Fair:**

The Big Fresno Fair, founded in 1884, is the fifth 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 event in the Central Valley. Members of the Board of Directors include: Debbie Jacobsen, President; Larry Serpa, Vice President; Jerry Pacheco, Secretary/Treasurer; Leta Ciavaglia, Linda Mae Balakian Hunsucker, Elizabeth Hudson, Ricky Vang, Dora Westerlund and William White. John C. Alkire heads the daily operations in his role as CEO. The 2017 Big Fresno Fair will run October 4 – 15. For more information about The Big Fresno Fair, please visit [www.FresnoFair.com](http://www.FresnoFair.com).



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