



MAC-Oils: Mapping And Comparing Oils

MAC-Oils is a Specific Support Action funded in the Sixth Framework Programme R&D in the frame of the Fifth Research Priority "Food Quality and Safety". The main objective of the MAC-Oils project consists in the individual and comparative assessment of safety, quality, environmental impact aspects of the eight target oils and their respective production and manufacturing methods.

Mac Oils is focused on the following eight edible oils: **olive, peanut, sunflower, corn, argan, soybean, rice bran and rapeseed.**

The MAC-Oils project is structured in two different phases:

The specific aim of the **First Phase** has been to carry out an activity of individual and comparative assessment of existing data on target oils, through the realization of eight thematic ateliers (one for each target oil) focused on the following scientific topics:

1. assessment of chemical and physical-chemical properties of oils;
2. assessment of organoleptic properties of oils and their acceptability by the European consumer;
3. assessment of extraction, conservation and packaging methods of oils;
4. assessment of risks/benefits of the consumption of oils on European consumer's health;
5. oil seeds cultivation: problems and perspectives.

During this phase, it was foreseen the SMEs involvement whose contribution highlight possible critical and problematic aspects linked to extraction, production, conservation, packaging and marketing of their oils, providing

useful hints to researchers in order to elaborate common research projects. The enterprises can participate to MAC-Oils activities taking part to the private meeting during the scientific atelier or providing the Audit questionnaire available on the MAC-Oils web site (www.mac-oils.eu)

Benefit for SMEs

Enterprises taking part in the project and providing the Audit will have the following benefits:

- Identifying research centers providing specific solutions to their needs;
- Obtain support for submission of research projects in the 7th FP;
- Setting up partnerships with Industries, research centers and other SMEs coming from the Countries which take part in the project.

Results

The **Second Phase** of the project foresees the elaboration of the final results of MAC-Oils:

- Handbook addressed to scientist working in the field of edible oils;
- Leaflet for SMEs and oil producers;
- Consumer's guide.

Coordinator

Dr. Gian Luigi Russo

Institute of Food Sciences - National Research Council (Avellino, Italy)

Partner

The partnership is composed by Research Institutes, Universities, SMEs Associations and Technological Parks from Italy, Cyprus, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Greece, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Tunisia, Argentina and Brazil.

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1	National Research Council – Institute of Food Sciences (<i>Gian Luigi Russo</i>)	CNR-ISA	Italy
2	The Agricultural Research Council (CRA) - Research center for oliver growing and olive oil industry (CRA-OLI) (<i>Enzo Perri</i>)	CRA OLI	Italy
3	Federal Research Centre for Nutrition and Food (<i>Bertrand Matthaus</i>)	BFEL	Germany
4	Institut des corps gras - Centre technique industriel (<i>Anne Rossignol-Castera</i>)	ITERG	France
5	European Federation for the Science and Technology of Lipid (<i>Frank Amoneit</i>)	Euro Fed Lipid	Germany
6	Faculté des Sciences Université Mohammed V-Agdal (<i>Zoubida Charrouf</i>)	FSR-UMV	Morocco
7	Centre de Biotechnologie de Borj-Cedria (<i>Mokhtar Zarrouk</i>)	CBBC	Tunisia
8	Istitut de l'Olivier (<i>Mohamed Ayadi</i>)	IO	Tunisia
9	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (<i>Ramon Aparicio</i>)	CSIC	Spain
10	Central Science Laboratory (<i>Colin Crews</i>)	CSL	UK
11	Food Industrial Research and Technological Development Company (<i>Roula Skoulika</i>)	ETAT	Greece
12	The Agricultural Research Organization (<i>Arnon Dag</i>)	ARO	Israel
13	Hebrew University of Jerusalem (<i>Zohar Kerem</i>)	HUJI	Israel
14	Israeli Olive Oil Board (<i>Fathi AbD El Hadi</i>)	IOOB	Israel
15	RTD Talos Ltd. (<i>Alexandros Michaelides</i>)	TALOS	Cyprus
16	Microform srl (<i>Gianluca Rotondi</i>)	MICROF	Italy
17	Technapoli (<i>Marco Matarese</i>)	TECH	Italy
18	Planta Piloto de Ingeniería Química (<i>Amalia Carelli</i>)	PLAPIQUI	Argentina
19	União Brasileira de Educação e Cultura – Universidade Católica de Brasília (<i>Marileusa Chiarello</i>)	UBEC-UCB	Brazil