

Field Notes on Oil Quality

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"Mummy" Effect on Oil Quality



What is a "Mummy"

- Dehydrated olive remaining from previous year's crop
- Extremely acidic property
- Similar overall density as a normal olive
- Difficult to determine threshold in the field
 - =>5%





Effect of Mummies

- Between 3-5% can affect chemistry
 - FFA
 - PV
- As the percentage of mummies increase, acidity content also increased and overall moisture content decreased
- Creates sensory defects
- Concentration of over 5% results in high acidity and a non EVOO product
- Significant concentrations of fruit left from a previous season will affect final oil quality













Harvested Fruit with Mummies





Causes of Mummies

- Varietal (Removal)
 - Koroneiki
 - Arbosana
- Pruning
 - Poor Structure limits removal
 - Efficacy of the harvester
 - End row trees

- Ineffective harvesters
- Lack of adequate winter storms
 - Early freeze
 - Arid winter
 - Wind storms



Progression of Damage





Browning and Discoloration





Fruit Shrivel Following Freeze Event (Duration 4+ Hours)





Varietal: Arbosana





Proactive Field Measures

Hand Removal

- Time consuming and expensive
- Not always effective in removing enough mummies to clear threshold
- Difficult to target areas of concern

Second Winter Shake

- Most effective
- Used in more prone varietals
- Not an option in traditional
- Must have dry conditions
 - Creates more leaf abscission and scarring
 - Olive knot



Effects of Freeze Damage (Olive Knot) 2012-2013 Seasons



Olive Knot and Excessive MOO

- MOO= Material Other than Olives
- Excessive olive knot in orchard fractures during harvest
- Sorters in standard milling line unable to keep up with volume

Effects:

- Sensory defects
- Elevated Chemistry
 - Peroxide Value





Milling and Sorting Options







- Color Sorter
 - Lease options
 - Different sizing options
 - Calibration to fruit conditions



Removed by Color Sorter







Ag Web Chain Removal

- Olives pass through slots onto alternate conveyor
- Larger debris carry to end of conveyor
- Utilized in many nut processors
- Custom availability and throughput to suit operation



