

## **The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Release A Report about Olives Presses in the Palestinian Territory, 2005**

- **27,310 tons of pressed olives & 6,790 tons of extracted oil.**
- **US \$ 2,502 thousands the output value of olive presses.**

The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) released a statistical report about olives presses in the Palestinian Territory of the year 2005, which indicated that the total number of olive presses in the Palestinian Territory is 287, of which 203 are operating, while 84 are temporarily closed. The distribution of operating presses by automation level is as follows: 164 full automatic, 39 half automatic and traditional presses. Data indicated that operating presses are concentrated in the Northern part of the West Bank, especially in Jenin Governorate and Tubas District (40 presses).

Results showed that the total quantity of pressed olives in 2005 is 27,310 tons, and quantity of extracted oil is 6,790 tons in 2005, compared with 22,106 tons of oil extracted from 95,765 tons of pressed olives in 2004, the highest quantity of extracted oil in 2005 was 1,481 tons from 6,050 of olive pressed in Jenin Governorate and Tubas District, while the lowest quantity of extracted oil was 105 tons from 549 tons of pressed olive in Khan Yunis and Rafah Governorates.

Comparing the extraction rate in the Palestinian Territory of the years 2005 and 2004, results showed that it reached 24.9% in 2005, and 23.1% in 2004, and showed that Tulkarm Governorate still have the highest percentage with 28.2% in 2005 and 24.6% in 2004, while the lowest percentage of the extraction rate was in Khan Yunis and Rafah Governorates at 19.1% in 2005 and 17.2% in 2004.

Results showed that there is 611 employees participated in olive pressing activities in the year 2005, of which 59.7% were paid employees, compared with 1,110 employees of which 74.1% were paid employees in the year 2004. Concerning compensation of paid employees results showed that it reached US \$ 283 thousands in the year 2005 compared with US \$ 819 thousands in the year 2004.

Results showed an obvious high output value over the years 2000, 2002, and 2004, and the highest output value was US \$ 8,099 thousands in 2000 where it amounted to US \$ 5,266 thousands in 2004. While the years 2001, 2003 and 2005 showed low output value. The value added of olive pressing activity is amounted to US \$ 1,613 thousands in the year 2005 compared with US \$ 3,481 thousands in 2004.

Coincidence was observed between the Ministry of Agriculture estimations and PCBS results in a percentage of 96.6% of olive and 97.0% of oil quantities.