

**The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics Release A Report about
the Olives Press in the Palestinian Territory, 2003
44,573 tons total quantity of pressed olives & 11,163 tons quantity of
extracted oil**

Results show that there are 277 olive presses in the Palestinian Territory in the year 2003, of which 215 are operating, while 62 are temporarily closed. The distribution of operating presses by automation level is as follow: 147 full automatic, 68 half automatic and traditional presses. Data indicate that operating presses are concentrated in North West Bank, especially in Jenin Governorate and Tubas District.

The total quantity of pressed olives in 2003 was 44,573 tons, of which 26.0% were in Jenin Governorate and Tubas District. Where quantity of extracted oil was 11,163 tons in 2003, compared with 27,744 tons in the year 2002.

Results show that there is 954 employees participated in olive pressing activities in the year 2003, 706 (74.0%) of them were paid employees. The highest percentage of paid employees was in Nablus Governorate with 23.9% of the total paid employees, whereas the highest percentage of unpaid family members employees were in Ramallah and Al-Bireh Governorate with 18.1% of total unpaid employees, concerning compensation of paid employees the results show that it reached US \$ 468 thousands in the year 2003.

The value added of olive pressing activity was amounted to US \$ 1,998 thousands, whereas the intermediate consumption and output of olive presses were amounted to US \$ 820 and US \$ 2,818 thousands respectively. Jenin Governorate and Tubas District had the highest percentage of the value added (23.9%), intermediate consumption (23.3%) and output (23.7%). Results also indicate that automatic presses record the highest percentage of total value added with 83.8% and intermediate consumption with 82.2% and output with 83.4%.

The Estimated quantity of pressed olives in 2003 According to the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) were 45,054 tons and the quantity of extracted oil was 10,813 tons. Also the monthly estimation of the Agriculture Sector losses during the period 28/09/2000 to 31/12/2003 indicate that the number of destroyed olive trees was 263,527 trees.